

PULASKI COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY MINUTES July 30, 2001

At a regular meeting of the Pulaski County Public Service Authority Board of Directors held on Monday, July 30, 2001, 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the County Administration Building, in the Town of Pulaski, the following members were present: H.W. Huff, Jr., Chairman; Archa Vaughan, Jr.; J. Mack Baker; Winston Snead; and Carl Mathes. Staff members present included: County Administrator, Peter M. Huber; County Engineer, Ron Coake; and Assistant County Administrator, Nancy M. Burchett.

1. Briefing By Pepper's Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority

The Board met with Doyle Barton, Chairman of the Pepper's Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority, Charles Maus, Executive Director of the Pepper's Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority, John Olver, of the engineering firm, Olver, Inc. and Art Meade regarding the proposed change by Pepper's Ferry to charge users by flow use rather than flow allocation.

John Olver reported two things had changed recently which had forced the Pepper's Ferry Authority to look at possibly changing the current method of allocating costs to members. First, the Environmental Protection Agency had adopted new regulations on sewer flows. Second, the present Pepper's Ferry plant was designed in the late 1970's and with the new technology of today an upgrade was needed in order for the plant to operate at it's highest efficiency level. Therefore, with these two changes, the Authority felt the timing for a change from flow allocation to flow use was appropriate. Mr. Olver then reviewed several handouts outlining the advantages of such a change and cumulative cost analysis of flow use basis verses an allocated capacity basis. Further, he noted that all members of the Authority would have to approve the change in the billing formula, and if approved, the proposed new rates would be effective in January 2002.

Charles Maus advised that Pepper's Ferry Authority is not a true authority at the present time, and the change to a use flow billing would make the Authority a true authority. Mr. Maus also advised the change would benefit all jurisdictions in the long term.

Art Meade encouraged the Board to look forward. He reported the current billing structure creates inefficiencies.

Peter Huber, County Administrator, noted the need for public education on this matter.

Representatives from Pepper's Ferry Authority advised that 4 public meetings had already been held with other members of the Authority regarding this matter.

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Discussion was then held on the county's debt incurred a number of years ago for the additional sewer capacity and how remaining debt service for this additional capacity could be purchased by the Authority.

2. Reports from the County Administrator and Staff

a. Collection Staff Activity

1. Adjustments

On a motion by Mr. Vaughan, seconded by Mr. Baker, and carried, the Board of Directors approved adjustments in the credit amount of \$6,586.90.

Voting yes: Mr. Huff, Mr. Vaughan, Mr. Baker, Mr. Mathes and Mr. Snead.

Voting no: None

2. Inmate Availability Report

Staff reported the inmate count for the month of July had been one inmate per day.

3. Balance Due Report

The Board reviewed the balance due report as submitted by staff.

4. Lien Report

The Board reviewed the lien report as prepared by staff. Said report reflected total liens in the amount of \$363,702.95.

5. Work Order Count

Staff reported that there were 18 brush pick-ups, 14 large items, 0 tires and 0 refrigerators requiring pick-up as of July 26, 2001.

6. Refuse Committee Reports

No refuse committee reports were provided at this meeting.

7. PSA Billing Staff Meeting Minutes

No PSA billing staff minutes were provided at this meeting.

b. Survey Results:

Peter Huber, County Administrator, reported the following regarding the citizen survey results regarding possible water and/or sewer service:

1. Highland Park

Total improved properties surveys returned: 196 or 84% of improved properties;

Total improved properties in favor: 105 out of 196 (54%)

Total improved properties opposed: 84 out of 196 (43%)

Total improved properties other: 7 out of 196 (3%)

2. Dunkards Bottom

Total improved properties: 116 property owners

Total improved properties surveys returned: 87

Total improved properties in favor: 35 out of 87 (40%)

Total improved properties opposed: 48 out of 87 (56%)

Total improved properties other: 4 out of 87 (4%)

3. Rolling Hills:

Total improved properties: 66 properties (1 unimproved)

