



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Jeff La Rue, chief communications officer

[jeff.larue@bjwsa.org](mailto:jeff.larue@bjwsa.org)

**BJWSA Names New Chief of Engineering**

**Okatie, SC – (December 18, 2024)** – Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority (BJWSA) has named Michael Hansen as its new Chief of Engineering.

Michael is a licensed professional engineer with over 22 years of experience in civil engineering. Before joining BJWSA, Michael served as a private engineering consultant, working for firms ranging from 8 to 11,000 employees and managing capital projects valued up to \$500 million.

He joined the Authority in October 2023 as the Director of Engineering where he oversaw the Authority's capital improvement, development, and construction activities. His new role will add infrastructure planning, and system design responsibilities. He will supervise a team of 40 people.

The Engineering Department has grown over the past few years as the organization strives to meet service needs spurred by regulatory changes and the area's booming population. His new position was vacated by Paul Vincent, who was promoted to the position of Deputy General Manager for Operations and Engineering, in October.

"Michael has proven himself as a valuable member of the BJWSA leadership team," said BJWSA General Manager Verna Arnette. "He has demonstrated the qualities of being capable, collaborative, and competent when it comes to both technical engineering and people skills. I've come to depend on him and look forward to his continued service to the Authority."

"I'm inspired by the challenge ahead for our organization, and I have confidence in my team's ability to deliver," said Hansen. "We're making improvements at a faster pace than ever before. The BJWSA team is continually evolving to better serve our current and future customers through enhanced reliability, and protection of our environment and public health. I'm proud of the team we're actively building and the level of service we provide."

Hansen holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Southern Illinois University. He and his wife Cindy reside in the Town of Bluffton. Their daughter Olivia is a freshman at the University of South Carolina.

**About Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority**

BJWSA is the Southern Lowcountry's largest water and wastewater utility, serving approximately 200,000 Carolinians through 69,000 connections. The public, non-profit organization is led by a board of directors recommended by the Beaufort and Jasper County Legislative Delegations and appointed by the Governor of South Carolina. The mission of the utility is to deliver quality water and wastewater services to current and future residents of the utility's 750 square mile service area.

###