

EAST SEVIER COUNTY UTILITY DISTRICT

1529 Alpine Drive

Phone (865) 453-6704 Sevierville, Tennessee 37876

Regular Meeting, THURSDAY January 19, 2023 - 5:30 PM

East Sevier County Utility Building

AGENDA

1) Call the meeting to order

2) Board Introduction

(1) Jerry Hayes

(2) Ron Cooley

(3) Dan Barnett

3) Minutes approved from last meeting.

Dan Barnett made motion

Ron Cooley seconded the motion

4) Jerry asked alliance a question:

**A. On Friday Night 1-13-23 who put the rock down on rich
Mountain?**

Craig Miller asked "Do you think is was stolen?"

Craig didn't know who did the rock.

Discussion of Regulations from Jerry Hayes and why

Alliance let someone else run ESCUD equipment?

Jerry stated: Alliance is "incompetent" Craig Miller was hostile about it. This road blocked and residents left with a blocked road was done on 1-13-23 Friday night. People had to walk home in the rain and snow!

B. Jerry asked why we are out of water on top of mountain?

Craig said the tank is low from all the leaks.

C. Time to repair leaks question asked from Jerry Hayes to Greg Mize TDEC. Greg answered 1-2 hours sometimes 4 to 6 hours, 2 to 4 hours depends. Alliance is not to leave residents out of Water. But they do! Not valid for alliance and employees Greg Mize said he believes they should stay on the job until all leaks are repaired.

D. Jerry asked Craig about us being without water 8 times in 2 ½ Months and Craig Miller said he knew about that. We are in a Dire situation according to TDEC.

E. Discussion about mutual bid from other utility districts. Greg Mize said yes to let the board look into this. Standard for help is normal. Ask for a qualified consultant or mutual bid. Make sure they have: Dozers, Trackhoe, Construction Experience, Knowledge of wells, snow, rock etc.

(Limited Budget)

TDEC recommended seeking outside agencies to also see that Alliance is doing their job! Greg Mize has 20 to 25 years with ESCUD. Look for a consultant Jerry said for help.

F. STAFF for alliance: Craig Miller said he cleaned house with Previous staff. Hasn't found any yet Qualified.

G. Jerry asked alliance why they blocked road again today on Rich Mountain? Was stated that alliance can't do a job again.

H. Greg Mize stated "No doubt a sever emergency situation We are in with no water!"

I. Motion for Jerry to seek mutual bid from other utilities Second by Ron Cooley & Dan Barnett.

Craig Miller said board can't do this. Mr Mize said this will

Help.

J. Contract Read: Alliance is not providing water to us Craig Said: Talk to Attorney. Criag says there is a “supply issue.” Can’t get parts or have to order them or get from KY. What has alliance done? Valve installed and 1 more to do. No spare parts are kept on hand. Jerry said it is not a Supply problem but a “maintence problem” Leaks Jerry And Ron have tested have chlorine!

K. Craig agreed to make changes in engineering as Dan asked About it. Craig stated McGill didn’t want to work with Alliance. CORRECTION: Craig stated the nobody except for McGill wanted to work with ESCUD

L. Ron asked about Divisions Alliance has : Craig said 43 and he was willing to get mutual bid to help in their Division.

M. Dan said “fixed” monthly payments. Money is going Back to company! “ 3 or more years short of employees. Dan also stated.

N. Ron asked Alliance “if they will ever get better at this job And Craig said “Yes Absolutely.” Ron asked Alliance

- 1. Who owns ESCUD Building? ESCUD owns.**
- 2. Who owns trucks all but 1 (ESCUD Owns.)**
- 3. Alliance uses all ESCUD trucks and equipment.**
- 4. Need keys to all owned by ESCUD.**

5. Copy of Minutes and records etc.

Motion by Jerry Hayes to change all locks on gates, pump station and all wells. Second by Ron Cooley.

O. Board Members approved :

Chairman Jerry Hayes

Treasurer/ Secretary Ron Cooley

Dan Barnett

P. Discussion of grant from Craig Miller for 1 million Dollars.

Q. Discussion on signing checks (1) Jerry Hayes (2) Ron Cooley at First Horizon Bank. Needed Drivers License and Social Security Cards. Limit Spending To Craig thinks \$2500.00 above board approval.

R. Social Media: web page

(Louie Fromm discussed) \$12.00 annually

Emails are free \$15.00 monthly

Domain approved (1) eastscud.org

(2) Eastscud.com

(3) Eastscud.comand.org

S. Greg Mize touched on supply & operator issues

(1) Water loss is significant here.

(2) Infrastructure is aged and bad.

(3) Alpine is a big problem.

T. Community Discussion!

(1) Chris from rich mountain alliance was blasted

For incompetence of water leak and was

Blocked in on rich mountain. Blamed alliance.

Concerned surface water get into lines

Alliance is to blame and not proactive.

(2) Greg Bullock: Supply line issue out of 43

Districts! Craig said it was JD's dept. No

Parts on hand – Craig said “to much cost”

Workers leave and we have no water.

Boil Water Notice discussed.

(3) Leslie Cooley: files or folders for ordering

Parts for each job. Day to Day operation.

Craig said its JD's job but he wasn't doing it yet. Blue card system!

(4) Heather Fromm: Parts on hand discussed

Again. Be proactive.

(5) Randy Ninniger: JD don't do much of anything!

Not Qualified he says.

(6) Erin Dowdy: No water: Kids school makes

them bathe there. They say the kids “smell bad” and clothes are yellow.

(7) Charles Rogers: asked about JD qualifications?

Who is Craigs boss: Tony Sneed. Stated “we don't want alliance.

(8) Cindy Mitchell: 12-23-22 no water, JD came up and then JD on New Years Eve left and sent Mark Cooper to them. Mr Cooper never got paid he said.

(9) KC Fire Department: Workers can do a better job Craig said "absolutely." Continue education for workers! 24 month plan and encourage employees to do this.

Jerry Hayes: Piece of land promised from Roy Ivey to them. Survey it from Dec 8 meeting. Craig didn't know about it.

(10) Steve Bradley: Prognosis: Infrastructure: Many repairs.

(11) Ron Cooley: talked to marsha blackburn about grants. All grants require an "engineer" Board fills out ½ and engineer ½. Grants are red tape Craig stated.

Jerry asked TDEC: declare a "state of emergency?) Craig said county mayor could do this and then get us help from FEMA.

(12) Heather Fromm: Focus on infrastructure or bring in water? Water will go out in leaks. We have water Jerry said and Larry Waters agreed. Focus on infrastructure only.

Check on well E. Don't need new well. Pump at well A is on ground is small and came from well B.

Motion from Jerry: get cost need 3 bids for pump for well F and get it tested. Craig gets cost-bids. Second by Ron and Dan.

(13) Louie Fromm: Discussion on Parallel Infrastructure. Craig said no not on the mountain. No preventive measure taken in Rich Mountain leak. Not supply issue but infrastructure issue.

(14) Chris again Rich Mountain: Leak detectors were discussed and dicussion about Sectional valves-shut off's monitor water to some.

(15) Patricia Rogers: Well C don't supply anyone with water. Top of Mountain: Wells A&B for us – but some have water and some don't. We are shut off! She asked about "We have another utility company who has said they will come and redo our infrastructure and TDEC said yes they would do it, but it was up to the board. Board will have to get with attorney about alliance contract first.

(16) Debbie Curtman: When do excuses from alliance quit! All customers hear are excuses. Nobody answers the phone. No water services.

Adjourned by Jerry Hayes. Next meeting on

February 9@ 5:30 pm