

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
ROCKWOOD WATER, WASTEWATER & NATURAL GAS BOARD**

**February 24, 2026 @ 5:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at Administrative Building at 6:00 P.M. with Chairman Larry Davis presiding. Commissioners Harold Holloway, James Nuckols, Mark Clem and Ronnie Thompson were present.

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of January Regular Minutes:** Commissioner Clem made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Commissioner Nuckols seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of January Financials:** Tausha Bruneel reported that water and sewer revenues for January were \$439,221; expenses were \$331,969. Month to date, water and sewer revenues exceeded expenses by \$417,339. Gas operating revenues totaled \$609,349; operating expenses not including the cost of gas were \$101,755. Month to date, gas revenues exceeded expenses by \$44,662. Commissioner Clem made a motion to accept the financials as presented and Commissioner Holloway seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**General Manager's Report:** We have received certified mail from an upset customer, Richard Minnick at 111 Pond Grove Circle, regarding his recent gas bill. The utility had attempted to read and program his meter but was not able to with his dog being in the fenced in area where the gas meter is. We attempted to call with no answer. The Operations Director went to the home 1-22-26 in attempt to get the gas read and had to blow the horn to get Mr. Minnick to come outside. Mr. Minnick asked he get back in the truck to allow him to put the dog up and to not get out until the dog was out of sight. Operations Director proceeded to get the read. This is the first time the meter was read since the transmitter was put on so it had the usage shown since 12-2-24. Per state law we are allowed to back bill up to 36 months. I have sent Mr. Minnick's certified letter to our attorney and she wrote up a response that he does in fact owe the usage regardless that it did not transmit correctly because the meter was still recording. The meter functioning correctly allows accurate recording of the gas consumed. The Board reviewed the General Manager's drafted letter. Board agreed unanimously to send the letter along with the opinion of our attorney that he does in fact owe the bill.

Ms. Leffew met with the Roane Regional Infrastructural Plan Committee to discuss the expansion in Oak Ridge and plans for the new homes. She will update the Board as more meetings occur.

Gas purchasing increased and that increased our gas rates. The base rate portion of our rate calculation did not increase. Our customers will notice the difference so you may receive some calls. The price will decrease back down for our customers as the market prices go back down.


**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **Operation Report:** Presented January report with no questions.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Consideration and Approval of tank proposal- Utility Service Co, Inc:** This would be a multi-year contract that would update and maintain all three of our tanks with annual inspection, maintenance and a staggered rehabilitation schedule. General Manager recommends approval. Commissioner Clem made a motion to approve the contract and Commissioner Nuckols seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Nuckols made a motion to take the first-year of fees out of the Church Street building sale proceeds. Commissioner Thompson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Discussion of mapping information for water system:** After pulling all the data we had available to us we found that the majority of our system in town is cast iron lines. Most of outside City and newer lines are PVC or poly. As a budget season is coming quickly we need to be considering a plan of action for a renewal program of our water lines. The modeling information in addition to the Asset Management Program completion will provide data to prioritize future replacements and upgrades.

After a brief communication from the Board the meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM by motion of Commissioner Holloway and seconded by Commissioner Clem. The motion passed unanimously.

  
Larry Davis, Chairman

  
Tausha Bruneel, Secretary