

**MEETING MINUTES
CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY
CARROLL COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
BOARD MEETING ROOM
HILLSVILLE, VA**

CALL TO ORDER

The Carroll County Public Service Authority held their special scheduled meeting on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Carroll County Governmental Center Board Meeting Room. Members present included: Keith Meredith, Chairman, Jeanette Dalton, Dr. Thomas Littrell, Doug Winesett, Vice Chairman, Phillip McCraw, and Garry Jessup. Also present were Executive Director/PSA Engineer, Jessica Montgomery and Dana Phillips, Assistant Director, Secretary/Treasurer of the Authority.

Mr. Meredith – I want to thank everyone for coming out tonight and attending the PSA meeting. I do want to acknowledge that tonight's meeting some folks have some grievances with some of the things we're going to talk about tonight and I would just appreciate everyone's attentiveness to the reason we're here and be respectful to the staff and to the board and to the remainder of the folks in the audience. There's no one signed up for Citizens Time. The next item on the agenda is our public hearing. So, I will call the public hearing to order.

Public Hearing Water/Sewer Rates

Mr. Meredith - We have 6 folks signed up for the public hearing. And I would ask that you stay on point. The purpose of the public hearing is to address the rate fee schedule that has been advertised. I ask that you stay on point and we will listen to you. I'm going to allow everyone 5 minutes. The first person signed up tonight is Larry Edwards.

Mr. Edwards – Thank you. I want to commend your opening I liked that. I attend a lot of corporate body meetings and I don't see that very often. That is to be commended. I'm proud to live in Carroll County. I want to specifically address multi-family connections. I checked the website and I didn't see anything on multi-families. I'm assuming you charge the same for multi-family units as you do for individual units. Is that correct?

Mr. Meredith – That is correct.

Mr. Edwards – For illustration purposes take a look at a 10-unit multi-family unit that's gonna cost \$25,000 for the water connection and it's gonna cost \$25,000 for the sewer connection. However, you're only going to make one sewer tap. Either a 6 or 8 inch. When you extrapolate those \$50,000 out over a 30 year

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period it becomes about \$100,000. When you calculate those numbers of multi-family I know it's not something you can look at but the taxes, when you calculate that out with adjoining jurisdictions it's about getting to the point it's unaffordable. When you put the cap rate to it, it just doesn't jive. So, I would ask you to take a look at that. Certainly, you must have the amount of money necessary to make the taps and make a profit out of. I question whether if a \$25,000 tap would cost that much. I realize that you have to maintain a system but you're not escrowing that money for maintenance over the next 20 or 30 years. So the water rates are going to increase or the Board of Supervisors is going to supplement that. So, from a developers standpoint we build 10 to 15 units a year and I've been building in adjacent localities but I'd like to support my home county. I know there's a demand for it because we've had 3 or 4 calls in the month of June for units which we don't have a vacancy. We haven't had one for about a year. So, I would ask you to take a look at that and see if there's any relief that can be given. Certainly, I would support metering the individual water meter and sewer as far as the services connection. But when you extrapolate that out it just doesn't jive when I compare it to Floyd County, Grayson, Galax, Wythe County, Town of Wytheville, Pulaski County, Montgomery County. And that's basically where we've been developing at that point. It doesn't become an issue for single family, but I think it does on multi-families. I appreciate your considerations, see what you can do. The reason I brought this to your attention is we are contemplating a development in Carroll County. Thank you for your time.

Dr. Littrell – Larry, can I ask for a point of clarification?

Mr. Edwards – Yes

Dr. Littrell – Are you concerned mainly about the sewer connections or both?

Mr. Edwards – Just the sewer connections. We use individual metering. We have one large complex in which we submeter, but I don't really like it. In the future we'll only do individual metering because I prefer for you to send the bills than for me to send the bills. You have a better way of collecting that I do. The sewer taps and extrapolating that over a 25-year amortization period is what becomes an issue.

Dr. Littrell – Okay thank you.

Mr. Meredith – Nick Handy

Mr. Handy – Good evening. I too would like to commend you for your opening that was really good and as Larry said you don't see that a whole lot. I want to take you folks back and talk about a sewer project.

