

Breathitt County Fiscal Court
Magistrates Donnie Bush, Ray Moore, and Ellis Tincher
1137 Main Street
Jackson, KY 41339
June 7, 2021

RECEIVED
JUN 09 2021
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Kentucky Public Service Commission
Attention Linda Bridwell
P.O. Box 615
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615

Dear Ms. Bridwell,

In a letter dated June 3, 2021 from Breathitt Judge Executive Jeff Noble concerning Case#2020-00398, Mr. Willie Bush was recommended by Noble to fill the vacant position of Water Commissioner.

Mr. Bush resides and provided the address in his resume of 69 Marie Roberts Road, Lost Creek, KY 41348.

Since Mr. Bush does not reside in the Breathitt Water District, he should be excluded from being nominated due to the following KRS:

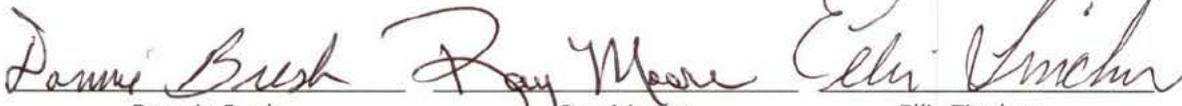
74.020 Appointment of commissioners -- Number -- Terms -- Removal -- Vacancies -- Organization -- Bond -- Compensation -- Mandatory training -- Notice of vacancy.

(1) A water district shall be administered by a board of commissioners which shall control and manage the affairs of the district. The term of each commissioner is four (4) years, except as provided in this section:

(a) If a district lies wholly within a single county, or operates as a single-county district, as provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection, the board of commissioners shall be composed of either three (3) or five (5) members as the county judge/executive shall determine. **Members of the board shall be residents of the district,** or of any incorporated or unincorporated area served by the district in the county in which the district was originally established, who shall be appointed by the county judge/executive with the approval of the fiscal court. Initial appointments shall be for terms of two (2), three (3), and four (4) years, as designated by the court.

We would like to recommend Mr. Bobby Thorpe to the position. Thorpe has served 12 years on the board and has did an outstanding job serving on the board and making it possible for many to receive clean water in Breathitt County.

Thank you for your consideration.


Donnie Bush Ray Moore Ellis Tincher

Case # 2020-00398

Bobby Thorpe, Jr.
PO Box 1015
Jackson, KY 41339
November 30, 2020

Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

Dear whom it may concern,

I would like to be considered for reappointment to the Breathitt Water District as a board member. My term ended on August 28, 2020 and 90 days has passed since my expiration date and no one has been successfully been appointed to the position.

My background is as follows and a resume along with reference letters are attached.

I have been a member of the Breathitt County Water District for 13 years serving under and being reappointed by three administrations. While serving my terms, I have been Chairman for 10 years.

During the terms I've served, the water board has obtained over 40 million dollars in funding for water projects, laid nearly 250 miles of water lines, constructed 18 water storage tanks, 16 pump stations and made it possible for over 3300 homes to have access to county water service. Currently, the district has a 59% sign up rate or 1952 customers. When I became a board member, we had under a 48% sign up rate. As a board member, I along with other board members promoted the water service and provided education on why county water service was more feasible and safer than other water services in the area such as drilled wells. Currently, the district has approximately 300 miles of waterlines laid and has approximately 450 miles of county roads in the county road system.

Projects completed in the district during my tenure include the following:

1. Kentucky Hwy 205 Extension
2. KY 15 Watts
3. KY 1110 Phase 1
4. KY 1110 Phase 2
5. Canoe Phase 1
6. Canoe Phase 2
7. KY 30 West
8. KY 30 West Houston Road
9. KY 30 East
10. Roark Branch
11. Airport Road including the National Weather Service (NWS) and Airport. (The NWS has been in Breathitt County over 30 years and provided several jobs and had no water service except other than hauling it to a tank)
12. Turners Creek
13. Panbowl
14. South Fork Phase 1
15. South Fork Phase 2
16. South Fork Elk View (Tourism and campground)
17. KY 476

18. Duck Hollow
19. Copeland
20. River Caney
21. KY 315
22. KY 28
23. Bethany Road
24. Frozen Creek Phase 1
25. Frozen Creek Phase 2
26. Frozen Creek Phase 3
27. Frozen Creek Phase 4
28. Currently approved for funding are as follows: Warshoal Branch, Robinson Fork, Rode Fork, Old Bailey Hollow, War Creek, Creekside Road, Manns Road, Joe Ward Fork and rehab projects.
29. Currently awaiting funding: KY Hwy. 542 and KY Hwy. 30 East to the Magoffin/Breathitt County lines, Wolf Creek, Stray Branch, Fire Trail, Keck Lane, Johnson Fork, Puncheon Creek Road, Highland Road, Snake Branch, Bryants Creek, Chester Bailey Road, Little Leatherwood Road, and Mill Creek Lawson Road.

