

PATRICK COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY
Organizational Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 11, 2019

Members Present: Scott Eutsler, Chairman; Rodney Kendrick, Vice Chairman; Anna Lester; Karl Weiss, BOS

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Tom Rose, County Administrator; Ruth Russell; Alan Black; Chris Corbett; Terry Tilley

Others Present: Debbie Hall, The Enterprise; Stephen Walker, WHEO Radio

At 6:00 p.m., with a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Mr. Eutsler.

Approval of Chairman

A motion by Mr. Kendrick to appoint Mr. Eutsler as Chairman of the Patrick County Public Service Authority for the 2019-20 year seconded by Mr. Weiss was approved unanimously.

Approval of Vice-Chairman

A motion by Mr. Weiss to appoint Mr. Kendrick as Vice-Chairman of the Patrick County Public Service Authority for the 2019-20 year seconded by Ms. Lester was approved unanimously.

Approval of Secretary

A motion by Mr. Kendrick to appoint Ms. Lester as Secretary of the Patrick County Public Service Authority for the 2019-20 year seconded by Mr. Weiss was approved unanimously.

Meeting Schedule

On motion by Mr. Weiss the PSA Organizational meeting will be held the second Thursday in July, 2020 (July 9, 2020) and called meetings as needed seconded by Ms. Lester was approved unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Regular Session:

A motion by Mr. Weiss to approve the meeting agenda as presented seconded by Ms. Lester was approved unanimously...

A motion by Mr. Kendrick to approve minutes from previous meeting seconded by Ms. Lester was approved unanimously.

Hook Up Issues/Past Due Accounts

The current policy for past due account holders (75 days or more) must pay their current bill plus 50 percent of their outstanding balance and the following month they must pay their current bill plus the remaining 50 percent of their outstanding balance. Customers have 90 days to get this done; if not, their water/sewer services will be cut off.

Through discussion it was determined that the need to reduce the policy of 75 days was necessary since it only takes a month or two to accumulate a large bill if the customer has a leak.

The town implements a fee of \$15.00 every time they make a trip to the residence to turn the water on and off. This will entail a \$30.00 fee which will need to be paid in full before the water service is restored.

On motion by Mr. Kendrick to shut off water/sewer service after 60 days of the bill date if not paid in full seconded by Mr. Weiss and carried unanimously.

The new policy will be implemented along with the August 2019 billing cycle which will capture usage from July 1, 2019 so as to be in line with the new fiscal year 2020.

Mr. Tilley asked that a letter be written from the PSA addressing them of the new policy and giving them the authority to proceed.

We have customers that are being billed for the mandatory hookup fee that are past due. The amount continues to increase. Property owners within 150 feet of the water line are required to pay an availability fee. Currently the rate is \$28.96 per month. This is equivalent to the minimum monthly fee. The mandatory hookup fee was required by the USDA and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Black has stated that a written notice has to be sent to property owner giving them thirty (30) days to bring their account current or a lien would be placed on the property in Circuit Court.

On motion by Mr. Kendrick to file and register a lien on the property in the Circuit Court until paid in full when a customer is past due \$100.00 on the availability fee account seconded by Mr. Weiss and carried unanimously.

Mr. Rose will draft a news release stating the new policy and addressing the past due account holders of the PSA that the lien process will begin immediately.

The PSA was approached by a property owner to see what it would take for him to hook up to water/sewer. Mr. Tilley determined it would require a road bore and installation of a pump estimated at over \$20,000. The proposal was not approved by the Board. Mr. Rose was asked to draft a letter to the property owner stating that if they wanted to proceed on their own that the PSA would help with getting the necessary permits.

Old Business:

Patrick Springs Elementary School – In June of this year the school has completed the hook up of the water line. During the initial construction of the water system, the school was plagued with sewage issues and to help eliminate the problems of a failing septic system, the PSA agreed to provide sewer services to them immediately with the promise from the Superintendent that a water line would be run from the tap to the school as soon as possible. At the time school was in session and due to having to dig up asphalt to run the line, it was put on hold.

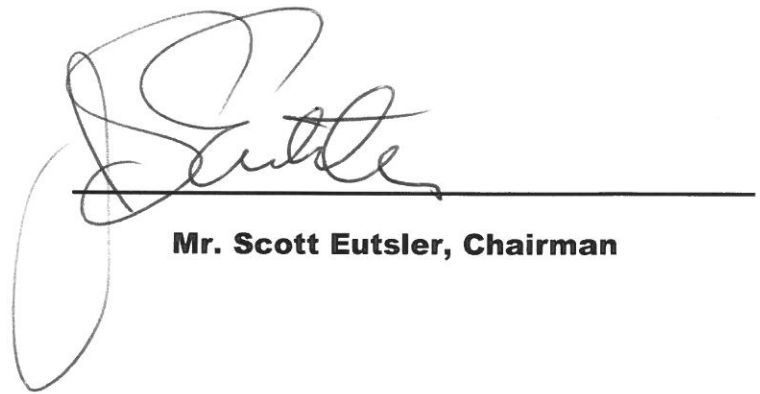
In order to fulfill USDA requirements the county agreed to certain regulations and standards. The first of which was the mandatory hook up policy. This policy requires all citizens and businesses within 150 feet of the waterlines to connect. If the individual or business does not wish to connect, they do not have to, but are subject to the minimum monthly fee. The minimum fees have been postponed for two (2) years while the projects were completed.

On motion by Mr. Weiss to levy a water connection fee to the Patrick County School Board since hook up was not done within the grace period seconded by Mr. Kendrick and carried unanimously.

Mr. Tilley will provide the cost for the meter only, with no labor so that we can provide this to the School Board.

Adjourn

On motion by Mr. Weiss to adjourn seconded by Mr. Kendrick and carried unanimously.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Eutsler", is written over a solid horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a large loop on the left side. The line extends to the right of the signature.

Mr. Scott Eutsler, Chairman