#### **MINUTES**

# CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Wise County Public Service Authority held its regular monthly Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Chairman, Ralph Gilley, called the regular monthly meeting to order and the Director, Cody McElroy, called roll.

#### Members Present:

Ralph Gilley, Chairman
Fred Luntsford, Vice-Chairman
JH Rivers
Hibert Tackett, Jr.
Bob Adkins
Worley Smith
Robby Robbins

#### Absent:

**Ruthie Rainey** 

#### Also Present:

Cody McElroy, Executive Director Elaine Minor, Recording Secretary Will Sturgill, Wise County PSA Attorney

# PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

# APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Worley Smith, and seconded by Fred Luntsford, to approve the agenda as presented. The vote was as follows.

Ayes

Nays

Abstain

Absent

Ruthie Rainey

Ralph Gilley
Fred Luntsford
JH Rivers
Hibert Tackett, Jr.
Bob Adkins
Worley Smith

Robby Robbins

The motion was passed.

#### **PUBLIC EXPRESSION**

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Robby Robbins and seconded by JH Rivers, to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2023, meeting as presented. The vote was as follows.

Ayes

Nays

Abstain

Absent

Ruthie Rainey

Ralph Gilley
Fred Luntsford
JH Rivers
Hibert Tackett, Jr.
Bob Adkins
Worley Smith
Robby Robbins

The motion was passed.

#### PROJECT UPDATES

Director Cody McElroy submitted project updates on behalf of T&L.

#### Pound I/I

A design review meeting was held at the end of September.

# Lower Bold Camp

Project should restart upon pipe delivery. The time of year restriction expires on October 31<sup>st</sup> so the contractor can start back working in the creek.

## **Pound WWTP Upgrades**

Project is moving slow due to material/delivery issues.

Director Cody McElroy submitted project updates on behalf of Lane Group

#### Banner Sewer

A meeting is scheduled next week to discuss our application with the funding agency.

## Pound Water Treatment Plant Improvements

We have received authorization to Bid from one side of the Health Department's construction office but have not received authorization from the water regulation side.

#### Pound System-Wide Improvements 2023

Design is being finished. An application was submitted for \$3 million to DHCD and a meeting is scheduled for next week to discuss this.

Director Cody McElroy submitted project updates for Mattern & Craig

## Pound River Interceptor

Received some of the plans and should receive the rest any day. We will need to get over 100 easements for this project.

# St. Paul Interconnect Study

A draft has been reviewed and we made some comments. Trying to get a meeting set up between PSA, Town of St. Paul, and Russell County PSA to discuss water distribution from Town of St. Paul and PSA to Russell County.

Director Cody McElroy submitted project updates for PSA

# Bear Creek Community Water

Project is moving quickly. All the main line is in within a month and two connections were made today to the existing system. They will be testing and connecting within the next two weeks. There were originally 11 customers, two more signed up in the existing project area, and now 3 more past the original project area bringing the total to 16. We need to do more Environmental work with Lenowisco. With the \$120,000 additional grant funds received from Lenowisco and the additional money from the bids being so well, we should be able to complete the 16 connections fully funded. This was an area that had failing wells.

#### Appalachia Elementary STP

Design is underway. The \$125,000 design funds from Mountain Empire have been received and placed in escrow in our capital account to pay the consultant as needed. Working on setting up the temporary tanks this week and working to get the existing plant demolished.

#### High Knob Recreation Area Sewer

Forrest Service has shut down their Recreation Area and we will start working with them on getting the tank installed for the sewer system. The work may not begin till the Spring.

# **CLOSED SESSION**

A motion was made by Worley Smith, and seconded by Robby Robbins, to go into closed session at 6:12 p.m. under Virginia Code 2.2-3711(A)(3)(7). The vote was as follows.

Ayes

Nays

Abstain

Absent

Ruthie Rainey

Ralph Gilley
Fred Luntsford
JH Rivers
Hibert Tackett, Jr.
Bob Adkins
Worley Smith
Robby Robbins

The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Robby Robbins, and seconded by Fred Luntsford, to return to open session at 6:30 p.m. The vote was as follows.

Ayes

Nays

Abstain

Absent

Ruthie Rainey

Ralph Gilley
Fred Luntsford
JH Rivers
Hibert Tackett, Jr.
Bob Adkins
Worley Smith
Robby Robbins

The motion was passed.

A closed session resolution, attached, was read aloud by Director Cody McElroy and a motion was made by JH Rivers, and seconded by Robby Robbins, to adopt the resolution. The vote was as follows.

Ayes

Nays

Abstain

Absent

Ruthie Rainey

Ralph Gilley
Fred Luntsford
JH Rivers
Hibert Tackett, Jr.
Bob Adkins
Worley Smith
Robby Robbins

The motion was passed.

#### **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

A motion was made by Robby Robbins and seconded by Worley Smith, to approve the Purchase Option Contract for the Bentley property and allow the Director Cody McElroy to execute. The vote was as follows.

Ayes

Nays

Abstain

Absent Ruthie Rainey

Ralph Gilley
Fred Luntsford
JH Rivers
Hibert Tackett, Jr.
Bob Adkins
Worley Smith
Robby Robbins

The motion was passed.

# **DIRECTOR'S ITEMS**

# Garbage Service Updates

We currently have 903 residential customers, 27 private drive customers, and 67 commercial dumpsters in the county.

# Powell Valley & Crackers Neck Sewer Project CIPs

The first is the Powell Valley Sewer project which would serve approximately 214 customers with 100% participation. The project would need substantial grant funds to allow the customer base to fund the project.

The second project is in the Crackers Neck area and is similar in customer count, but slightly less than the Powell Valley project in overall cost.

If the Board is interested in these two projects, we would work to gain a more realistic, phased approach to lay out a viable funding path. This would be a time-heavy process and the PSA would be gauging interest from the residents of these areas.

## **FINANCIALS**

None

# **BOARD COMMENTS**

Hibert Tackett wanted to thank the staff for all their hard work.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Worley Smith, and seconded by Fred Luntsford, to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. The vote was as follows.

Ayes

Nays

Abstain

Absent

Ruthie Rainey

Ralph Gilley Fred Luntsford JH Rivers Hibert Tackett, Jr. Bob Adkins Worley Smith

Robby Robbins

The motion was passed.

ATTEST:

Director

A lig

Wise County Public Service Authority

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# **CERTIFICATION OF A CLOSED SESSION**

WHEREAS, The Wise County Public Service Authority has convened a Closed Session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and;
WHEREAS, Section 2-1-31(1) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Wise County Public Service Authority that such Closed Session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wise County Public Service Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the Closed Session to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the Closed Session were heard, discussed, or considered by the Wise County Public Service Authority.
VOTE:
AYES: 7
NAYS: O
ABSENT DURING VOTE:
ABSENT DURING MEETING: Rainey
ATTEST: WISE COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY
Executive Director, Clerk  Chairman  Chairman
Date: 10/17/23