I have met with many officials and attended many meetings to obtain funding for water projects. Even though I am exempt from training under the KRS due to being a member since 2008, I have still attended training to stay up to date on subjects dealing with various water districts across the state. I also met with the Mayor of the Village of Buckhorn last year and an agreement was worked out to provide their area with water in case of emergency outages. I have a great working relationship with state and federal officials.

Since being on the board, all audits have had a great rating and our finances have always been in the black when it comes to monthly operating and maintenance balances. In fact, the district received a statewide award a few years ago at the Rural Water Conference.

The current board has also put together a great staff over the years.

As for attendance, I have attended ALL meetings since being on the board 12 years with the exception of two in which I was recuperating from surgery due to cancer and kidney stones.

I would also ask to be reappointed to the board for another term. We currently have applications in for funding totaling over \$6.5 million dollars with \$1.5 million already approved and I will continue to work hard along with other board members to make those projects a reality.

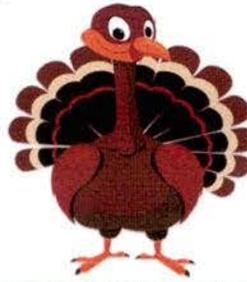
Thank you,



Bobby Thorpe, Jr.
Chairman
Breathitt County Water District Board

Bobby Thorpe, Jr., Chairman

November 18, 2020



ROAD NAME	MILES OF LINES	STORAGE TANK	PUMP STATION	# OF HOMES	# OF CUST. OCT 2020	# OF CUST. Nov 2020	SIGN-UP PERCENT
KY 30 WEST (2004)	7.3	YES	YES	174	115	121	70%
KY 397/OLD BUCK	10.7	YES	NO	165	69	69	42%
TOWN HILL	2.6	YES	YES	20	7	7	35%
KY 52/541	20.3	YES (2)	YES	270	214	213	79%
KY 205 (INCLUDES EXTENSION)	22.8	YES	YES (2) HYDRO	225	200	200	89%
KY 15 WATTS	18.6	YES (2)	YES	276	165	164	59%
KY 1110 AML PHASE 1 & 2	33.5	YES	YES	510	314	313	61%
CANOE PHASE 1 & 2	15.8	NO	NO	164	102	105	64%
KY 30 WEST (2009) & HOUSTON ROAD	15.8	NO	NO	133	40	40	30%
	5.3	NO	YES (HYDRO)				
KY 30 EAST (INCLUDES ROARK BRANCH & AIRPORT RD)	21.12	YES (2)	YES	264	151	150	57%
			YES (HYDRO)				
TURNERS CREEK	6.8	NO	NO	77	74	75	97%
PANBOWL	2.3	NO	YES	45	37	37	82%
SOUTH FORK PHASE 1 & 2	18	YES	NO	185	80	80	43%
SOUTH FORK ELK VIEW	0	YES (2)	YES	2	0	0	0%
KY 476	19.5	YES (2)	YES	215	75	77	36%
DUCK HOLLOW, COPELAND & RIVER CANEY	9.1	YES	YES (2) HYDRO	103	62	62	60%
KY 315 & KY 28	25.28	YES (2)	YES	182	107	107	59%
BETHANY ROAD	0.8	NO	NO	11	6	6	55%
FROZEN PHASE 1,2,3 & 4	36.7	YES (2)	YES (HYDRO)	269	124	126	47%
TOTALS	292.3	19	16	3290	1942	1952	59%

Elk View Waterline Extension & Campgrounds: Funded

- Water is nearly complete, waiting on campground water customer.
- Campground phase 1 construction has been completed.

