

MEANSVILLE RILEY ROAD WATER COMPANY, INC.
ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.
HELD AT WEST SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH, CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CENTER

Present

Paula Brewster
Cindy Burnett
Mark Carroll
Stonie Keith
Eddie Lawson
Chip Reeves
Bill Solesbee

Parking Lot

John Burnett
Mack Lancaster
1 Member

Also Present

Ben Kochenower
Charlie Wilson
Paula Wright
16 Members

Opening: Eddie Lawson called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Invocation: Hubert Waldrep gave the invocation

2020 Audit Presentation: Ben Kochenower stated it is a ministry that MRWC is providing fresh water to the community. We started the audit last week and anticipate being finished the middle of March. There are three things the auditor is responsible for:

- (1) Look at the budget to see how it compares to last year's budget, the financial statements, USDA grants, the pump station is not complete yet but stepped up the installation of radio read meters. We also look at the monthly statements that the Board gets. We express an opinion on your financial statements.
- (2) We look at any material mistakes in those financial statements and report to the Board any findings and report any suggestion and recommendations that we have.
- (3) We do a risk assessment looking to see if every transaction the water company made got in the right place at the right time, in the right amount, in the right account and if it was described and characterized and presented appropriately. We also look at the payroll, checks that are written and were they appropriately approved. We look to see if the loan grants are in compliance. Ben complimented the Board on providing fresh water to the customers.

Board President's Report: The Board welcomed new Board Members, Mark Carroll, and Chip Reeves last year. It has been strenuous trying to get things done with the coronavirus. The Fairwood Pump Station Project is underway. Radio Read Meters have been installed. In March Governor Henry McMaster requested that we not disconnect essential services for nonpayment during the State of Emergency and it was lifted in May.

General Manger's Report: We have installed over 3,000 new radio read meters and can read them in 1 ½ days. The pandemic pushed us to install new internet-based phones. We are now able to take multiple calls and have a speaker phone for board meetings. Fairwood Pump Station is a loan/grant from USDA for \$5,000,000.00. We started USDA project in 2014 and it is almost complete. This is the only place in our system that requires power to run the system, so we installed an automatic generator. We also purchased an air compressor instead of renting one. Looking

ahead to the coming year we want to continue to improve our system and our service, the Board has a priority list of projects that they are currently looking at and right now we are getting estimates from the engineering's so the Board can make the best decision as to which projects to pursue next. Then we can seek the funding we need to complete the projects. The SCADA system has been fully implemented. The last unit went in the Fairwood Pump Station and now we have ten units which allows us to monitor and control our total system remotely. The company has purchased two new work trucks, arriving in March or April. We will continue to provide good quality water for our customers. Kevin Youngblood, IT, with Computers Plus has really helped us out this year especially with the COVID-19 and with setting up for tonight's meeting.

2021 Budget Presentation: Board members. Paula, Bill, Chip along with Charlie and Paula Wright worked on the budget. Capital improvements includes small items and does not include the priority list of projects. Equipment upgrade is to purchase a mini excavator. A question regarding lab fee line item was asked from the floor. Charlie explained that our monthly water samples are collected by Spartanburg Water System at no cost. We are required to sample each month per SCDHEC. The lab fee line item is budget for samples conducted outside our normal samples.

Introduction of Candidates: Stonie Keith decided not to run for a seat on the Board. He was thanked and applauded for his many years of service to the company. Mr. Keith joked that he turned the water on at the company. Bill Solesbee, Paula Brewster, Don Tucker and Otis Hembree each introduced themselves and told why they were interested in a seat on the Board.

Nominations from the Floor: Hearing no nominations from the floor the nominations closed and voting began.

Election Results Announced: Eddie announced that Paula Brewster will remain on the Board for another term. Otis Hembree and Don Tucker was elected as new Board members.

Adjournment: Hubert Waldrep made a motion to adjourn.

Paula Wright, Secretary