

A regular meeting of the Board of Members of Rapidan Service Authority was held on February 20, 2025, at the Madison County Administration Building, Madison, VA.

The meeting called to order at 2:01 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:	Members:	Coppage, Elliott, Johnson, Marshall, Voorhees (via Zoom from Charlottesville)
	Staff:	G.M. Clemons, D.O. Jarrell, D.A. Gaskins
	Attorney:	Stefan Calos (via Zoom from Richmond)

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

The minutes of the January 16, 2025 meeting were then approved on a motion by Coppage, seconded by Marshall, and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

The minutes of the February 6 Locust Grove public hearing and the February 10 Route 15 and Route 20 public hearings were then approved on a motion by Marshall, seconded by Voorhees, and passed with three ayes and two abstentions (from the Madison County representatives who were unable to attend the Orange County hearings).

There was no public comment.

D.A. Gaskins then presented a Rt. 15 customer request regarding a high bill. The customer had left a hose on but was upset that they had not been notified as soon as the meter was read. D.A. Gaskins explained that most meters (including this one) are now read electronically, and the increased usage was not readily apparent. RSA later did a re-read and tried to contact the customer by knocking on the door, but there was no answer. RSA does try to notify customers of high usage, when possible, but it is a courtesy and not a guarantee. RSA is currently testing an automated email notification for customers with suspected high usage, but the notification remains a courtesy, not a guarantee. On a motion by Coppage, seconded by Marshall, and passed on a unanimous voice vote, the Board voted to deny the request and uphold its usual policy to charge customers for all water that goes through the meter.

The Board then prepared to vote on the adoption of the proposed Locust Grove rates. Mr. Voorhees took a moment to express his impression that even though it means an increase in their bills, many people had previously voiced support for the increase in rates in order to provide needed improvements to the water and sewer systems. The Chairman agreed with his assessment. On a motion by Voorhees, seconded by Marshall, the Board approved the adoption of the new rates on a 5-0 roll call vote.

On a motion by Marshall, seconded by Coppage, the Board approved the adoption of the proposed Route 15 rates on a 5-0 roll call vote.

On a motion by Marshall, seconded by Elliott, the Board approved the adoption of the proposed Route 20 rates on a 5-0 roll call vote.

D.O. Jarrell then presented a project to address safety and other concerns involving the Wilderness WTP pre-sedimentation basin and floc tanks. The pre-sedimentation basin is 20' deep and has no ladder, and the floc tanks are above ground and are currently accessible only by a ladder. Since the floc tanks are to be inspected each shift, a better access method is needed. RSA anticipated a cost of between \$250,000 and \$275,000 for the needed upgrades and put the project out to bid on December 27, 2024. Five responsive and one non-responsive bid were received, and RSA's engineer recommends going with the low bidder, Consumers/Dornin-Adams, Inc., at a cost of \$269,665.00. On a motion by Coppage, seconded by Elliott, the Board voted on a 5-0 roll call vote to accept the bid of the low bidder and authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with them.

G.M. Clemons then brought a request for the Wilderness Shores Section 14 to be accepted into the RSA water and sewer systems. The necessary inspections have been completed, and on a motion by Marshall, seconded by Coppage, the Board voted unanimously on a voice vote to accept the section into the RSA system.

G.M. Clemons then announced that RSA's Wilderness water system is in compliance with disinfection by-products required limits for the past quarter and is also in compliance with the rolling annual average requirement. RSA will send a notice to the customers in the Locust Grove/Wilderness area who had previously received notice when RSA was not in compliance.

G.M. Clemons had nothing further to report, nor did Attorney Calos.

With no further business to discuss, on a motion by Coppage, seconded by Elliott, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m. on a unanimous voice vote.



Chairman