

**MEANSVILLE RILEY ROAD WATER COMPANY, INC.  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2024  
HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM AT MRWC 7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT**

Paula Brewster  
Cindy Burnett  
John Burnett  
Robynne Burress  
Mark Carroll  
Angie Hauser  
Otis Hembree  
Hermine Keith  
Don Tucker

**ALSO PRESENT**

Joey Hines  
Andy Patterson  
John Kingsmore  
Paula Wright

**Meeting Called to Order:** Otis called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

**Stewart Road:** Joey Hines along with his builder Andy Patterson attended the meeting. He has purchased twenty-seven acres and is moving between Cross Anchor and Woodruff on the edge of Enoree and the Woodruff line. The drive back to his home is around twenty-three hundred feet from Stewart Road. Our water tower is right at the corner of his property, and he wants access to go from the transformer to the water tower and cut across neighbor, Vicky Robinson property to the side of the tower and she has no problem with Joey cutting across her property a few feet underground to get to his property and install the meter. If this does not work, he has also spoken to neighbor Tom Carton who owns sixteen acres on the other side and can go across him. The water would come off the water tank line and Lawrence, the company attorney advised the Board against doing so because it is in the company's best interest not to do. Joey was given the contact number of Lawrence in case he wanted to discuss the matter further.

**Auditor:** Paul Klein with Love Bailey was able to finish the bank reconciliations through December 22 and does not have the financials to present to the Board at this time. Paul is anticipating the completion of 2023 bank reconciliations by our March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. He stated again that reverting to QuickBooks will be a better long-term solution for us but the potential for conversion will not happen until he can catch-up the bank reconciliations in FMS to the present. Paula Wright will ask him to attend the next meeting.

**Approve Minutes:** Cindy made a motion to approve the minutes of January 23<sup>rd</sup>, both meetings of February 13<sup>th</sup> with the amendments. Angie seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**Executive Session:** The Board went into executive session at 7:16 p.m. and came out at 7:31 p.m. No action was taken in the executive session.

**Correspondence:** Paula Wright told the Board that the employers' part of the state insurance will be increasing by 11.8% beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

**Hwy. 92 Bridge Hanger:** John Kingsmore stated that Rich Anderson with Summitt Engineering has the permits but has been unable to contact Tim Lowery to install the hanger. Lowery has had the hanger made according to DOT specifications. John Kingsmore has been in touch with seven different companies who were not interested or did not want liability. He will make a call on Wednesday to try again to contact Lowery or reach out to Charlie Gray, or another company to do the work as this is imperative to complete.

**Gwinn Mill Road:** John Kingsmore met with Spartanburg Deputy County Administrator, Earl Alexander, and Councilman Justin McCorkle with Rich and Otis on teleconference. MRWC received approval through Spartanburg County Council to submit the grant by March 11<sup>th</sup> for Old Hills Bridge Road, Pettit Circle, Gwinn Mill Road, and Riddle Road. Should we receive the grant it will enable us to provide ninety-one residents with water.

**Meadow Woods Road Expansion and SC Rural Infrastructure Grant:** DHEC has approved Meadow Woods Road Expansion on the SCHIP Grant to go on as contingency for Highway 49 project. Rich will adjust, it will go to RIA, then the state must approve, and we will go to bid.

**Project List:** John Kingsmore stated the following small projects could be done inhouse: Meadow Woods Road, Sugar Creek Road, Pettit Circle, Jeter Drive, Kayla Court, Georgia Road, Ridge Road, Shaw Ridge Road, Hard Ranch Road, Rocky Drive, Chickory Road, Justic Road. Long Branch Road, New Hope Church Road, and Horseshoe Falls Road. The larger projects that require a six-inch water line are Airport Road, Browning Road, Gwinn Mill Road, Old Hills Bridge Road, and Riddle Road. Gwinn Mill Road, Jones Ford Road, fire hydrants on Mt. Lebanon, Gist Bridge Road to Meansville Road, Police Club Road, Mt. Lebanon Road to the Union end and Putman Road back to Highway 215.

**Airport Road:** Someone wants to build an RV Park on Horseshoe Falls Road at the end of Airport Road with 113 units. They are willing to pay to run the water lines and have contacted Rich about drawing the plans. Twenty people want water on Horseshoe Falls Road.

**Disposal of old vehicle:** John Kingsmore has applied for an account on [www.govdeal.com](http://www.govdeal.com).

**Auditor:** Paula Wright has not been able to contact Marcy Loucks. Angie and John Burnett attended the SCRWA Conference where they met Daivd McAllister with Mantley Garvin firm. They were impressed with his presentation. Paula Wright will contact him and ask if he is willing to attend the next Board Meeting. He will sign a confidentiality agreement before any financials are given.

**New Employee:** Lee Shropshire was hired February 19<sup>th</sup> in maintenance. He has a B CDL license and will take the written test and driving test to upgrade to A license. He worked six years with the City Of Union in the water department and has a B license in wastewater. Lee is willing to get a water license.

**Disinfection By Products Rule Monitoring:** MRWC had elevated limit at Mudbridge Road and Ball Park Road about the THMs and the HAAs. John Kingsmore received an email that all are back to normal.

**Luck Stone:** The project at Enoree is a Rock Quarry, not a residential development and Luck Stone is requesting a six-inch tap on the line and install two fire hydrants at Ice House and off Parker Road at Highway 92. They do not want to develop the land; it is for the Quarry and the twenty-three employees that work there. John Kingsmore is collaborating with Rich, and we will bid the project out to install a vault, backflow device, and fire meter. Luck Stone will pay for all costs.

**Arrow Wood Acres:** The Arrow Wood Acres Company has paid \$44,000.00 for the engineering cost. They will build 137 homes total but will build in phases beginning with thirty-seven in the first phase at Cedar Shoals Church Road and Rocky Ridge Road.

SCRWA Decision Makers Summit Report: John Burnett and Angie Hauser attend the South Carolina Rural Water Association Decision Makers Summit. Angie suggested that the Board view the power point presentation on SCRWA's website. She stated the following:

- Palmetto Utility Protection (811) is pushing companies to update their water lines on (GIS) geographic information systems capabilities. John Kingsmore and Rich Anderson manage the MRWC system.
- DHEC is splitting into two agencies on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- PFAS & PFOA class action lawsuit we will be liable whether we sale or purchase water we will have to take the regulations of the state requiring more sampling.
- MRWC will track all parts of every service line from the main to the building in homes built prior to the year 1986 for lead and copper and submit to the EPA by October 16<sup>th</sup> of this year. MRWC is required to notify customers by November 16<sup>th</sup> and we will post it on the company website.
- The drought response plan ordinance needs to be reviewed every two years and updated every five years to the SCDNR.
- The River Basin Plan includes a review of both surface water and groundwater availability over a fifty-year plan.
- The HR and Board training was good.
- Cybersecurity was discussed Homeland Security offers training for water companies.
- It was recommended to have at least a five-year plan of capital improvements and a list on the company website.
- Crisis communications is important for us to relay to the public. It was recommended for all Board members to watch "All the Queen's Horses" about a lady in Dixon Illinois that committed fraud.
- Discussions about balanced budgets, managing cash flow, and there such be two months of funds available in unrestricted accounts for something that may come up.

**Closing Prayer:** Robynne closed the meeting with prayer.

**Adjourned:** The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Paula C. Wright, Board Secretary