

METROPOLITAN LYNCHBURG MOORE
UTILITY DEPARTMENT
BOARD MEETING
September 14, 2021

The Metro Utility Board meeting scheduled for September 14, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. was called to order by Keith Moses, Chairperson. Member's present were: Shane Taylor, Keith Moses, Barry Posluszny, Will Shavers, Mayor Bonnie Lewis, Brooke Fanning and Russell Sells.

Motion was made by Shane Taylor and seconded by Will Shavers to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2021, meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Visitors: Calvin Coles, Water Worth Software via GoTo Meeting.

Waterworth Software: Calvin Coles with Waterworth Financial Forecasting Software presented the board with a live demonstration of Waterworth, and it's features for forecasting rate increases and long-range capital expenditures. After a fifteen-minute demonstration the utility board posed questions to Mr. Coles regarding the software capabilities. A motion was made by Will Shavers and seconded by Shane Taylor to proceed with the purchase and annual renewal of this software for utility capital planning and financing. A roll call vote was taken Shane Taylor- Yes, Barry Posluszny- Yes, Keith Moses – Yes, Mayor Lewis -Yes, Will Shavers -Yes, Motion passed 5-0.

Engineers' Reports – Russell Sells updated the board on several projects ongoing at the utility. Many are waiting on state approval before they can be formalized into action. He did inform the board on a recent meeting/presentation from a company called *Cerefiltec* at the Water Treatment Plant. He is hopeful he will have something formal to present to the board in the next few meetings.

Rate Studies: Mr. Sells informed the board that Buddy Petty with RateStudies is finished with his preliminary rate study and does not see an immediate rate increase for either water or sewer until around fiscal year 2024-2025. Mr. Petty will have a complete presentation for the board at the October meeting.

Manager's Report: Mr. Russell Sells told the board that Mayor Lewis had received a letter from SRF denying Metro Utility the requested \$2.5 million dollar funding for the SSES Rehab project. They immediately called Buddy Petty and John Greer with the State Comptroller's office to discuss this issue. After several phone calls the SRF financial team reconvened and discovered they had doubled the utility's depreciation expense requirements and it caused MUD to appear financially distressed. A new letter should be reissued in the coming days awarding the \$2.5 million dollar funding.

Mr. Sells reported that a new pressure issue has arisen in the Short Creek area of the county. He is discussing this with the property owners to address the issues. He mentioned a formal policy being developed to deal with these issues as they become more frequent in our county.

Mr. Sells presented the board with the water loss data at 47%. He explained that they have repaired several large leaks and are continuing to work the system for weaknesses.

American Rescue Plan Money: Mayor Bonnie Lewis informed the board that she had recently traveled to Giles County for another meeting about the American Rescue Plan Monies. She explained that this round of money is allocated to the county and the second round will be allocated to cities. In Metro Moore County it will not be as important since we are a metro government. She further explained that there are approved expenditures in place for water, sewer, and ground water improvements. This

approved sending is for repairs of existing assets only. No new projects will be approved with these monies. Currently, Moore County as been awarded a base amount for \$1,925,076.94. She reiterated that this is an ever changing disbursement of monies and it could be restructured in the near future. She was pleased that dollar figures had been presented to the mayors. She felt this was a positive step forward.

Motion was made by Shane Taylor, and seconded by Barry Posluszny, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM. Motion passed 5-0.

Keith Moses, Chairperson