

**Water Works District No. 2  
St. Tammany Parish, State of Louisiana**

**Board of Waterworks Commissioners Meeting  
Water District No. 2 Office, Hwy. 36, Covington, LA**

**March 16, 2026– 5:00 p.m.**

**Staff Present:** Julie Williams – General Manager  
Jessica Puckett – Office Manager  
Grady Thigpen – Field Supervisor

**Board Present:** Benjamin Martino – President  
Pierre Fabre – Vice President  
Lorraine Saba – Secretary/Treasurer  
Monique Stubbs – Board Member

**Board Absent:** Sarah Holzhalb – Board Member

**Guest Speaker:** Timmy Lemoine – Louisiana Rural Water Association

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Benjamin Martino.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the February 9, 2026 meeting were read. Motion to approve them was made by Monique Stubbs and seconded by Pierre Fabre.

**Bank Balances:** Bank balances for the month ending February 28, 2026 were read by Lorraine Saba.

**Julie Williams spoke:**

**Water Loss:** Water Loss was 16.76%. She said that water main leaks at Magnolia Gardens and Barbee Rd (Covington Manor Mobile Home Park) contributed to this. In the case of the mobile home park, it is not clear if the lines were dedicated to us and whose responsibility it is to make repairs in the mobile home park. There have been several owners, and we don't have any documentation on the water lines. Julie will try to research the paperwork we have in the office and possibly go to the Clerk of Court to search for records of the mobile home park.

**Profit & Loss:** The Profit & Loss report seemed to be in line with our budget projections. However, the Net Loss of \$40,483 represents our insurance policy covering auto and liability.

**Sustainability Rate Study:** Timmy Lemoine, a 25-year employee with the Louisiana Rural Water Association, came to speak to us about the Sustainability Rate Analysis he had prepared for us. He explained that the LRWA does not set water rates, however, the Department of Health recommends a Sustainability Rate of 1.15. To get grants for water system improvements and be within the Department of Health recommendations, you must be at a 1.15 sustainability factor.

The Rate Study compared our budget items for 2024, 2025 and 2026. Timmy discussed the number of residential and commercial customers, our income and debt, plus our expenses. He said raising rates is a necessary evil and to get to 1.15, we must increase our fees. Therefore, after much discussion, the board agreed to accept the rate analysis presented by Timmy Lemoine. Julie will place a public notice in the paper for the Water Rate Increase meeting being held on April 13, 2026 to allow for public comment before adopting the new rates.

**Residential:** Min. Charge \$23.50 for 2000 gallons and \$6.00 per 1,000 gallons

**Commercial:** Min. Charge \$35.50 for 2000 gallons and \$6.50 per 1,000 gallons

**Employee Health Insurance:** Julie spoke to Dana with New York Life to get a quote for Employee Vision Insurance, we currently only have health and dental insurance. The cost through Blue Cross Blue Shield will be \$45.94 per month for everyone. The board voted yes to add this to the health and dental coverage policy.

**Grady Thigpen spoke:**

The water main leak under the trailer in Covington Manor Mobile Home Park has been repaired.

No further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Monique Stubbs and seconded by Pierre Fabre.

Submitted by: Lorraine Saba

3/18/2026