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Take you back about 20 years. Real quick in 5 minutes. I built my house in Shady Square back in 1999 first part of 2000 and the sewer project was just coming through getting started. My house was completed sitting there waiting on me to move in. I kept stalling the contractor because I wanted to hook up to the sewer system. I didn't want to put in sewer. I'm hooked up to water now, have been ever since we built the house. Okay I kept coming to the PSA when are you coming by my house? Be a month Mr. Handy. I put the contractor off. Two months doesn't happen. Contractor calls me one night says "Nicky, I've worked with you really good, you and your wife have been great to work with, but I need my fourth payment" I wouldn't pay. I said, "Okay Mr. Cochran let me go to the PSA one more time." I came over here talked to them and it'd be another month. I called Mr. Cochran told him he had the permit go ahead and put it in. I didn't want to do that. Now after we got the sewer system put in about 2 to 3 months later the sewer system comes by right in front of my house. Eldon already had the permit to put it in, but I had been holding him back. Then we got hit with a \$25 non-user fee. I'm sure all of you are familiar with that. Now I have paid somewhere in the area between 5 and 6 thousand dollars for the honor of a pipe that runs right in front of my property. Now they say the State owns from the center of the road 20 feet in both directions. I don't own it or you or anybody else so the pipe's not really on my property, but I've paid I've done the right thing. I've paid \$25 a month non-user fee. Now here's the real problem I'm seeing that we have a proposal that if I ever want to hook up to the system I have to pay \$2,700 or \$2,500. You know folks I'm gonna tell you to me that's just not right. I do not envy any of you folks sitting right here. I don't. Because you have a tiger by the tail and you've had it for a long long time. What do you do with that tiger by the tail. You see here it is. It's all in this room and out in Carroll County. You see I've kept up with the newspaper and everything that is going on here. And you talk about the 79 people that aren't hooked up or whatever and I came to the PSA back in 2000 and said look I don't think it's right that I have to pay this \$25 non-user fee. Now I won't say who it was but he looked me straight in the eye and he said "Mr. Handy, you can pay it now or you'll pay it if you ever sell your property because we will put a lien on your property and if you ever decide to sell it you will never sell it." Now whether that was right or wrong I don't know but that's what I was told. I wish I had an answer for you. I really do. What I can tell you is that that \$25 non-user fee is not right and I definitely don't think since I've paid you guys between 5 and 6 thousand if my sewer ever goes out I have to pay to dig the pipe, the line the pipe, send your guys out to do a little twist and it's gonna cost me \$2,500 to \$2,700 and I've done paid \$5,000 to \$6,000. It just isn't right. Thank you very much I appreciate your time.

Mr. Meredith – Thank you. Robert Patton

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Mr. Patton – I want to clarify something before I say anything. The availability fee that y'all are talking about now is that who has to pay that availability fee? It's unclear to me. Who pays availability fee or non-user fee whatever y'all want to call it?

Mr. Meredith – When the committee met there was some discussion that we would break out a separate item for the \$6 that we're proposing for the non-users, for the mandatory connection folks, the ones that did not have a meter.

Mr. Patton – They don't have a contract either they didn't sign anything.

Mr. Meredith – Right, I understand your point. However, those folks who are paying \$18.90 the \$6 is built in into the \$18.90. Everyone is paying the availability fee.

Mr. Patton – So the \$6 wouldn't be on top of the \$18.90?

Mr. Meredith – No.

Mr. Patton – How does the \$6 availability fee work. It looks like it can be attached to the total debt or the base rate.

Mr. Meredith – The base rate includes the \$6. The \$18.90 includes the \$6

Mr. Patton – I mean it's \$6 now but it'll be \$12 next year. I'm just gonna say it's not right to charge people for a service they're not receiving. That's all I want to say. Anybody that provides a service in the County can charge you that. Like DIRECTV. If you can get that at your house doesn't mean they're going to charge you for it because it's available to you. And I don't see how anyone in their right mind can even go there. Even if it is \$6 now doesn't mean it won't go up to \$12 next year. I mean where does it end at? I mean your mailbox be plum full of people just because they provide a service they gonna charge you for it. I know \$6 is not much but it's the principle of it. It's just dead wrong. Nothings gonna satisfy me but getting completely rid of it. Everything about it goes away.

Mr. Meredith – Thank you. Judy

Mrs. Jones – Okay I'm Judy Jones Cliffview community. The committee worked on this for 6 months and obviously these are the results. No incentive for new customers. No more revenue that I can see cause you just stated you reduced it from \$28 to \$18 and that's including the \$6. No revenue that I can see that you've based this on. And I thought that was the whole purpose to get new customers and more revenue. You could have saved a lot of time and effort with this if you had simply charged the citizens

