

ERIC HILL

General Manager | Water & Wastewater Professional

2011 Jackson Ave. N., Russellville, AL 35653

(256) 810-7363 | ehill@rutility.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Accomplished water and wastewater utility leader with over 30 years of progressive experience in public water system operations, maintenance, and management. Currently serving as General Manager of the Russellville Water & Sewer Board, overseeing a drinking water filtration plant, a wastewater treatment facility, distribution and collection systems, and all associated infrastructure. Proven track record of cost recovery, system optimization, and community service. Active in state and national advocacy for rural water systems through leadership roles on the Alabama Rural Water Association and National Rural Water Association Boards of Directors.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

General Manager

Russellville Water & Sewer Board | Russellville, AL

2019 – Present

- Provide executive oversight of all utility operations including a drinking water filtration plant, wastewater treatment facility, well source, distribution maintenance crew, office staff, and numerous tanks, pump stations, and booster stations
- Manage annual budgets, capital improvement planning, and rate-setting to ensure financial sustainability while keeping rates affordable for customers
- Direct workforce of approximately 30 employees across maintenance, plant operations, and administrative functions
- Lead multiple concurrent infrastructure projects funded by \$2 million in State Revolving Fund allocations through ADEM
- Work closely with ADEM and EPA on compliance, testing, violations, regulations, and permitting
- Coordinate with engineers, contractors, and local government on service expansion, system upgrades, and emergency response
- Maintain relationships with wholesale customers and manage service agreements
- Spec, bid, and purchase all vehicles and equipment; manage insurance adjustments and organizational inventory

Working Foreman

Russellville Water & Sewer Board | Russellville, AL

2011 – 2019

- Supervised 14-member maintenance crew responsible for water distribution and wastewater collection system operations
- Designed, scheduled, and oversaw all new service installations, main extensions, and system repairs
- Managed 11 sewer lift stations, 9 water tank sites, 8 water pumping stations, and 1 well site
- Oversaw system sampling, scheduling, chlorine analysis, and flush station maintenance
- Performed GIS mapping, data acquisition, and hydraulic modeling for system optimization
- Handled customer complaints, billing inquiries, theft of service investigations, and courtroom representation
- Right-of-way and permanent easements acquisitions for system expansion
- Coordinated with Russellville Fire Department on fire protection data, and achieved ISO Class 2 fire rating through hydrant testing
- Led emergency response efforts following the 2011 tornadoes, assisting affected water and sewer systems across Franklin County

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

Russellville Water & Sewer Board | Russellville, AL

2004 – 2011

- Performed electrical, plumbing, and mechanical maintenance of the wastewater treatment plant and lift stations

- Conducted laboratory procedures, plant adjustments, and process monitoring to maintain compliance
- Maintained operational status of all wastewater infrastructure components

Water & Wastewater Operator

Phil Campbell Water Department | Phil Campbell, AL

1993 – 2004

- Operated a small rural water system serving over 2,000 water customers and 700 wastewater customers
- Managed daily operations of a small wastewater treatment plant
- Gained foundational experience in all aspects of public water and wastewater system operations

BOARD SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

- **Vice President:** Alabama Rural Water Association Board of Directors
- **Board Member:** National Rural Water Association Board of Directors (Alabama Representative)
- **Chairman:** NRWA Regulatory Committee – actively meeting, researching, and commenting on EPA issues at local, state, and federal levels
- **Member:** AWWA Water Utility Council – promoting effective legislative and regulatory environment for the water sector

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Achieved ISO Class 2 fire rating – less than 5% of fire departments in the U.S. with this distinction, saving local customers over \$1,000,000 in insurance premiums
- Installed mag meters at commercial, wholesale sites, recovering 30% more revenue in water sales annually
- Oversaw the acquisition of the Isbell / Rockwood Water system, adding 430 customers and \$312,000 in annual gross sales: restructured bond rates and secured funds for equipment and vehicles
- Reduced overtime through hydraulic modeling and proactive data collection
- Coordinated 2020 \$14 million dollar Revenue Bond refinance

SELECT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

- AMR water meter project – 5,600 water meters and curb stop replacement
- Isbell and Rockwood Water acquisition and account conversion
- ISO Class 2 hydrant residual and pitot testing of 430 hydrants
- Highway 44, Highway 48, Highway 83, and Highway 24 water main relocations and extensions
- Downtown Development Project – old service removal and grade changes
- ATRIP water line relocation and manhole finished grade risers
- Participated in an Auburn University pilot study for raw water analysis

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

- Grade 4 Wastewater Operator Certificate – State of Alabama
- Grade 2 Water Operator Certificate – State of Alabama
- Private Pilot License - Instrument Rating
- Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
- Electrical Training – Nashville, TN (college accredited)
- Hydraulic Training – Birmingham, AL (college accredited)
- 32+ years of continuing education in water and wastewater operations

EDUCATION

Northwest Community College | General Studies (2 years)

Phil Campbell High School | Graduated 1993

Wastewater Certification Program | 1-year program

TECHNICAL SKILLS

System hydraulics and troubleshooting | GIS mapping and data acquisition | Hydraulic modeling | Telemetry and water tank level control | Electrical troubleshooting and schematic reading | Water and sewer service design and fire suppression | Sewer slope and engineering design | DeltaCAD design drawing | Chlorine analysis | Damage prevention | Right-of-way acquisition | Microsoft Office Suite | PowerPoint presentations and public speaking

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Franklin County Development Authority – Best Industrial Support Award
- 2021 Alabama Water Taste Test Winner / National Water Taste Test Participant
- ISO Class 2 Rating
- Voted Best Presenter and Best Presentation by the Russellville City Schools Career Prep students

ADVOCACY & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- Numerous briefings and correspondence with U.S. Congressman and Senators
- Advocates for the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA state revolving funds, and technical assistance for small and rural communities
- Featured in WBRC 6, WHNT 19, WAAY 31, WAFF 48, Times Daily, Franklin County Times, Franklin Free Press, Water & Wastewater Digest, NRWA and The Waterline Magazine
- Regular public speaker and career day presenter / educator for local school systems on water and wastewater operations
- Municipal Bond Preparation Presenter
- Regulatory Update presenter
- Liberty Learning Foundation Sponsor

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Active in local school events, and numerous other events in Russellville and surrounding communities