

# JEFFERSON COUNTY RURAL WATER DISTRICT #13

1951 Wellman Rd. Lawrence, KS 66044

785-842-1502

[www.jfrwd13.com](http://www.jfrwd13.com)

## MONTHLY PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

March 20, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: District Water Office - 1951 Wellman Rd.

### CALL MONTHLY BOARD MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting is called to order by Chairperson Gordon Brest at 7:19 p.m.

Board Members Present: Chairperson Gordon Brest, Vice Chairman Andrew Brewer, Treasurer: Paulette Schwerdt, Secretary George Pogge, Director Rick Reischman, Director John Hachmeister, Director Crystal Miles

Staff Members Present: Joe Osborn, Niki Fincham

Guests: Jarrod Saathoff with Bartlett & West

Members Present: Ron & Roberta Renz and Bob Lockwood

Roberta Renz is recognized and explains the waterline project going through their property has left a big hole (trench) and burn pile. She asks for an update of the cleanup efforts. Joe Osborn states that as of today's monthly update meeting the contractor reports they are bringing in another crew to begin cleanup and seeding within the next couple of weeks. Ron Renz says the big Walnut tree (close to the power pole) that was damaged needs to be properly attended to soon or it is going die. (A large limb was knocked off, splintered.) Gordon Brest says the contract is pretty explicit as to clean up and asks Jarrod Saathoff to review that part of the contract and enforce the correct cleanup.

Roberta Renz then states that Sarcoxie Township is concerned that the Water District isn't calling the "clean outs" that were installed for them "Hydrants". She says it affects their insurance and the ISO rating for all the homeowners in the area and increases their rates. The Board explains that we've never installed Fire Hydrants as they have to fill at 250 gallons per minute and the district just does not have the capacity for that volume of flow. We would have to build several water towers and increase the line capacity to accommodate NFPA Fire Hydrants. Gordon Brest asks that the Engineers (Bartlett & West) review the respective clean outs to determine if any can be determined to be actual ISO Hydrants and report back to the Board.

Joe Osborn directs the Boards attention to an emailed "formal complaint" submitted by Dave Sturm from Bracker's Good Earth Clays and Kansas Clay. Mr. Sturm was upset regarding the notice he was given that the water would be shut off the following day. A result of this email the Board suggested that in the future we give at least 24 hours' notice for non-emergent shutdowns so Businesses have the time to adjust accordingly. George Pogge asks Joe to respond to Mr. Sturm with this information.

### USDA LOAN PROJECTS:

#### MONTHLY UPDATE:

Jarrod Saathoff acknowledges Hettingers current Pay App #10 included in the Monthly Request to USDA #26 and supplies current pictures of the New Well Buildings.



**MOTION:** It is moved by Crystal Miles and seconded by Paulette Schwerdt to approve the RD Monthly Payment Approval Request #26.

**VOTE:** So moved 7-0

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

MINUTES FROM 2/20/2025 BOARD MEETING

NEW CERTIFICATES - 0 TRANSFERS - 2

**MOTION:** It is moved by John Hachmeister and seconded by Crystal Miles to approve the consent agenda.

**VOTE:** So moved 7-0

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Paulette Schwerdt reports that there are a couple of issues in the financial statements that will require the Auditors input to correct for reporting and explains them. (Garden Villas account and Interest on CD's) She states that she has modified the Treasures Reports to reflect the correct amounts.

**Financial Summary:**

A complete and thorough Executive Summary Report and Cash/Cash Equivalents - Detail Report is included in the Board Packet with an Unpaid Bills Report.

**MOTION:** It is moved by Paulette Schwerdt and seconded by George Pogge to pay bills.

**VOTE:** So moved 7-0.

**PLANT & DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT:** A detailed report is included in the Board packet regarding the following: North High Service Pump; Archer Road Extension; Garden Villas; Distribution; Water Usage & Water Loss; Water Sold Breakdown and Water Loss Report/Chart.

**OFFICE OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT:**

All detailed reports are included in the Board packet.

Niki provides all KRWA Conference attendees with hotel reservation confirmation numbers and pertinent information to the conference.

**BUSINESS:**

- 1) Request any changes to SSI Forms and review form requirements: SSI forms are circulated, filled out by Board Members and collected to be filed the following business day. No changes are requested.
- 2) Review Calendar for Next Month's Agenda Items  
Note: Gordon Brest suggests that next month we will start the process for looking at water rates and asks how soon the booster station will be done. With regards to the City of McLouth we should reach out to them and tell them that we anticipate the new pump station will be put in this summer, and we will transition over to the new system beginning in 2026.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** It is moved by Rick Reischman and seconded by Paulette Schwerdt to adjourn at 9:50 p.m.

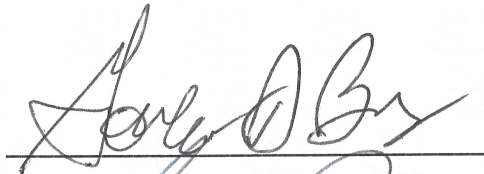
**VOTE:** So moved 7-0.



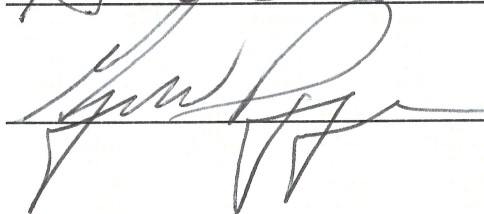
**Handouts:**

- 1) Pictures of New Well Buildings
- 2) Email from Dave Sturm

Respectfully Prepared and Submitted by,  
Niki Fincham, Office Operations Manager



Gordon A. Brest, Chairperson



George Pogge, Secretary