

Floyd-Floyd County PSA  
Water/Wastewater Board Meeting  
October 9, 2025

Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch called Thursday, October 9, 2025, board meeting to order at 5:37pm. In attendance was Director Will Griffin, Director Bruce Turner, Director Trent Cox, Director Kalinda Bechtold and Director Rick Parrish. Via Zoom was Director Mike Maslaney. Others in attendance were Administrative Assistant Teresa Conner, Superintendent Patrick Nicola, and Engineer Matt Gross.

In attendance in the audience was Abby Whit with the Floyd Times

Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch asked everyone to look at the minutes and entertained a motion to approve. Director Kalinda Bechtold made a motion, seconded by Director Trent Cox to approve the September 2025 minutes as presented. Roll call of members replying yes, motion passed.

Administrative Assistant Teresa Conner reviewed the account payable for September. She noted the overage for the 221-waterline extension that is at the PSA cost now. Director Will Griffin made a motion, seconded by Director Kalinda Bechtold to approve the September 2025 account payables. Roll call of members replying yes, motion passed.

Administrative Assistant Teresa Conner reviewed the financials. Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch asked if we could add a column on the balance sheet for interest monthly and ytd. Administrative Assistant Teresa Conner said that she would do that. Director Trent Cox made a motion, seconded by Director Bruce Turner to approve the September 2025 financials. Roll call of members replying yes, motion passed.

Administrative Assistant Teresa Conner reviewed the delinquents.

Administrative Assistant Teresa Conner mentioned we usually do a fall/winter mailing to give customers some information on winterizing their pipes. We also added information about bills, delinquents and drafting accounts. On the back side is about testing and how that works. Superintendent Patrick Nicola asked the board to look over the last paragraph on the back. Director Will Griffin would this be the first

time it has been made in public about chlorination. Superintendent Patrick Nicola said yes. I wanted to mention about debit cards if that is the path we are going to go in this mailing. Administrative Assistant Teresa Conner reviewed the cost of going with Cubic, our current billing software and also with Skyline Bank. Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch said to look into Square D and go to Skyline Bank and ask if there is anything they can do to help compared to square D. Director Kalinda Bechtold said just trying to save on cost with printing. There are no charges with Square D other than fees. Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch said on the winterization we need to put some more detail in that. For example, how do they go about insulating their pipes. Superintendent Patrick Nicola said he can do that. Engineer Matt Gross said he can mention the savings in gallons of water since the 221-waterline project. Administrative Assistant Teresa Conner said they would make the changes, send them to Linda and Mike for review and then mail them out.

### **Superintendent Report:**

#### Updates/Notes:

- Gormann-Rupp plant visit (Devin and Patrick)
- Placed some concrete block around the entrance of Route 8 Pump Station
- Projects Progress Report (see engineering report)
- Attached are Water Loss and Sewer flow I&I Percentage's

Director Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch asked if we read meters on the 10<sup>th</sup> and Superintendent Patrick Nicola said yes, we did.

Superintendent Patrick Nicola said Devin had his baby on Sunday. We discussed him having 6 weeks and we will see how it goes. Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch said we should get them a gift card. Board agreed to get a gift card to Slaughter's in the amount of \$100 with a card from the board.

Superintendent Patrick Nicola said he wanted to get some clarification on the sewer crossing at NAPA is something we are moving forward. The contractor has bought the manhole. I think it's in our best interest to move forward and get this fixed before it gets worse. Engineer Matt Gross said if we can get the pavement done considering

the weather he would advise moving ahead with it. Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch took a pole on it.

Director Rick Parrish said it seems like it needs to be done said yes.

Director Bruce Turner said yes.

Director Trent Cox said yes.

Director Will Griffin said yes.

Director Kalinda Bechtold said yes.

Director Mike Maslaney said yes.

Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch said yes.

## **Engineer Report**

### **1. VDH Funding Water System Improvement Projects**

Route 221 – Contractor will finish switching the services this week. They are also hoping to finish the repaving/patching associated with this work. They need to remove the old hydrants and abandon the old line.

Well 6 – The building envelope including doors is finished. They are hoping to have power to the building next week and have the filters delivered in the next two weeks.

Sweeney – Contractor has completed the paving restoration along the road subject to VDOT approval.

### **2. Slaughters Pump Station:**

No change.

### **3. Nursing Home Pump Station Replacement**

The Contractor is prepping to set the new station on the base pad next week and begin piping the suction and discharge pipes for the new station into the new wet well. At a progress meeting for this project, connections for the force main were discussed and switchover requirements. The PSA has requested at least 1 week's notice.

In accordance with the meeting with the Contractor, PSA, and Engineer regarding this project last month, a letter was sent last week to Tencarva requesting assistance with the change order for the access vault.

Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch asked did Hurt and Profitt contacted their attorney regarding this. Engineer Matt Gross said his boss did not want to go that route at this time.

4. **WBOP & Asset Management Paperwork:3**

No Change.

5. **Additional Wells:**

In conjunction with a request from the County, some members of the PSA staff met with Lisa Crabtree and the engineer to review the well site #25 as identified by the County commissioned report at the Commerce Center. The sites identified by the other study were not approved.

While VDH was there, the group toured three additional sites that were all approved as possible well sites.

**Other Business:**

Update on projects and money:

Engineer Matt Gross said he put in on the Helene grant tree removal so there is potential for tree removal at locations to be paid for by that grant. We can try for the tree removal at the PSA office and that we might here from next month.

Superintendent Patrick Nicola said on the water tank we were going to try and hold off until later in the fiscal year to start that. Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch said her concern was fire hydrants especially to our businesses that are old.