Breathitt Waterline Extensions and Rehab Project: Funded

War Shoal Road, Old Bailey Hollow, Rode Fork, and Robinson Fork Road Extensions

- Construction contracts have been executed.
- Construction has started.
- No Requisition is being presented to the Board this month.

Waterline Extensions Phase 2 and Pump Station Rehab: Funded

Creekside Rd, Joe Ward Fork, Big Branch (Manns) and War Creek Road Extensions

- Funding has been approved. Environmental review is pending, Design has started.
- No Requisition is being presented to the Board this month.

Waterline Extensions Phase 3 and Rehab Project: Project Profile

Johnson Fork, Puncheon Road and Highland Waterline Extensions

- Project Profile has been developed. Project Cost \$750,000
- Funding Application has been submitted to ARC.

KY 30 & Wolf Creek Waterline Extension Project:

- Funding Application has been submitted to AML, Project Cost \$3,000,000.

KY 30 East & KY 542 Waterline Extensions - beyond Rousseau:

- This project has been reviewed by AML and they have determined that the project with the exception of KY 30 East and KY 1098 qualifies for AML funding. KY 30 East will be constructed as a transmission line only.
- We have requested a design MOA from AML.

Stray Branch & Fire Trail Waterline Project:

- Project has been approved by AML and is waiting for funding.

Other Items:

- Keck Lane Waterline Extension, opinion of probable project costs \$145,000.
- Snake Branch Waterline study (30 W), opinion of probable project costs \$161,000.
- Bryants Creek Road study (30 W), opinion of probable project costs \$740,800.
- Chester Bailey Rd study (Frozen), opinion of probable project costs \$106,000.
- Fire Trail Road, opinion of probable project costs \$280,000. Submitted to AML
- Stray Branch Road, opinion of probable project costs \$720,000. Submitted to AML
- Wolf Creek Road, opinion of probable project costs \$700,000.
- Little Leatherwood Waterline study, opinion of probable project costs \$124,000.
- Hunting Creek (KY30 east), opinion of probable project costs \$ 1,137,000. Submitted to AML for funding study.
- KY 1812 to Wolfe Co. opinion of probable project costs \$1,035,000.
- Mill Creek (Lawson Rd), opinion of probable project costs \$450,000

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **BCWD** to approve payment to parties as per the attached Requisition Sheet;
No Requisitions are being presented this month.

Bobby Thorpe, PO Box 1015, Jackson, KY 41339

Phone (606) 568-8924

E-mail: news@breathittadvocate.com

Objective

Reappointment to the Breathitt County Water District as Board Member

Education

August 1975-May 1987, Diploma, Breathitt County School System
1997-1999, University of Kentucky-Hazard Community College,
Associates Degree Courses, Emergency Medical Technician Training,
Department of Criminal Justice Training– Youth Worker Training, Coroner Basic Training

Awards

Jackson Lions Club, Lion of the Year & Citizen of the Year.
Breathitt County Honey Festival Committee– Citizen of the Year Award– 2016
PRIDE Volunteer of the Month, Breathitt County, 2014

Work Experience

2007-2020, Breathitt Water District Board Member
2010-2020, Breathitt County Water District Board Chairman
1989-2005– Rental Property and Property Manager—Self Employed
2003-2009, Editor and News Director, Jackson Times
2009-Present, Owner, The Breathitt Advocate

Volunteer Work

LBJ FRYSC Chairperson
Operation UNITE– Treasurer
Jackson Lions Club– Vice President
Breathitt Heritage Fair– Entertainment Chair and Fair Chairman
Breathitt Co. Honey Festival
Member of the Chamber of Commerce

References

Cluster Howard, State Representative 91st District, (606) 568-7660
Donnie Bush, Breathitt County Magistrate District 1, (606) 568-1863
Ray Moore, Breathitt County Magistrate District 3, (606) 568-1110
Ellis Tincher, Breathitt County Fiscal Court, (606)- 272-1158
Jamon Halvaksz, Retired Fish and Wildlife Officer and current police officer, (606) 568-5488
Estill McIntosh, Breathitt County Water District Superintendent, (606) 666-3800 Ext. 250

To whom it may concern:

It is a pleasure to recommend Bobby Thorpe to the Breathitt County Water Board. Bobby has been the most effective Chairman that I have known in terms of his diligence and expertise in acquiring money for local water projects. Mr. Thorpe will do research, call politicians, work with engineers, and work with the public, work with local governments. In fact, I know that he will and has gone far beyond what would be considered a normal work ethic in acquiring funding.

