

Anthony (Tony) L. Cunningham

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EDUCATION

University of Florida

1995

Bachelor of Science in Engineering

Received Professional Engineering License February 11, 2000

License # 55560

Professional Engineering Focus in Civil/Sanitary and Water Resources

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Gainesville Regional Utilities, Gainesville, FL

Feb 2022–June
2024

CEO/General Manager

- Responsible for directing all activities of Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU). Advise and report to GRU Authority Board regarding operations, administration and financial affairs of the utility
- Responsible for planning, directing and coordinating a \$450 million annual budget to provide electric, water, wastewater, natural gas and telecommunication services to over 200,000 people in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.
- Responsible for over 850 employees to deliver services through coordination with internal staff, external consulting with engineering, accounting and legal firms, construction firms and others.

Gainesville Regional Utilities, Gainesville, FL

Feb 2016 – Feb
2022

Water/Wastewater Officer

- Responsible for all matters concerning drinking water and wastewater services
- Reports and works alongside the General Manager and Chief Operating Officer
- Responsible for leading and managing 169 employees to continuously deliver water/wastewater services in a safe, reliable and cost-effective manner.
- Responsible for partnering with consulting engineering community to plan, design and construct new facilities or rehabilitate and extend life of existing infrastructure.

Gainesville Regional Utilities, Gainesville, FL

Jan 2014 – Feb
2016

Engineering Director for Water and Wastewater

- Responsible for planning, developing and implementing projects, permits, procedures and capital budget to ensure delivery of clean drinking water and excellent wastewater service
- Responsible for partnering with consulting engineers, contractors and owners to extend and maintain the water and wastewater systems including 3 primary plants, 2,000 miles of piping infrastructure and other facilities.

Gainesville Regional Utilities, Gainesville, FL

Jan 2002 – Jan
2014

Variety of roles: Water Distribution/WW Collections Director, Senior/Supervising Engineer, Project Manager Business Process and Financial System Implementation, Water & WW Engineer

- Served in multiple roles over a 12-year period within the utility being promoted to positions of increasing responsibility
- Responsible for operation, maintenance and expansion of piping infrastructure.
- Responsible for implementing new business processes and financial system throughout utility

- Responsible for plan, designing and implementing new water and wastewater infrastructure

Causseaux & Ellington, Gainesville, FL

**June 1995 – Jan
2002**

Civil Engineering Project Manager

- Consulting engineering reporting to two principles of the company
- Performed land development consulting engineering including roadway, residential and commercial civil engineering site design and construction services.
- Responsible for working with clients, regulatory agencies and other consultants to deliver quality engineering plans

SKILLS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Leadership: Led teams of varying size and responsibility from 4 to over 850 employees. Led teams that included operations, engineers, consultants, attorneys, accountants and executives. Ensured organizations met financial and business goals such as providing safe, reliable utility services to over 200,000 people. Implemented a major plan to reduce expenses for the utility and fund a debt reduction plan.

Engineering & Utility Experience: Nearly 30 years of experience in engineering and utilities in the State of Florida, including over 24 years as a professional engineer. Performed well in multiple roles throughout career including project engineer, project manager, engineering director, operations director and chief executive officer. As CEO/GM at GRU, we implemented a wide-range of capital improvement work and projects including advanced meter infrastructure (AMI), lifetime assessment of a generating station identifying improvement projects to extend the life of the unit by five years, electric substation transformers, renewal and replacement of aging electric distribution lines, water mains, wastewater collection facilities and natural gas pipelines.

Business Management: Successfully planned and implemented operation, maintenance, administrative and capital annual business plans up to \$450 million. Ensured utility met the primary mission of providing safe, reliable utilities while balancing and achieving regulatory compliance, maintenance of infrastructure, providing excellent customer service, implementing appropriate modern technology, and proactively managing financial portfolio with significant emphasis on reducing debt.

Professional & Public Engagement: Demonstrated ability to partner and coordinate with various governing boards, regulatory agencies, consultants, employees and general public. Implemented projects as a team that engaged regulatory agencies, public, engineering community and government agencies such as the award-winning Sweetwater Wetlands project in Gainesville, Florida.

Adaptability: Demonstrated ability to pivot and adjust to multiple governance models and boards and continued the successful delivery of utility services. Significant experience navigating challenging public engagements, governing board transitions and ever-changing circumstances. Successfully navigated the utility out of the pandemic, adjusted to significant volatility in the natural gas market, implemented new customer information system as well as navigated utility through storm events while minimizing impact on customers.

REFERENCES

Available upon request