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who have signed a contract got a meter whether they use it or not and want and need the water. I'm not against the water. I'm all for people that need it want it and signed up for it. But I am against charging those in the County an availability fee. It's nothing more than a non-user fee. Charging citizens for a fee they are not receiving. Seven months ago the Board of Supervisors repealed the non-user fee and I quote several of the Board Members as saying to the Board "Do the right thing for everybody in the County and repeal the non-user fee" also was said "need to reevaluate the ethics of charging citizens a fee for services they are not receiving" If you were here Monday night that all got lost somewhere. Over 1,200 citizens, Carroll County citizens signed a petition to repeal and the Board did the right thing and repealed it. Only to come back now and we see it added to the water and sewer rate structure. While collecting those signatures a lot of households stated that they had never gotten a non-user bill because they were told by the PSA that they never had to pay it because they had a well or for other reasons they would not share with us. So why were they given a pass or a promise and has never paid a \$28 non-user fee. How many other shady deals have gone by the PSA trying to get these water projects put in place. We know for a fact that as stated by one of the PSA Board Members you went door to door and no one wanted the water. So, what happened? PSA continued under false pretenses and put these water projects in anyway even though they didn't have the 51% sign up. I know what happened. Non-users were counted to get the project to float to pay for it. Now the majority of the Supervisors have flipped their vote that they did in November the non-user fee is extended until January and now the PSA has already written it in into their new rate structure so that seems a little cart before the horse or whatever that saying is. You may wonder why if you even care the number of citizens that are not showing up for your meetings and public hearings. I would have hoped this room be so full that we couldn't get through the door. One, can they really trust the Boards? Do they honor their previous decisions or comments, or do they just talk out both sides of their mouths whatever it is to their advantage or making their own rules? Please stop using the USDA as an escape goat for doing these rates and non-user fees. They've already told you they don't need this. They don't need a non-user fee, but you just keep going back we got to check with them and check with them. I think Mr. Hilt made it plain and clear when he was here that you don't need to do that. I ask you to not go forward with this rate structure. Please get help. Hopefully since a new hire will be replacing Jessica that maybe we can get a handle on this and not use this non-user fee. Remember there is an election in November and even though the citizens don't come here to voice their opinion those citizens might let you know how they really feel about this rate structure and how they really think about the Boards. Thank you.

Mr. Meredith – Thank you Judy. I apologize I'm not throwing off on your writing or your hand signature who this next person is that is signed up. So, if you signed up and I haven't called your name...

Mr. Shelkin – Ryan Shelkin. I'm just recapping what everyone has said about the non-user fees. I moved to Carroll County 4 years ago. I lived down in Cana bought a house 2 to 2 and half years ago right

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outside of Galax. We were looking at two one inside the city limits and one outside. We picked the one outside hoping to avoid fees. About 4 or 5 months later there was a water line put in in front of our house. We have a well that's why we moved away so we wouldn't have to deal with any of that. Didn't have a problem until we started getting this non-user fee. Hillsville, I think is one of the top cities in Virginia with the lowest income. People can't afford to pay an extra \$28. I just had a beautiful baby we just got married \$28 doesn't sound like a lot but over a year it's like what over \$600. It's a lot especially when you don't use the service. Directv AEP doesn't charge me for a pole. I don't plan on using the water I don't use the water now. I just don't think it's fair. It's been in for 2 years and I've never seen one person tap in besides the one. One person on the whole road. Doesn't make sense to even put the pipe in. Just don't think it's fair. That's all.

Mr. Meredith – Benny Robinson

Mr. Robinson – Mr. Chairman members of the Board. Good evening. I rise this evening to comment on your proposed water and sewer rates. Please understand I am speaking to you the PSA Board and the Board of Supervisors jointly. As a government entity, separate and distinct from being personified, except as noted. Your history will stand and know that there will be consequences to your actions. Allow me to open with clarification to the fair and reasonableness clause of the Virginia statutes. This shall not be interpreted as Mr. Robinsons language rather law of the Commonwealth. The objection that I raise is that the \$6 a month convenience accessibility fee, if you have not heard the logic of our group and the illogical haranguing that the Board of Supervisors has engaged, further oratory energy from this speaker would be rubbish. Noticeable is the astonishing lack of discernment. You do not believe in yourselves. So as a servant of the people if you do not believe in yourself we do not believe in you. You have said \$6 a month is fairer than the \$28 a month. By implication you are admitting and confirming the \$28 a month non-user fee was unfair and unreasonable and the \$6 a month fee is more fair seems it confirms that it remains unfair. Mr. Truitt admitted a slip of the tongue in Monday's night Board of Supervisors meeting when he said the rates the PSA passed. Maybe it was a verbal slip but not a lack of a mental implant as his mind was already conditioned to accept these rates that will pass. So, revealing to this group if that be the case why waste the time with this public hearing. You have become an organization that one can read like a newspaper. Water production is not cheap. Water rates should cost the public simply the cost of production of the water with sound management best practices as a non-profit government entity. Since the energy crisis in the mid 1970's we have been a nation encouraging water conservation. Government directives demand consumption initiatives use less water. In washing machines, in dishwashers, and toilets etcetera. These proposed rates throw that concept right out the window. Water and sewer rates per gallon get cheaper the more you use. Imagine that. In spite of the taxpayers subsidizing the production of water by more than a million dollars a year it has been brought to my attention that there have been major spills of thousands of gallons of water due to mismanagement.

