

**Minutes of Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting  
East Sevier County Utility District  
May 8, 2024**

Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum:

Lisa Hawthorne called the board of commissioners meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Commissioners present were Lisa Hawthorne, Dan Barnett, and Louie Fromm. A quorum was declared. Other persons in attendance were: Tim Ham and Nathaniel Allsup with TUA.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Fromm made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the April 10, 2024 board meeting and to approve as written and presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Barnett and carried unanimously.

Review of Financials

Mr. Ham informed the board that there was a delay in completing the District's financials for the month of April. Mr. Ham told the board that the April financial statements would be emailed to the commissioners by the end of day on Friday, May 10th.

Mr. Ham informed the board that the conversion date for the billing software program from G-4 to G-5 is scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup>. With the new G5 conversion, autopay will resume as well as pay by phone and the pay portal. Once the conversion is completed, he will be able to present more complete financial statements. Upon the conversion, tap fees and connection fees will be included as operating revenues.

Unfinished Business

- Mr. Ham reported to the board that the wastewater service agreement for Forgotten Forest was still being completed. The District plans to meet with the Forgotten Forest homeowners association or property manager to review the service agreement. Mr. Barnett asked whether Doug Overbey had reviewed the service agreement. Mr. Ham stated that he would send a copy of the agreement to Mr. Overbey for his review once a final version has been drafted. Mr. Barnett questioned whether the agreement should provide that the District will own the wastewater system since he understands that is what TDEC wants. He noted that the most recent draft of the agreement only states that the District will manage and operate the system. Mr. Ham stated that he will confirm whether the agreement should provide that District own the wastewater system and will include such a provision in the agreement upon receiving confirmation.

- The District owns several lots in the English Mountain development which may not be needed for the operation of the District's water or sewer system. Mr. Ham told the board that he would evaluate these lots to determine whether they could be used as possible well sites or for other District purposes. Mr. Fromm made a motion to that the District declare as surplus property any lots which are not needed for the operation of the District's water or sewer system and sell such lots. Mr. Barnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports and New Business:

- Mr. Ham reported to the board that he is continuing to work with the state to assess the District's eligibility to receive grant money for capital improvements to the District's system.
- Mr. Ham stated that he received a phone call from the EPA regarding its assistance with the District's wastewater system. TDEC has agreed to participate with EPA during the process.
- Mr. Ham informed the board that the District has received a Director's Order from TDEC on the District's water system which included the assessment of a civil penalty. Mr. Ham stated that he will evaluate how best to address the Order and report back to the board.
- Mr. Barnett asked some questions about the process of grinder pump system installations at The Preserve. Mr. Ham explained the new process for lot owners to get grinder pumps installed. Karen Spence will coordinate the installation of all grinder pump systems to provide better organization for the scheduling of such installations.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the board, Mr. Fromm made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Barnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

  
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Louie Fromm, Secretary/Treasurer

12 JUN 24  
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Date