

HARDY COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT  
MARCH 1, 2023  
4:30 P.M.  
2094 US 220 South, Moorefield, West Virginia

Present: Rob Harper, Logan Moyers, Rose Helmick, Connie Sherman -HCPSD and Kylea Radcliff, The Thrasher Group.

The meeting was called to order at 4:39 p.m. by Chairman Robert Harper. Robert Harper made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2022 regular meeting minutes as presented. Rose Helmick seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

***Unfinished Business:***

***New PSD Facility Project*** – Logan Moyers provided an update on the status of the District's new facility project. The construction period for the contract begins on April 1, 2023 and groundwork on the property should begin soon thereafter. The construction contract is a one-year contract with a substantial completion date of April 1, 2024 and a final completion date of May 1, 2024.

***Carla Acres II Water Storage Tank*** – Logan Moyers reported that bids for the project were opened in December and the low bid for the Carla Acres II storage tank project came in over budget by \$321,000.00. In response to the low bid exceeding the available project budget, the District applied for and received bid overrun funds from WVIJDC in the form of a Water Development Authority grant in the amount of the overrun. Once the overrun funds had been obtained and the project was fully funded, project engineer, The Thrasher Group, recommended to award the contract to low-bidder Mid Atlantic Storage Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$1,036,558.00. Robert Harper made a motion to award the contract to Mid Atlantic Storage Systems, Inc. Rose Helmick seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved. The project is funded with 100% debt-free grant funds in the form is a \$500,000 ARPA grant from the Hardy County Commission, a \$500,000 WVIJDC grant and \$321,000 WVWDA grant. A pre-construction meeting will take place on March 8, 2023 with construction scheduled to begin in early spring 2023.

Grant agreements with WVIJDC and WVWDA were presented for approval and execution. Rose Helmick made a motion to approve and execute the \$500,000 WVIJDC grant agreement. Robert Harper seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved. Rose Helmick then made a motion to approve the \$321,000 WVWDA grant agreement. Robert Harper seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved. Pay Requisition #1 for the WVIJDC funds was presented for review and approval in the amount of \$61,000, which covered engineering fees in the amount of \$38,500, legal fees in the amount of \$20,000 and accounting fees in the amount of \$2,500.00. Robert Harper made a motion to approve the pay requisition. Rose Helmick seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved. Pay requisition #2 for ARPA funds from the HCC was presented for review and approval in the amount of \$80,472.04, which covered \$80,000 in engineering fees and \$472.04 reimbursement to the HCPSD. Robert Harper made a motion to approve the requisition as presented. Rose Helmick seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

***Baker Secondary Water Source*** – Logan Moyers provided an update on the District's ongoing efforts to establish a secondary water source for the Baker water system. The District along with consulting engineer, The Thrasher Group, and consulting groundwater hydrologist, Moody & Associates, has finalized and submitted the large amount information that was requested by the West Virginia Conservation Agency in regard to the District's request to establish groundwater wells on WVCA property next to the Baker water plant. The District hopes to schedule a meeting with WVCA and other impacted parties regarding the request but at this time no date has been set. Moyers said he was recently contacted by WVCA engineer, Gene Saurborn, who informed him that WVCA director, Brian Farkas, had retired and that Mr. Saurborn would be the contact at WVCA for this matter going forward. The District is hopeful to receive authorization from WVCA to drill test wells on the property in the near future to determine the feasibility of using groundwater as a secondary water source for the Baker water system.

**Town of Wardensville Rate Increase** – Logan Moyers informed the board that the Town of Wardensville has completed its class cost of service study and based on the determinations made in that study had developed new rate ordinance that included a new proposed resale rate for the District. In September 2022, the Town had proposed an across the board increase of 72.5% in rates to the District and all other customer classes. The District requested that a cost of service study be performed to determine if the rate schedule being proposed by the Town was appropriate. The newly calculated rate ordinance, which was based on determinations made in the cost of service study, now proposes a 175% increase in the resale rate from its current amount of \$3.69 per thousand gallons to \$10.12 per thousand gallons purchased. Questions were raised as to the determinations made in the study that resulted in a much higher proposed increase in the resale rate. It was decided to forward the cost of service study to the District’s accountant for review and evaluation to see if he agreed with the determinations made in the study. The Town of Wardensville will hold the final reading of the rate ordinance on March 13, 2023 at which time the rate ordinance will likely be adopted and subject to implementation pending review and approval of the WV Public Service Commission. Moyers said the District’s case with WVPSC objecting to the original increase would carry over to the newly proposed increase and would ensure that the proposed rate will be reviewed by WVPSC before it could begin being charged. Moyers told board members he would continue to provide updates as the process moved forward.

***New Business:***

***FY23 Financial Statements*** – The fiscal year 2023 financial statements were handed out to board members to take with them to review with a plan to take action to approve the documents at the next board meeting.

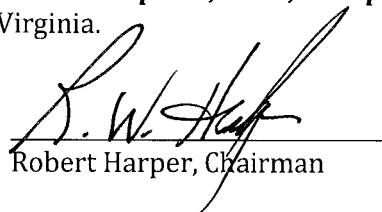
***Miscellaneous Business:***

Logan Moyers informed the board of potential changes to PEIA health insurance coverage for PSD employees that could include premium increases and coverage changes as a result of proposed legislative action. If approved, the bill would significantly increase the cost to the District to cover health care premiums for its employees, spouses and families. Moyers said the District would discuss this matter further at the April board meeting when more would be known about the potential changes. He also said discussion will be held regarding how the changes would affect future operating budgets of the District.

No members of the general public were present at the meeting.

There being no further business, Robert Harper made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Rose Helmick seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

The next regular scheduled board meeting will be held **April 5, 2023, 4:30 p.m.** at the office of the PSD located at 2094 US 220 South, Moorefield, West Virginia.

  
Robert Harper, Chairman