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Those spills eventually are reverse billed right back to the users. And finally, speaking to the recent staff resignations. It's a well-known accepted management axiom that people do not resign.

Mr. Meredith – We're talking about rates tonight.

Mr. Robinson- I'm talking about rates

Mr. Meredith – Not personnel

Mr. Robinson – I'm not talking about personnel. Let me finish you do not know what I was gonna say

Mr. Meredith - Speak to the rates

Mr. Robinson – You are not Dionne Warwick

Mr. Meredith – Mr. Robinson, I'm gonna ask that you speak to the rates

Mr. Robinson – I'm gonna speak to the rates. People do not resign from an employer who pays the highest salaries and have the best benefits. People who resign from that employer Carroll County are in fact resigning from their bosses. That's you. These Boards. You are the bosses they are resigning from.

Mr. Meredith – This does not pertain to rates.

Mr. Robinson – This narcissistic behavior has got to stop.

Mr. Meredith – You are out of order.

Mr. Robinson – If this County will allow.

Mr. Meredith – Mr. Robinson

Mr. Robinson – Will allow real estate taxes to go uncollected.

Mr. Meredith – Mr. Robinson

Mr. Robinson – Will haul poor people into court.

Mr. Meredith – Mr. Robinson

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Mr. Meredith – One more word and I'm gonna ask you to leave. Understood?

Mr. Robinson - What an incredible metaphor.

Mr. Meredith – Deputies get him out

Mr. Robinson – Do your job thank you.

Mr. Meredith – We are doing our job. I'm gonna ask you to leave. I appreciate everyone's concern about the water rates and I know your passionate about it. We talked about the rules when we set the meeting to talk about the rates. We're not here to talk about personnel Mr. Robinson. I'm not gonna get in a back and forth, okay? And the last person to speak, you'll have to tell me your name.

Mr. Surratt – I'm Will Surratt. Last time I took time to come up here these water rates were repealed. I've never used your water, nor do I need to use your water. Y'all actually, when all of this water went through, come to me to buy water cause y'all didn't have enough for your area. I was under the understanding this was gonna be done because when y'all's water ways went through I had two options: pay a water bill and get a meter or pay a water bill. Y'all didn't give no options. You're going through like that other gentleman said through State property. Why don't I charge you a fee to go in front of my house? I can't it's against the law. How's it not against the law for you to make me pay for something that I don't need. And the other thing when you get into the sewer which thank the Lord I'm not a part of it at this moment I wish each and every one of the members on the Board and Phillip knows this, come home after a long day at work and smell that septic system y'all have a Loves Truck Stop because the land don't perk that you put the septic system on. How is that right for me as an individual? I haven't asked for any of what y'all have done. People need water like I stated at the last meeting I was at needed water way before Love's Truck Stop came in. Nobody wanted to do anything, but the almighty dollar got y'all what you needed for Loves. I also know of another place probably 2 miles down from my house that was willing to buy water from the PSA but y'all wouldn't take it down there. The reason I was given was there wasn't enough signatures to get the water that far. People didn't want it. I didn't want it at my house, but you forced it down my throat. I don't understand y'all's concept of making it right. Then I found out today that instead of being repealed I'm gonna have to pay \$18.95 for a meter sitting on my yard. Whenever I pay to PSA or Carroll County or whatever I never miss a payment is pure profit. If I don't use 1 ounce of your water that's nothing but pure profit to the Board or wherever that money goes. Why is there not some tax deduction for people that don't use the water. Y'all have raised my property taxes. I have to pay a water fee that I don't use. Y'all are killing people with taxes. I just don't

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understand all of that can be fine. I know you can't stop progress but there has to be a fair way to do what you're doing. I didn't have a problem with y'all running it by my house. People that need it deserve to have access to it. I'm good with that. But why do I need to pay for something I don't need. I do have a well on my property pushing 77 gallons a minute. Mr. McCraw knows me cause he knew my daddy when he was alive and had that thing put in. I've got two other wells on my property that has no problem with water but, yet I got to pay y'all for something I don't need? I understand what you're doing but I think there's a better way that this could be happening. And I hate I missed your opening statement cause from what everybody said with the moment of prayer I really respect that and I do apologize for missing that. I got off of work at 5:30 and got here as quick as I could. I really wish y'all would think about what you're doing before y'all just pass something that is really not right. I do really appreciate your time. Thank you

Mr. Meredith – Thank you. That was the last speaker we had so I will the public hearing closed. I did receive an email from a customer supporting the rates. I'm not going to read it but I'm going to give it to Dana to make it a part of the record. That will be in the minutes reflected on the website. I do want to document that as part of the Public Hearing.

