

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN OF RICHLAND WATER ADVISORY
BOARD**

**TOWN OF RICHLAND
1 BRIDGE STREETPULASKI, NY 13142**

Date: August 4, 2020

Kind of Meeting: Regular monthly water board meeting

Place: H. Douglas Barclay Courthouse

Water Board Members Present: Craig Sternberg, Chairman

Doug Haynes

Krista Fox

Doug Schwalm

Absent: Ron Novak

Others in Attendance: Mary Yerdon, Water Board Clerk

CALL TO ORDER: Tonight's meeting was called to order at 6:00pm with Craig Sternberg leading the pledge of allegiance.

Craig Sternberg thanked Doug Haynes for taking the position of water board member.

Doug Schwalm made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 3, 2020 meeting. Krista Fox seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Water pumped was consistent with last year. A little more water was used this year compared to last year. It was likely due to high lake levels causing less people spending time at their camps and at the campgrounds.

Our current water meters have become obsolete and the old program will not read them. The town started a new recommended meter reading program using a cellular system. However, the cell service is very spotty. We tried it for a year, and it wasn't working well. The operators are now going to change the heads on all of our meters to a radio based system using repeaters. When changing the existing meter heads, it gives the operators the opportunity to re-inspect installations for any potential problems. Water district 5 will be starting out with the new meters. The operators will be updating the GIS system showing exact location of the meters with photos and latitude and longitude of each service lateral. Pads will be used by the operators to enter the updated information.

After review of the water operators daily report of chlorine levels, the levels are consistent with little fluctuations—this is a credit to the water operators for doing a great job.

A water customer asked for his property to be reviewed for a reduction in the EDU charge. He is charged a full EDU but the house is no longer there—just a garage. He did not

think a new house could be built there due to lot size. John Howland, CEO, reviewed the property and said there is a garage there now and with a variance it could be buildable. There is a curbstoep there. The water board voted to leave the EDU charge at 1 EDU. Another property reviewed is vacant and only 51' wide. Mr. Howland said a small shed could possibly be built on it. There is no curbstoep there and a residence could not be built there; it was decided by the water board to classify it as unbuildable.

There was discussion regarding potential solar panels at the well fields in Richland. It was disallowed by the Town Board to keep our well source protected. The hay on the field is allowed to be cut but no fertilizer can be used. That is also to protect the water source.

District 5 Water Project update: Sandy Creek is the lead agency. WD Malone has the contract with an original start date of July 27, 2020. However, there are currently a week late starting. They will be starting next week.

Chairman Sternberg announced he has replaced John Fox as Water Department Supervisor. He was a certified water operator and he will be renewing his certification. He said he has worked with engineers for years and will be inspecting some water lines on Water District #5. He will no longer be a voting member on the water board. He said they are looking for another member to serve on the water board.

Doug Schwalm made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15. Doug Haynes seconded it. All members agreed. The next water board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 6pm in the H. Douglas Barclay Courthouse Jury Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Yerdon
Town of Richland Water Department Clerk