Superintendent Patrick Nicola said we have replaced 4 hydrants so far, we will review once a quarter the Capital Projects

Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch said the last topic is how do we see the PSA's future. We are all part of this board, and I want to hear from each of you your thoughts.

Director Kalinda Bechtold: Concerned about a catastrophic event happening. Our loans are stretched, the grants are stretched, and she has concerns about the financial stability of the PSA. She doesn't know what the options are but knows that the County doesn't have the funds to provide the PSA.

Director Rick Parrish: I think if a catastrophic failure happened that Matt would know some emergency funding. Had high hopes for changing in politics cause different representation makes a huge difference.

Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch asked Engineer Matt Gross about funding if that scenario happened. Engineer Matt Gross the first place would be insurance and then a call to VDH, DEQ or state representatives even FEMA. There are few catastrophic events that don't qualify. He said he thinks a financial hardship would be if someone that wants to come in and use 100,000-200,000 gallons a day and you don't have the capacity at the plant. It would cost around \$15million to build a new treatment plant.

Vice Chairman Mike Maslaney: We have a charter due in April, and first thought is that it would be nice if the BOS and Town Council would get together and get that worked out that included a financial scheme for the PSA in the event of emergencies or just regularly. We don't want to keep raising rates. We have talked about this a lot over the years, and the Town is concerned, and everyone has an interest in the PSA. This needs to be worked out between them with all the information they have.

Lack of water is concerned if we had any issues with Well 6, we would have concerns, we put a lot into this Well and that could be issue.

Director Bruce Turner: I don't think the Town, County or PSA can make that decision because we are all looking at this from a different standpoint. I think we should have an expert come in and present different options based on the information they obtain. Aware that it would cost to do that and would need to figure out where that would come from as far as funding. The PSA employees and the Engineer are the

experts in his eyes not any of us because we don't do this day in and day out. There are a lot of things to consider.

Director Trent Cox: The ARPA money for these projects has been a huge blessing and without that we wouldn't have been able to do what we have. His big concern is with our budget in order to ever do any project as in one on that list the is \$500,000 there is no way we could do that even with the rate increases we have. Unless we are comfortable raising rates every year going forward, I think that is the only way that the PSA could sustain ourselves. Only other option is BOS/ Town Council getting together and working this out, or another Authority take over the PSA system. He is all for making what we have now work.

Superintendent Patrick Nicola: What he likes is that we have Town Council members and BOS members on our board who can make decisions. We have some customers that are Town and some that are County. If we outsource all that is gone and they are in control of the rates and everything else. If the County takes over, then Town is out of the picture as far as decision makers. The last few years we were doing good what is happening now is not catastrophic, its these projects have produced overage that was not included in the final cost. If it wasn't for that we would be doing better. He said he liked what Trent said about buying some time, get the Charter done, see where we are at and go from there. We will never be at a point that we are sustainable without contributions from both Town and County. He thinks we have applied for everything that we can, so he isn't sure that the County taking over would get us any more grants.

Administrative Assistant Teresa Conner: Since she has been here things have been rocky in the beginning but have improved financially and employee based. She would hate to see that stirred up whether its control etc. She thinks having the board the way it is, is beneficial. She stated that she agreed with Mike and Patrick that the BOS and Town Council need to sit down together and have a conversation about the PSA. She doesn't understand why that cannot happen because we provide both Town and County water/sewer. She stated that the Town needs to put X amount aside and the County put x amount to the side for the PSA. Having Capital Project funding is our main issue not the workforce, not employees, not anything other than just financial

status. We are 5 employees compared to what the County oversees, and our raises/contributions are what they are not what it would be if the County was over us and when raises and benefits are affected you will lose employees fast.

Director Will Griffin: He said that meeting with the BOS and Town Council is imperative we have to sit down and talk. There are really only two options either you continue forward like you are or the County absorbs the PSA. Financing discussion could go along way with things and buy us some time. We have \$600,000 that we could use for things now, there is \$700,000 worth of equipment needs, another \$2million in projects we can't build that fund, therefore how do we go about getting money, the Town and County how does that look. He stated that if he was asked do you want to see the County absorb the PSA or it stay the way it is now, he would choose for it to stay for two reasons. I think our board is as strong as any board in the County or County Governments if not stronger. We are going to take a step back when Kalinda leaves our board. We only have a staff of 5 people if you put them in a bucket with 100 other employees, how do you justify treating the other 100 people differently? I think that would cause some instability in the workforce and if we lose one employee at the PSA that is 20% of the workforce. What the PSA does and what the County does is like apples and oranges on what they do. We need to get that Charter done so that it shows our employees that we are committed to moving this forward. He stated that he and Director Bruce Turner needed to educate their board better as he would assume Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch and Director Kalinda Bechtold needed to educate their board. If we do keep this going, then everyone on these boards better have a good working knowledge of what is going on, and they need to have a level of trust in our staff and board that we can do that work without having a thumb over top of it completely. He believes that the PSA board would regret not giving this a try as it is.

Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch: The BOS and Town Council meeting is needed the sooner the better whether it's this year not sure. She will take this to the BOS and discuss and try to come up with something, it's just getting ready to be busy the next 60 days. One thing she thinks needs to happen before the BOS and Town meet is both boards meet with the PSA. She said a couple of members from the PSA meet with the BOS.

Chairperson Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch asked did anyone else have anything to say. Director Bruce Turner asked could our Engineer bring back at the next meeting any grants that are out there and maybe Lydeana at the County. No other discussions and entertained at motion to adjourn.

Director Kalinda Bechtold made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Bruce Turner. All replied yes, motion carried.