Letter received:
PSA PUBLIC HEARING 6-12-2019

Mr. Chairman, Authority Members, Staff and Citizens:

Thank you for reading my letter due to prior commitments I will not be able to attend the public hearing. I would appreciate you reading word by word due to that these are my thoughts and words and not of the PSA Staff nor Authority Members:

I have reviewed the proposed "Water and Sewer Rates" and I appreciate the hard work by staff and the authority that has gone into these new proposed rates. It is my understanding these rates were in the works prior to the BOS motion to do away with "mandatory hookups." I agree with the proposed rate structure and feel it clearly reflects the benefits that citizens have now and in the future. I have stated prior that even if citizens have not hooked up there are benefits to having access to a water or sewer line adjacent to one's property and there should be a fee that reflects the benefit(s) as long as it meets the Code.

Certain new self-proclaimed political candidates are distorting the facts and are taking credit for efforts in the decision by the BOS to do away with the mandatory hookups/connections. They claim this has "mushroom" their efforts. Maybe this would explain what some "mushrooms" do to one's brain or so they tell me. Interesting enough the record reflects they have had a very minor assistance for which this originated from Supervisors' well prior with many other citizens prior involvement. To be blunt the record

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*reflects this self-proclaimed political candidate recommendation was to **terminate PSA employees prior to this past Christmas holiday**. This past Monday this reckless candidate attempted to expressed his dissatisfaction of the BOS motion to extend the current motion till the end of January 2020. If this motion had not been extended the language that protects the non-user would place the PSA in a mandate position to charge for hookup(s), a monthly usage fee and to collect any and all fee(s). Even if necessary with the courts assistance, a default judgement with additional costs and fees. I applaud the Staff and Authority to a much more thought out and dignified resolve.*

The only suggestion that I would have is that it is my understanding the language in the Code should reflect the Water and Sewer sections be completely separate but stand on each's own. Not sure if this would take a new public hearing but in the "Notice of Public Hearing" states: "New term-Water Non-User /Availability Fee-Fee that will be charged to residents where water is available according to the Carroll County Ordinance(s)." It would be nice to see how this applies in the "Ordinance" or Code.

*In closing it appears the recommended proposed rate change will be a **Zero balance budget income line** on the water side but a shortage of some -1% to -2% on the sewer side. If this is correct, are there any ideas on how to make up the shortage and what help is there available to the families that will be affected by the proposed changes?*

In closing, thank you for what you do to serve the citizens of Carroll. May God Bless!!!

Stephen J. Gregson, citizen and tax payer humbly submitted.

(ORDER)

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion by Mr. Jessup, seconded by Mr. Winesett, and duly carried the Authority does hereby approve the consent agenda, section A, B and C. The May 13, 2019 minutes were also approved, they are on file in the PSA office. Claims are as follows:

Claims

Check #23387- 23404 in the amount of \$48,825.98
Check#23405 - 23429 in the amount of \$145,852.11
Check#23430 - 23445 in the amount of \$9,337.15

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Transfer for Claims

CCPSA to Operating May 6, 2019 \$19,789.05

CCPSA to Operating May 22, 2019 \$48,825.98

CCPSA to Operating May 30, 2019 \$145,852.11

CCPSA to Operating June 5, 2019 \$9,337.15

Transfer for Reserve

CCPSA to Debt Reserve \$8,918.62

(ORDER)

APPROVAL TO ADOPT THE BUDGET FOR 2019/2020

Upon a motion by Mr. Jessup, seconded by Mr. Winesett, and duly carried the Authority does hereby approve to adopt the Budget for 2019/2020 as presented.

(ORDER)

APPROVAL TO AMEND THE 2018/2019 BUDGET

Upon a motion by Mr. Jessup, seconded by Mr. Winesett, and duly carried the Authority does hereby approve to amend the budget 2019/2019 budget.

