

WASHINGTON COUNTY RURAL WATER
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 29, 2024

The Washington County Rural Water Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Justin Novak-Project Manager on February 29, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. There were not enough members present to have a quorum, so no action was taken on agenda items, only discussion.

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>
Paul Eastman	Bob Nieto	Justin Novak, Papio NRD
Dave Genoways	Mitch Robinson	Tyler Roberts, Papio NRD
Chris Koenig	Andy Christensen	Lance Habell, Papio NRD
	Joe Vaughn	

FINANCIAL REPORT/ACTION:

- A. BILLS
- B. REVIEW REV/EXP WITH ANNUAL BUDGET

Justin Novak gave the Financial Report for FY 24, current funds available are \$1,710,303. Revenue has increased significantly the last 2 years with the drought. Water sales were just under \$1 million dollars last year. There has been over \$31,000 made in interest income from transferring \$1,089,976. to NPAIT which is a high interest earning account that always keeps funds available.

WATER USE REPORT: Justin Novak gave the water use report. Water use was the highest ever in WCRW history with 266,022,460 gallons purchased and 252,886,270 gallons sold. This is 95.1% efficiency or 4.9% water loss which is way above the normal expected loss of 7-10%.

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGES AND CONNECTION FEES:

Justin Novak discussed the reasons for proposing the new connection fee to help build reserves or “impact fees” to the system that will eventually require major upgrades for the large number of customers on the systems. Justin also talked about the proposed changes to rates and going to a flat rate for individual customers and a wholesale rate for Ft. Calhoun and Lakeland Estates Water Company. Changing to the flat rate instead of the descending rate will help to deter excessive water use during unnecessary times. This change will not affect 70% of our customers as they only use 10,000 gallons or less and their bills will remain the same.

MANAGERS REPORT: Justin Novak gave the Manager’s report and introduced Tyler Roberts as the new Superintendent and Lance Habell as the new Water Operator. Tyler and Lance have been performing regular maintenance exercising valves and flushing the systems. They have also been updating our GIS with new water lines and meter pits that have been installed.

ADJOURN: There being no other business, the Rural Water Advisory Board adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Justin Novak, Project Manager