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PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

*The Martin County-Tug Valley*

**MOUNTAIN**

**CITIZEN**

Main Street -- Cain Building

P.O. Box 1029

Inez, Kentucky 41224

PHONE (606) 298-7570 FAX (606) 298-3711

E-MAIL: [mountaincitizen@bellsouth.net](mailto:mountaincitizen@bellsouth.net)

Feb. 15, 2018

Kentucky Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 615

211 Sower Blvd.

Frankfort, Ky., 40602-0615

To whom it may concern:

I have enclosed copies of two letters sent to the Martin County Water District — one addressed to Joe Hammond/Linda Sumpter dated Feb. 2, 2018 and the other for today to Brian Cumbo, counsel for MCWD and they are in reference to PSC Case No. 2018-00017.

The letters are self-explanatory. This is in protest of any rate increase for the water district if they are unresponsive to letters of requests that I, as editor of this newspaper, have made. Plus, while I realize the new water district board has been given a chance to “fix it” (the problems of past refusals to address PSC orders following investigations), I see no change in the way this board is operating so far from past boards — refusals to honor open records request and refusing outright to even field questions in open, public meetings, from local media or customers.

So much for the “transparency” the new board promised, along with working with local media!

In closing if I find what I believe I will find when my open records request is

finally honored, I firmly believe that MCWD chairman John Horn is complicit in an obvious coverup.

Thank you for <sup>served</sup> considering this as part of this process. My opinion is that customers would be better ~~solved~~ if the district was considered abandoned and placed into receivership. This board overall is no different than past boards.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary Ball". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "G" and "B".

Gary Ball  
Editor  
Mountain Citizen

The Martin County-Tug Valley

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Brian Cumbo  
Counsel for the Martin  
County Water District  
P.O. Box 1844  
Inez, Ky., 41224

Dear Mr. Cumbo:

I have attached a letter detailing an open records request I made on Feb. 2, 2018 for the Martin County Water District. While I understand that Joe Hammond has recently resigned ... or retired as business manager, the request itself is pretty simple and straightforward and can be made available from Linda Sumpter.

In lieu of filing a complaint with the Attorney General for what I believe to be a violation of open records, this is the purpose of my letter. I have no other recourse since the water district is unresponsive and the water district refuses to take questions in public meetings from the media. My question at the last meeting earlier this week would have been, of course, why hasn't the water district honored my open records request.

Thank you for looking into this matter.



Gary Ball  
Editor  
Mountain Citizen

*State of Ky  
County of Martin*

*SUBSCRIBED, SWORN TO, and ACKNOWLEDGED  
before me by Gary Ball this 15<sup>th</sup> day of  
February, 2018.*

*my commission expires:  
6/24/19*

*Rita Stafford  
Notary*

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PS Form 3800, January 2001

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Feb. 2, 2018

Martin County Water District

387 Main St. Suite 140

Inez, Ky. 41224

Attn: Joe Hammond

and Linda Sumpter

To whom it may concern (Joe Hammond or Linda Sumpter):

Please consider this an open records request for copies of documents showing all procurements for goods and services for \$20,000 and above for all years from 2012 to the present.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Gary Ball

Editor

Mountain Citizen