New Business

Mrs. Montgomery – I don't think Jason Bowers is here, but he did come to me and talked a little about a property he has at the corner of Timberline and Cranberry and they're wanting to develop that property and set 14 water meters and sewer connections over the course of the next several years. He has a plat on Ronald Newman's desk to be approved for four, but he was wanting to know if he could pay in advance for those water connections and sewer connections. I told him that would be something I would have to bring before the board.

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Mr. Meredith – So it's my understanding that Mr. Bowers would like to prepay for 14 meters to be set in the future. And of course, at today's rates.

Mrs. Montgomery – And sewer connections.

Mr. Meredith – And sewer connections.

Mrs. Montgomery – My understanding is they're developing 4 homes at a time so this first plat that is being reviewed and approved is 4 lots.

Mr. Jessup – Single family homes?

Mrs. Montgomery – Yes sir

Mr. Meredith – I understand the premise of his question obviously to save some money. Personally, I think if we open it up to Mr. Bowers we should allow anyone in the County a period of time if they want to get in on, or if we're gonna allow that.

Mr. Jessup – Alright I think he needs to pay as he goes.

Mr. Meredith – Okay

Mr. Jessup – It's not fair to the rest of the County.

Mr. Meredith – I think we have some situations where folks are building are prepaying now.

Mrs. Montgomery – We have a couple now that had paid several months back that are still hung up on the board to be set. Currently their houses are under construction. They paid for them back in January maybe even December.

Mr. Winesett – Well, my perception is that if we do adopt these rates the connection fees are gonna go up. So if it were me I would go ahead, we need to give someone a grace period to connect at the lower price. I don't feel really comfortable as he said to give them a price right now when it may be 5 years before he gets ready. Our materials may increase in price plus our labor but I do think we need to give a window to anybody that would like to connect so their connection may not be as high. Other than that he

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needs to do the 4 maybe and as for the rest I don't know we'll have to discuss it decide what's fair. But if I were considering building I'd go ahead and hook up now cause it's much cheaper than a well.

Mr. Meredith – Right now we're talking hypothetically because we haven't resolved anything on the rates. We will have one more meeting prior to...

Mr. McCraw – If he went ahead and applied now he'd be able to start paying, now wouldn't he?

Mr. Meredith – Typically the payments don't start until they are connected.

Mr. McCraw – So I think it'd be to his advantage to wait.

Mr. Meredith – Well he's asking to prepay now. Dr. Littrell, Jeanette, any comment?

Dr. Littrell – ... attempt to do this but I'm not sure that it's fair at this point.

Mr. Durbin – I think if you, I don't know if you planned on taking action on the rates this meeting or a subsequent meeting, but I think that whatever effective date for the rates you set I think you have to hold true to that for everyone. Wouldn't be that the rates would be effective immediately. People who have these sorts of plans could sign a contract and prepay prior to the effective date of any new rates. They wouldn't get the benefit of locking in a rate that may change later but at least they would get the connection fee but I don't think that you could provide exceptions for this person or that person. It has to be anyone who signs up before the effective date gets the benefit of the rate, the cash in fee before the change takes place. After the effective date of the change you couldn't offer that so I would suggest your proceed if you want to give some time if they're going to be effective on this date then people would have notice.

Mr. Winesett- That's what I was trying to express. The gentleman that sets the meters is at the back of the room. We about break even on it to my knowledge for the materials. We're probably losing on labor. Is that right Scotty? Okay our materials cost us that much folks. For everybody that thinks we're making money that's what we're looking at. We at least need to recover our cost. But I think you expressed it well. We need to give people a window of opportunity before we raise it. Whatever it is.

Mr. Meredith – If that's the case. If you want to entertain the motion to that effect.

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Dr. Littrell – I want to ask the legal counsel a question. If they do sign a contract and prepay and then something happens, and they don't do the project there's no refund at that point. Is that correct?

Mr. Durbin – I would have to look at the contract, but I don't believe so. I think there would be some cost to that. We may be able to change that. As long as it's uniform and everyone has the same opportunity.

Dr. Littrell – Sometimes things change and they come back I'm not gonna build a house I want my money back. I think we do need to address that upfront to see how it will be handled if we decide to do that.

Mr. Meredith – It appears we'll have time prior to rates, if they change, to make that determination, so I guess perhaps we should wait on that.

Mr. Jessup – So what you wanna do just table it now?

Mr. Meredith – I think it's something we need to consider. I certainly want to open it up not just to developers but to anyone.

Project Up-Dates

Cana Well Improvements Project

The SCADA prices have been received for the water tank. The camera work has been completed on well #8 in Cana. The well has been put back into service and all new pipe and pump was put into this well. The Lane Group has been selected to design the filtration system on well #8 and it's currently under design and he'll be working with the Health Department on getting those plans approved. Then we'll go out to bid on getting that filtration system put in.

