

A regular meeting of the Board of Members of Rapidan Service Authority was held on April 18, 2024 at the Madison County Administration Building, Madison, VA.

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 PM. A quorum was established followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:	Members:	Coppage, Elliott, Johnson, Marshall, Voorhees
	Staff:	G.M. Clemons, D.A. Gaskins
	Attorney:	Stefan Calos (virtual)
	Guests:	Zach Hipes (RFC)

The agenda for the meeting was adopted on a motion by Coppage, seconded by Voorhees, and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

The minutes of the March 21, 2024 meeting were approved on a motion by Voorhees, seconded by Marshall, and unanimously passed on a voice vote.

There was no old business, public comment, customer requests or Board comment.

Zach Hipes from Robinson, Farmer, Cox then presented the annual audit report. He thanked Trace Gaskins and Cindy Breeden for their help during the audit process and indicated that there were no deficiencies or problems uncovered by the audit. In discussing the audit, Board members pointed out that this audit reflected half of a year without Greene County income/liabilities and that there will continue to be changes as Greene County will not be reflected in the audit for 2024 at all. G.M. Clemons thanked RFC and also thanked Trace Gaskins and Cindy Breeden for their hard work in preparing for the audit.

G.M. Clemons then informed the Board that staff had sought proposals for a rate study as the Board had previously authorized. RSA contacted four firms and received responses from two of them, Raftelis and NewGen Strategies & Solutions. G.M. Clemons, D.A. Gaskins and two other staff members reviewed the proposals and came to the conclusion that they were very similar except for the cost. Both use similar methodologies and should do a good job on the study. Based on these findings, G.M. Clemons is proposing that the Board engage NewGen to do the study. On a motion from Coppage, seconded by Voorhees, and approved unanimously on a roll call vote, the Board voted to engage NewGen to do the rate study.

Since RSA policy requires that the Board formally accept any infrastructure serving 15 or more equivalent dwelling units, G.M. Clemons then asked that the Board accept Wilderness Shores Subdivision sections 12 and 13 into RSA's Wilderness water and sewer systems in Orange County. On a motion by Marshall, seconded by Voorhees, the Board unanimously voted to do so on a roll call vote.

G.M. Clemons then informed the Board that the partners of Signature Station have again contacted RSA regarding their potential development. (This is a project that they have been considering for many, many years.) They had received County approval for their proposed project in 2011, but obviously things have changed since that time. G.M. Clemons informed them that RSA could commit up to 20,000 gallons of water a day at this time for Phase 1 but cannot commit any additional water until a new storage tank was built. This would probably take two to three years and cost \$2-3 million. G.M. Clemons informed them

that they would have to cover \$1 million of the cost since their project would contribute greatly to the need for it to be built. G.M. Clemons does not know if they will want to pursue this but wanted to make the Board aware of the situation.

G.M. Clemons then gave his report. Income is down as is expected at this time of year. As the weather warms, water sales should increase and help the situation. The loss of Greene County has also affected revenue. G.M. Clemons had anticipated the need to raise rates 10% across the board to help compensate for the loss of Greene County but plans to wait until after the rate study is completed before seeking to adjust rates. He informed the Board that preparations of the new office in Madison are proceeding and that he hopes for the move to take place by the end of May.

Attorney Calos then gave his report. As planned, he met with G.M. Clemons and D.A. Gaskins to discuss items after the last Board meeting. He indicated that he believes RSA has always been in compliance with all FOIA laws but that the website is now more robust in providing information to the public. Board terms were also discussed and plans are being made to have Board terms staggered rather than have the possibility of losing the whole Board at one time. On a different subject, Mr. Calos indicated that RSA has submitted everything it can to the insurance company to get a proper settlement for the April 2023 fire claim. RSA is a participant in the PFAS litigation settlement, but it appears that RSA will probably be on the low end of the PFAS contamination scale and would therefore not need to receive financial aid to mitigate problems connected to PFAS.

With no further business to discuss, on a motion by Coppage, seconded by Elliott, the meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m. on a unanimous voice vote.


Chairman