

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
East Sevier County Utility District
March 13, 2024**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the East Sevier County Utility District (“the District”), was held at the District’s Offices on March 13, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. Commissioners present were Lisa Hawthorne, President, Dan Barnett, Vice President, and Louie Fromm, Secretary/Treasurer. Others present were Nathaniel Allsup, Tennessee Utility Assistance, LLC (“TUA”); and Gavin Smelcer, Owings, Wilson & Coleman, General Counsel for the District.

Ms. Hawthorne called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings

The Minutes of the Board of Commissioner’s February 14, 2024, meeting were presented. Commissioner Fromm moved to approve the Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnett and carried unanimously.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Review of Financials

Mr. Allsup presented the District’s financials.

Mr. Allsup stated that the District’s financials are receiving an in-house audit by TUA; the formal audit had not begun.

Report from General Manager

- A. Water System: Mr. Allsup gave a report on the current status of the District’s water system. Mr. Allsup stated that Rye Engineering had been engaged and the leak on Darvan Way has been repaired. Additionally, the leak on Rich Mtn. was located and water restored.

Mr. Allsup reported that the Well C boosters will not restart automatically if power flickers. Mr. Allsup reported that they were in touch with an electrician, but that they have now contacted the tech support of the manufacturer to schedule a visit to repair the booster. The District has been assured that these can be reset to come back on automatically.

Mr. Allsup reported that Well D has an issue with brown water. TDEC has performed a sanitary survey and the District has had conversation about Well D with Greg Mize at TDEC. Well D is high in iron content. Chlorine has been fed into Well D to sanitize the iron content. Mr. Allsup reported that since Monday, March 11, 2024, the iron content in Well D is measuring at 0; however, it still needs to be flushed. More water is needed to flush Well D, and the District is working on getting a 2-inch bypass line from Well AB to flush Well D.

Commissioner Fromm asked about the need to solicit bids for the purchase. Mr. Allsup believed that the quote would come under the amount necessary to solicit bids.

Mr. Barnett asked about the USDA money received by the District for the flow meters; stated that the District needed to determine how long bids were good.

Mr. Allsup referred to a map of the District at the District's offices on which some 30%-40% of the map was highlighted in yellow. Mr. Allsup reported that the areas in yellow were lots that were developed, but which have not been built on; that the District had "live" lines to those lots. The District has a plan to kill the water to those lots with the hope of reducing the District's water loss. In the event the lots are ever built on, the District can allow the developer/builder to tap on to the line.

B. Sewer System: Mr. Allsup gave a report on the current status of the District's sewer system.

Mr. Barnett asked about the TDEC assessment for the District's sewer plant. Mr. Allsup reported that the engineers at Ardurra were still working on the administrative paperwork regarding the sewer plant.

C. Personnel: Mr. Allsup reported that the District has two (2) new hires. Karen Spence has been hired for the front office. She will be in the office Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM. She will answer phones and the window will be open when she is present. Bruce Hopkins was hired a field worker (in both the water and sewer). Online applications are active on the District's website.

D. Billing: Mr. Allsup reported that the District is still doing minimum billing. District staff have a call with United Billing tomorrow, March 14, 2024 to discuss issues. For April the District is looking to have the autopay option available.

Unfinished Business

The District had no unfinished business.

New Business

The District had no new business.

Board of Commissioners' Comments:

Commissioner Fromm reported that the District's public records were now available on the District's website.

Commissioner Fromm invited customers to use the community forum on the website in the event of dirty water and/or water outage.

Commissioner Hawthorne informed the customers that the District was working as hard as it could to fulfill the District's mission and purpose of serving the people of English Mountain.

Hear From District Customers: Various customers addressed the Commissioners with their concerns and positive comments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Louie Fromm, Secretary

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