Coulson Church Road/Ridge Road

Is on hold. Looking at the rates to see if the project is cashflow positive. If new rates are adopted at that time we'll have to evaluate and let the Board know then it would be up to y'all to decide on whether to continue with that project or not. So more than likely that will be on the agenda for next month.

FUNDING APPLICATIONS

There are no funding applications at this time

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PSA Updates:

- Total of 76 work orders in May (check pressure, check for leaks, turn-off, turn-on, etc.)
- Construction items completed –
 - 4 new water connections
 - No sewer connections
 - SCADA management
 - Miss Utility Markings that our guys did – 3 emergency markings, 84 markings for water and 29 sewer markings

Maintenance items completed-

- Regular daily maintenance
 - Mowing
 - Work orders
 - Cut-offs
 - Weekly sewer pump station maintenance
 - Inventory updates weekly
-
- Operations items completed-
 - Routine water flushing
 - Daily – sewer plant at Loves, check chemicals in water systems, wells, tanks, sewer pump stations, customer service, etc.
-
- Office items completed-
 - Daily - customer service, deposits, review of payments, bills, invoices, scan checks, balance bank statements, close-outs, etc.
 - Monthly - meter reading (office staff and field staff), print bills, print late-bills, prepare cut-off list, close-out, balance bank statements, preparing everything for this public hearing and board meeting, etc.

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Mrs. Montgomery – We’re also in the process of researching a cloud-based billing software. So hopefully we’ll have something to report to the Board on that pretty soon. Any questions?

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Meredith – Gary I don’t think anything has changed with the Fire Department has it?

Mr. Jessup – Waiting on the drain pipe to come in.

Mr. Meredith - Okay

Mr. Durbin – Just to clarify if there is going to be a motion I would suggest doing it before the Closed Meeting

Mr. Meredith – I think based on some of the conversation tonight there were some valid points made that we should discuss further. We have heard some of these arguments in the past and there were some new ones made tonight that we had not discussed. That is the purpose of the public hearing. I did watch the Board of Supervisors meeting Monday and I appreciate their diligence because contrary to what folks think there is some ramifications to their decisions regarding the mandatory language and by those folks moving that time frame down the road a little it actually helps us a little bit. And I do apologize I do feel we as a Board had intended to take some action on rates. These folks have been waiting patiently for that decision. I’ve just heard some things tonight at some different angles that I don’t think that me on the committee and Doug on the committee and the Supervisors that were on the committee have considered. And I would like to give those considerations before we act on a rate schedule.

Mr. Winesett – I agree with you. I think we need to consider what has been brought up and that’s what we’re here for to listen to folks the citizens.

Citizen – Does that mean the rates will stay the same until January?

Mr. Meredith – No. Okay, I’ll accept a motion to go into Closed

Dr. Littrell – I move that we enter Closed Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 3711(A1) Discussion of Personnel and (A8) Consulting Legal Counsel referencing a specific legal matter including personnel law advice

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(ORDER)

CLOSED MEETING-PURSUANT TO VA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711 A (1) DISCUSSION OF PERSONNEL AND A (8) CONSULTING LEGAL COUNSEL REFERENCING A SPECIFIC LEGAL MATTER INCLUDING PERSONNEL LEGAL ADVICE.

Upon a motion by Mr. Littrell, seconded by Mr. Winesett and duly carried the Authority does hereby enter into closed meeting at 6:50 p. m. until 7:27 p.m. for the discussion of VA code 2.2-3711 A (1) personnel and A (8) Counsel specific legal matter including personnel legal advice.

(ORDER)

Upon a motion by Mr. Winesett, seconded by Mr. McCraw and duly carried by the Authority does hereby convent out of closed meeting.

Whereas the Authority has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote on the motion to close in accordance with Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

(ORDER)

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Therefore, be it resolved that the Authority certifies that to the best of each members knowledge (1) only public business lawfully exempt from open requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the Closed Meeting in which the certification as identified in this motion concerning the closed meeting were heard or considered by the Authority certification resolution applies and (11) only such public matters as were identified in the motion concerning the Closed Meeting were heard, or considered by the Authority.

AUTHORITY MEMBER'S TIME

Mrs. Dalton – Thank you. I really don't have anything, but I would like to clarify the lady that said someone said they went door to door and I was the one that went door to door. We didn't get 50% or 51%. The community and PSA staff went together and still never got the 51% and they still don't have water down there either. We didn't put it in it was not done. It's around Dugspur and there's no water going down that way at all. I just wanted to clear that up because they don't have water. We didn't slip

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it in. That's all I have. I want to stay thanks to the staff. We have wonderful staff. They really do a good job and I appreciate all of it.

