

DANIEL COKER HORTON & BELL, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

265 North Lamar Boulevard, Suite R
P.O. Box 1396
Oxford, Mississippi 38655-1396
www.danielcoker.com

MARK C. WOODS

mwoods@danielcoker.com
Also Admitted in Tennessee
Telephone: (662) 232-8979
Facsimile: (662) 232-8940

November 29, 2018

Mississippi Public Service Commission
501 North West Street, Suite 201 A
Jackson, MS 39201

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**MISS. PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION**

Re: Punkin Water Association / MS Public Service
Commission Number 2018-AD-36 Melanie Rube, et al.

Dear Ms. Collier:

This is the November 2018 report required by the May 18, 2018, post-hearing Order in the above-referenced action.

My name is Mark Woods. I was hired to represent Punkin Water Association ("Punkin") after Lawrence L. Little & Associates, P.A. resigned from the same post last month.

On November 19, 2018, Punkin held its annual board meeting. Dozens of members were present at the meeting. Five individuals were nominated to fill three vacant Board seats. Numerous e-mails were exchanged, and multiple telephone calls were placed with Punkin members and Public Service Commission representatives in preparation for the election. The election was overseen by Dwight Young, a local CPA, and me. Forty-six members voted in person and 421 turned in valid proxies. Karen Popernik and Jerry Bishop were elected to fill the two three-year terms. Jason Butts was elected to fill the one-year term.

On November 26, 2018, the Board met to elect officers. Jason Butts was elected President; Karen Popernik was elected Vice-President. Additionally, Karen Popernik agreed to serve as the communication point-person for the Board going forward. In that role, Mrs. Popernik will timely communicate important issues to members through various means—including social media (Facebook and Nextdoor) and the Punkin Water Association website (punkinwater.com).

A Water Purchase Agreement between the Punkin Water Association and the City of Oxford is nearly complete. I have contacted Oxford's attorney and inquired about when the Water Purchase Agreement can be put on the agenda for consideration by Oxford's Board of Aldermen. Once this agreement is in place, the Board will consider steps to be taken to implement what have been referred to as Phase I and II of the Punkin's outstanding projects. These Phases would require securing capitol and/or financing, bidding, and construction connecting Punkin's existing infrastructure with the City

November 29, 2018

Page 2

of Oxford's infrastructure. The Board anticipates these Phases would be expensive and technically complex. Financing may need to be secured to complete all or part of these Phases.


The clarity of the water delivered to members from Punkin's wells has improved significantly in the past months as a result of water filter rehabilitation and improvements in the operational process. These improvements have been monitored by the Mississippi Department of Health area engineer.

The Phase III project (replacing a small water pipe with a larger, 8-inch pipe on County Road 415) has been bid, and the lowest bid was accepted. Easements for this project must be executed before work can begin. Some easements have been executed. I will send letters to those remaining members who have not yet executed easements in the coming weeks. Once the easements are in place, construction will begin. This Phase will be performed first. This decision was made after consideration of the current water supply, advice from Punkin's engineer and operator, as well the Mississippi Department of Health area engineer and the Mississippi Rural Water Association. The Board also sought and received input from Punkin members.

My understanding is the Public Service Commission will hold status conference on December 11, 2018, where the issues addressed during the Commission's May 15, 2018, hearing and the May 18, 2018, Post Hearing Order will be discussed.

Sincerely,

DANIEL COKER HORTON & BELL



Mark C. Woods