Total improved properties surveys returned: 45 out of 66 (68%)

Total improved properties in favor: 30 out of 45 (67%)

Total improved properties opposed: 12 out of 45 (27%)

Total improved properties other: 3 out of 45 (6%)

4. Orchard Hills:

Total improved properties: 155 properties

Total improved properties surveys returned: 85 (55% of improved properties)

Total improved properties in favor: 48 out of 85 (57%)

Total improved properties opposed: 30 out of 85 (35%)

Total improved properties other: 7 out of 85 (8%)

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Mr. Huber noted that staff had begun to go door to door in some areas to request submission of the surveys from those residents who had not previously responded.

The Board requested staff to contact other jurisdictions regarding the criteria used for approving a project in relation to the percentage of citizen support for the proposed water and/or sewer projects.

c. Update on Water & Sewer Service:

1. Riverbend Mobile Home Park

Mr. Huber reported a request had been received for the installation of water and sewer service for the above noted mobile home park as a part of an overall upgrade to the park.

The Board authorized staff to proceed with a Rural Development loan application for the financing of this project in a similar manner as has been done in the past for other mobile home parks.

2. Hidden Valley Campground

Staff discussed with the Board possibly limiting service to the above noted campground to a master meter for water and a single connection point for sewer service. County Engineer, Ron Coake, noted that for campgrounds, only one (1) minimum fee is charged, regardless of the number of campers connected.

The Board requested staff to confirm the present billing structure of other campgrounds currently being served by the Public Service Authority and report back this information at the September meeting of the Board of Directors.

d. Request to Allow Waste Management to Service Lancer Travel Plaza:

Following a presentation regarding this matter by staff, the Board of Directors requested staff to determine the cost of providing the required container and provide the Board with a report at the September meeting.

e. Little Wytheville Dumpster

Staff reported of concerns expressed by residents of the Little Wytheville community relating to the dumpster located in this area and the types of materials and volume of materials being left at this dumpster. Further, a community meeting was planned for Saturday, August 4, 2001 at 1:30 p.m. with residents to discuss this matter.

The Board suggested that the community be encouraged to control the utilization of this dumpster site by non-community members.

f. Drop Center Hours of Operation

The Board reviewed current hours of operations at the drop site centers and approved staff recommendation to not change these hours at the present time pending any further concerns expressed by the public.

g. DEQ Water Treatment Plant Notice of Violation

The County Engineer, Ron Coake, reviewed the details of the above noted permit violations with the Board of Directors. Mr. Coake advised he would report any further progress at the September meeting of the Board.

h. Information Items:

- New River Resource Authority Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes of May 23, 2001 for the New River Resource Authority.

i. Current Authorized Projects & Items Under Review:

The following projects were reported to be under review:

- Cloyd's Mountain Sewer Extension by VDOT
- New River Industrial Park Water and Sewer Extension
- Water and Sewer Extensions Preliminary Engineering Reports
- Landings Limited Partnership Water Extension
- Collier Acres Sewer Extension with Commerce Park Development
- Gateway Mobile Home Park Water and Sewer Extension Engineering

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3. Approval of July 9, 2001 Minutes

On the motion of Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Vaughan and carried, the PSA Board of Directors approved the minutes of the July 9, 2001 meeting as presented.

Voting yes: Mr. Huff, Mr. Vaughan, Mr. Mathes, Mr. Baker and Mr. Snead.
Voting no: None.

4. Accounts Payable

On the motion of Mr. Vaughan, seconded by Mr. Snead and carried, the PSA Board of Directors authorized staff approval of the accounts payable for the month of August 2001 upon their preparation by Ms. Sayers.

Voting yes: Mr. Huff, Mr. Vaughan, Mr. Mathes, Mr. Baker and Mr. Snead.
Voting no: None.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned until the next regular meeting of the Pulaski County Public Service Authority Board of Directors to be held on September 10, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. at the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, NW, in the Town of Pulaski, Virginia.

H.W. Huff, Chairman

J. Mack Baker, Secretary