Dr. Littrell – Kind of a bittersweet moment. Jessica is going to be leaving us in July and it has been a super pleasure to work with you over the years. I'm really sad you are going to be leaving us but I'm happy for you in your new position. Hope it all goes well for you. There's gonna be some big shoes to fill. There were a couple of things that were said tonight. One I'd like to repeat is what the lady here to my left has stated. I'm not aware that any project we have ever done has been done with less than 51% and most that I'm aware of have been 75% to 80% of sign-ups. I'm not sure where that other information comes from but I'm sure it's incorrect. And the last thing I want to say is to congratulate you on keeping order on the meeting tonight. I think you did a spectacular job. Thank you very much I know it wasn't pleasant. But you did what had to be done.

Mr. Jessup - I think you done a fine job tonight. I hate to see Jessica leave because I don't know who I'm gonna aggravate now. I'll find someone. That's all I got.

Mr. McCraw – I just want to take the opportunity to wish her well in her new job. We're gonna miss her. Thank you.

Mr. Winesett – Well, Jessica thank you for all you've done. You're a fine lady and you'll go far. We're better for having known you. It's our loss, North Carolina's gain. I'd also like to recognize Mr. Rankin if a water line busts fellow. If a water meter gets put in there's a guy back there in the corner and he comes out if it's raining or if it's snowing if they're shooting at him. He keeps the water running. I asked him to come to the meeting and he's with us tonight. Thanks Mr. Rankin. I'm glad he came. Thank everyone for coming.

Mr. Meredith - I do want to thank everyone that came out tonight. Some of the folks left. I appreciate our fine deputies being here tonight thought you were about to get some action there. One thing about the rates. I worked on the rate committee and Doug worked on the rate committee and we feel like we tried to put together something that is fair and equitable to everyone. When I was appointed to this board or asked to serve on this board I did so not just for the PSA but for the entire County all citizens. The PSA only serves a portion of those citizens but in a round about way every citizen is affected by the infrastructure the PSA installs and maintains on a daily basis. Without getting too personal you can read the paper and read between the lines. This board, this staff, this County, employees have been called a lot of things and I want to refute those. The biggest thing is that we have incompetency, that we're thieves, that we're liars, and I take offense to all of that. The PSA just to round numbers we do have 4,000 customers and if you do the math about 4 folks to each one of those is about 16,000 and you're approaching to close to half of all the citizens of Carroll County that have a water meter or are served by


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the PSA. 200 miles of water line, 50 miles of gravity sewer, 25 miles of force main, 800 fire hydrants, 12 sewer pump stations, multiple wells. The wastewater treatment plant, we're not proud of it and we're sorry the gentleman has to endure that but sewer plants and trash dumps are necessary. The budget for the PSA is somewhere in the neighborhood of 4 million dollars a year. That's a pretty big industry if you look at it as a business. We're not in the money-making business. We try to provide a service and at best try to break even. The debt that keeps being mentioned over and over and over again the County does ingest some money into the PSA and those are due to availability agreements, loan agreements. Contrary to what a lot of folks say those agreements do have language in there that state that the PSA can and will charge a mandatory rate. The laws are on our side, we're not doing anything illegal. Everything is in the Code of Virginia. We try and we fall short we all make mistakes. We have lines that break, valves that malfunction. We do the best we can. I just can't commend Jessica enough for her tenure in the time she has been here with the County. I appreciate your service. I appreciate all the staff. The folks out in the field. And I know the folks that did not sign up for a meter are not happy. I know the folks who are zero users are not happy in some cases but we're trying to make this thing as fair and equitable as we can going forward. Communication is a big thing. I feel badly for calling Mr. Robinson down I do not like to do that, but I also do not like some of the comments we have to endure. And I think some of those are very poignant and very personal. I do appreciate everyone and all the citizens who spoke. I think if we can speak in a constructive manner we can take those comments and we can use those and move forward and structure the rate schedule so that hopefully everyone can be happy with. And with that being said I'm going to adjourn the meeting if someone would so move.

(ORDER)


ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Dr. Littrell, seconded by Mr. McCraw, and duly carried the Authority does hereby adjourn at 7:37 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting on July 8, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in the Carroll County Governmental Center Board of Supervisors Meeting Room.



Keith Meredith, Chairman

Jessica Montgomery, Executive Director



Dana Phillips, Sec./Treasurer