Mr Thorpe is a local businessman who has dealt a major health issue over the past few years. He has done that without any complaints and he has not slowed down in his efforts to serve our county. We are blessed to have Bobby Thorpe in our county. He is a truly selfless individual who puts his community above any personal agenda.

I recommend him without reservation.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cluster Howard". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Cluster Howard
State Representative KY House District 91

Estill McIntosh
116 Estill Drive
Jackson, KY 41339
November 29, 2020

Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

To Whom It May Concern,

It has been an honor to work alongside Chairman Bobby Thorpe since August 2007. The Breathitt County Water District as well as the customers have seen positive outcomes with the assistance of Bobby's knowledge and expertise. He has assisted in bringing in over \$40 million in funds to the district.

Bobby has an exceptional professional relationship with the contractors, grant writers, and the current Breathitt County Water Board as well as elected officials on local, state, and national levels. His leadership and the abundant hours he spends as Chairman is a quality we appreciate.

He has attended all meetings in the past 13 years with the exception of two in which he was ill.

He has also accompanied me to work sites and meetings in Frankfort in order to obtain funds for projects.

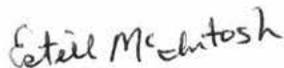
With the recommendation of Bobby, our department has incorporated several bill pay options to the customers of the district such as a payment drop-box and online and over-the-phone bill pay. Customers also have the option of viewing their bills online.

Bobby has attended several trainings even though his attendance is not required.

In my opinion, Bobby has been the most dedicated water board member the water district has ever had.

As Superintendent of the Water District, I highly recommend Bobby to continue as a member of the Water Board.

Best Regards,



Estill McIntosh
Breathitt County Water Board Superintendent

Jamon Halvaksz
521 Dogwood Dr.
Jackson, KY 41339
November 30, 2020

Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

To whom it may concern,

I would like to recommend that Bobby Thorpe be reappointed to the Breathitt County Water District as a board member.

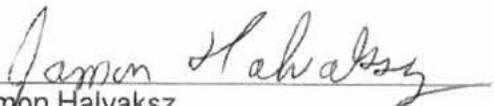
I have known Bobby over 30 years and know he is civic minded.

He has served on the Breathitt County Water District Board for 13 years, with 10 years being as Chairman of the board. He has traveled to many meetings and to Frankfort to meet with legislatures and officials in order to promote projects in order to obtain funding. He is also Vice President of the Jackson Lions Club, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and other groups.

I have also seen Bobby on the location of water projects and meeting with members of the community to get input on projects.

I am aware that Bobby and other board members have obtained over 40 million dollars in funding for projects and laid over 300 miles of water lines for our county which has provided 3,300 homes access to water service.

Taking all of this information into consideration, I highly recommend Bobby remain on the water board.
Thank you for your consideration.


Jamon Halvaksz

Breathitt County Magistrates

Donnie Bush- District 1

Ray Moore- District 3

Ellis Tincher- District 4

1137 Main Street

Jackson, KY 41339

November 30, 2020

Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

Re: Bobby Thorpe- Breathitt County Water District Board Member

To whom it may concern:

As members of the Breathitt County Fiscal Court serving as Magistrates, we have recommended and will continue to recommend that Bobby Thorpe remain a member of the Breathitt County Water District as a board member.

Bobby has been very accessible to the fiscal court since we have served as Magistrates.

He has met with local, state, and federal officials to help promote funding of various water projects in our county.

During his tenure, Thorpe has taken part in working with officials to obtain funding for nearly \$40,000,000 for waterlines consisting of nearly 300 miles of water lines, 16 tanks, and 14 pump stations. Bobby also keeps us updated on proposed and approved projects.

He has also attended training, which he was exempt from, in order to keep up with updates and changes.

During our fiscal court meetings, we have questioned why Thorpe cannot be recommended to be reappointed to the water board and the County Judge Executive will not give us a valid reason.

In conclusion, we, the majority members of the Breathitt County Fiscal Court, would like to recommend without reservation that Bobby Thorpe be reappointed to the Breathitt County Water District as a board member.

Thank You for your consideration.



Donnie Bush-
Magistrate District 1



Ray Moore-
Magistrate District 3



Ellis Tincher-
Magistrate District 4