

**MEANSVILLE RILEY ROAD WATER COMPANY, INC.
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 23, 2024
HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM AT MRWC 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

Rich Anderson
John Kingsmore
Paula Wright

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

Approval of March 26, 2024, Minutes: Paula Brewster made a motion to approve the minutes, Cindy seconded the motion, and the motion carried with John Burnett abstaining.

Company Engineer: Rich Anderson with Summit Engineering stated that the SCIIP project, Highway 49 East Water Line Upgrade and Replacement Project is out for bid on SCBO and we will be taking sealed bids until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21st in the office at which time and place all bids will be opened and read aloud in public. The alternate plan includes the Meadow Woods three-inch water lines.

The Arrowood Acres project permits are in hand to construct. Rich and John Kingsmore spoke with the developer last week and they are moving forward with construction with the development. Summit has designed plans in accordance with MRWC preferences and has sent out with the water company's preferred contractors and asked for quotes and has asked they be submitted by next Tuesday. The developer will be paying the contractor.

The LuckStone project at Enoree is a Rock Quarry. Rich and John Kingsmore met with them on site last week and they need a fire hydrant and backflow prevention device for which they will be responsible for paying. Morgan Corporation is their contractor.

Rich stated the Highway 92 bridge hanger project has been a frustrating problem ongoing for over two years. Rich shares, along with the Board, Lowery Utilities, and DOT concern for life with the water line running over the interstate. Lowery Utilities are waiting for a response from their traffic control company. DOT recommends the work be done at midnight when there is low volume on Interstate 26, and they will allow us to close the West bound lane down for a brief period to secure the pipe. Rich stated he did not think that the Board have seen the kind of construction activity in their lifetime that we are experiencing right now. Contractors are busy, traffic controls are busy, and DOT has I-85 tore up from Spartanburg to Gaffney and I-26 from Newberry to Columbia, and work is being done everywhere. Don made a motion for Rich to ask Tim Lowery what kind of incentive it will take to complete the project within a month. Angie seconded the motion, the motion passed with John Burnett opposing.

Correspondence: The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is available in the office, posted in the office lobby, is on the website at www.mrrwc.com , and will appear in the Union County News on April 30th and May 7th.

The company received a Principal check in the amount of \$97.98. MRWC now has 142 shares at \$86.32 and the market value is \$12,257.44.

The company received a thank you card for the \$50.00 memorial sent to USC Upstate Foundation in memory of Lawrence Flynn, Jr., the father of the company's attorney.

WBCU asked if the company would sponsor the graduation salutes and in return the company would receive thirty messages aired in May.

MRRWC is now on Facebook, Laurin added for customers to be alerted for outages, boil water advisories, and repeals.

Union County's current drought status is normal.

WBCU: Robynne made a motion to sponsor the graduation class of 2024 through WBCU at \$199.00 for thirty messages to be aired in May. Mark seconded the motion, and the motion passed, with John Burnett abstaining.

USDA: Bryan Jordan replied in an email that if MRWC makes extra payments the future monthly payments would not be reduced but the principal would be reduced, and the loan would be paid off earlier.

Auditor: Greene Finney Cauley, CPA firm could not give an official proposal ready in time for the meeting tonight but stated the cost would likely be in the \$20,000.00 dollar range. They would not be able to start the audit until early 2025.

600 Liberty Ridge Road: John Kingsmore stated two more bores need to be done and would be finished Wednesday or Thursday of this week.

SCRWA Expo: James Stroupe and Mitchell Heatherly enjoyed attending the South Carolina Rural Water Association Equipment and Operators Expo April 17th held at the State Farmers Market in Columbia.

Project List: John Kingsmore had an email request for new water service on Mount Shoals Road for someone that has purchased thirty-four acres and John Kingsmore explained he would be added to the list.

Rates: Angie Barber prepared a list of rates from the surrounding water utilities because we heard several companies had raised rates. The price of brass has increased to install a water tap. John Kingsmore will prepare more information for the Board.

Water Loss: The water loss for the month of March was 15%.

Closing Prayer: Don closed the meeting with prayer.

Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Paula C. Wright, Board Secretary