

HARDY COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT
AUGUST 4, 2021
4:30 P.M.
2094 US 220 South, Moorefield, West Virginia

Present: Rob Harper, Justin Basye, Rose Helmick, Logan Moyers, Connie Sherman, HCPSD; Jean Flanagan and Milda Mullins, Moorefield Examiner.

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m. by Chairman Robert Harper. Robert Harper made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2021 and the July 7, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented. Justin Basye seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Jean Flanagan introduced Milda Mullins at the meeting. Jean is retiring and Milda will be replacing her beginning with next month's meeting. We will miss Jean but wish her well in her retirement.

Unfinished Business:

Baker WTP Upgrade Project – Logan Moyers gave an update on the progress of this project. Moyers reported that Ixom representatives are at the water plant today for a site visit and also to assist in finding a resolution to the flow issue from the MIEX equipment to the main water plant facility. Representatives from The Thrasher Group are scheduled to meet with Ixom representatives tomorrow at the water plant to develop plans to resolve the flow issues. The plan is to raise the elevation of the MIEX units by increasing the height of the concrete pads located under the MIEX equipment. Once a plan is in place, the project contractor, Breckinridge Corporation, will be contacted to get a date that the work can be completed. Once this work is complete, this contract and the project as a whole will be finalized and closed out.

New PSD Facility Project – Logan Moyers reported that since the last meeting the District has received final approval from the West Virginia Public Service Commission of our request for a waiver of a certificate case for this project. The District will now work to finalize the requirements of the project lenders, FEMA and USDA-RD, which must be met before receiving authorization to bid the project. Moyers anticipates receiving authorization to bid sometime in September 2021 which, after going through the bidding process, would likely result in construction of the new facility beginning in spring 2022. The FEMA deadline for project completion is July 2023.

Source Water Protection Grant – Logan Moyers provided an update on the grant funds received from the State of West Virginia Bureau for Public Health for the purchase of early warning monitoring equipment to be placed near the raw water intake for the Baker water plant. The District is working with YSI, the maker of the monitoring equipment, to provide information requested by the West Virginia Conservation Agency, owner of the Parker Hollow Impoundment, before the District can receive permission from the WVCA to install the equipment. WVCA has raised concerns that mounting the equipment could potentially impact the structural integrity of the concrete riser structure where the equipment will be mounted. Moyers said the WVCA is notoriously difficult to deal with in these types of situations and, as had been the case in the past, that has again proved true in this instance. Moyers said he does believe that the District will ultimately be permitted to install the equipment and that he hoped that happens soon so that installation could take place before the weather turned. The deadline to spend the grant funds is the end of the calendar year 2021.

Rate Increase – Logan Moyers provided an update on the timing of the water rate increase the District board approved during the June board meeting. This rate increase is necessary due to increases in purchased water costs from both the Town of Moorefield and the Town of Wardensville, both of who are undertaking projects to construction new water treatment plants. Moyers informed the board that the Town of Moorefield's increase was effective August 1, 2021 and the District received a bill the following day for over \$28,000. Moyers said that same volume of water would have cost the District approximately \$12,700 under the old rates and that the District was looking at monthly deficit of over \$15,000 under the District's current rate structure just a result of the increases from the Town of Moorefield. Moyers told the board the

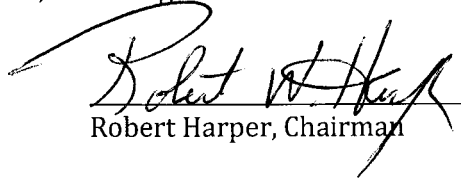
District's attorney is filing a 42R rate case with the WVPSC which allows the District to immediately begin to charging increased rates, as determined by the District's accountant, which will allow the District to cover the increased costs from the Towns of Moorefield and Wardensville. The WVPSC will then review the rate information provided by the District's accountant to determine if the rates are appropriate before issuing final approval. District customers will be notified of the upcoming rate increase with labels that will be placed on the August bills. The District will also be required to run a legal ad for two consecutive weeks in the newspaper during the month of August before the new rates can begin being charged in September. Based on the accountant's recommendation, the minimum bill for all District customers will increase from \$38.97 to \$45.00 beginning with September's bill. This reflects a 15% increase in the minimum bill. The increase will be for water usage only and will not affect sewer rates.

Hampshire County Extension Project – Chairman Robert Harper asked if there was any new information regarding the request from Hampshire County to purchase water to serve Hampshire County residents located on US 220 North. Logan Moyers reported that he had not heard anything lately regarding the project except that funding had been secured. The next step for Hampshire County will be a case proceeding with the WVPSC. Moyers said it will be over a year before Hampshire County is ready to begin purchasing water from 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. Justin Basye seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

The next regular scheduled board meeting will be held **September 1, 2021, 4:30 p.m.** at the office of the PSD located at 2094 US 220 South, Moorefield, West Virginia.



Robert Harper, Chairman