

**LARUE BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 13, 2019**

The La Rue Board of Public met in special session March 13, 2019 to discuss the issues with the water tower leaking. Present were Doug Shawver, Justin Wall, Wendy Crabtree, Tyler Howell, Mayor Milton Lightfoot, and Mary Price. Guest: Scott Jaffee

The Board met to discuss the water tower leaking and the plans to repair. Tyler Howell reported that the tower started leaking on Tuesday March 12th and then by the following day there were 3 noticeable spots that were leaking on the bottom of the tank. If you look at the tank, Mr. Howell used the analogy that if it were a clock it would be 12:00, 8:00, and roughly 9:00 where the leaks are located. Caldwell built the tank in 1948 and they were contacted but they do not repair tanks.

Clerk Mary Price contacted Pittsburg Tank who completed the last tank inspection in 2013 to see what they thought of the leaks. A picture of the bottom of the tank showing the rust spot was sent to Pittsburg Tank so they could see the location of the leak. Pittsburg Tank sent a proposal for the repair they feel the tank needs. The tank will need to be drained and the valve on the bottom will be shut off. A new bottom will be welded onto the tank from the inside. The repairs cannot be completed for another 3-4 weeks though. Tyler Howell reported that he has lowered the pressure in the tank to help hold off until a repair can be completed. One of the concerns brought up is that the ladder on the tower is not stable but Pittsburg Tank knows the condition of the tower from their previous inspection so they are aware.

EPA came on Wednesday March 13th to visit the water tower and want a written report once the Board has a plan.

The plan if the tower has to be taken off line then the high service pumps can temporarily run to keep up with the water needs to the residents. If the high service pumps could not keep up then EMA has been contacted and they will bring water truck to town. The water truck will be available for residents to come and get water and then both Boards would need to help to go door to door to make sure all residents are capable to get water.

A motion was made by Wendy Crabtree to hire Pittsburg Tank to complete the repairs on the tank with a second by Doug Shawver, motion passed with all ayes. The Board granted Tyler Howell permission to sign the proposal and contact Pittsburg Tank to get the repairs scheduled as soon as possible.

Scott Jaffee from GPD Engineering was present to discuss the options of moving forward with a new tower. Documents from a previous tower installation in another town was reviewed with a cost of \$550,000 for new tower and tear down of the old tower. Funding options will need to be gathered with grants first and possibly receiving emergency funding. The GPD group will be at the next BPA meeting on Monday March 18th with a water engineer to further discuss the new tower.

Board of Public Affairs Chairman

Clerk