



## Newton County Water & Sewerage Authority Water System Extension Policy

Public water service and fire protection is available in many subdivisions and communities in unincorporated Newton County. However, there remains a significant number of outlying subdivisions and homes served by groundwater wells. For neighborhoods or areas wishing to connect to Authority water service, the Water System Extension Policy was adopted in August 2019.

The following steps illustrate the process and annual calendar which is also shown graphically in Figure 1.

1. **Planning: January – March** – Representatives or neighborhood groups should meet with the Authority during January to March to request consideration. Based on the request, maps describing the areas of coverage will be developed with cost estimates provided to all homeowners in the specified area. Homeowners will complete a brief online survey confirming their willingness to pay the current connection fee in advance of the water line extension. *Note: At least 51% of homeowners should indicate their willingness to pay the current connection fee by the end of March to proceed to Step 2.*
2. **Engineering: April – September** - If 51% of homeowners are willing to pay current connection fee, NCWSA will design water line plans for specified area. Necessary permits will be obtained, and field surveys will be done during this phase.
3. **Enrollment: October 1 – November 30** – Homeowners have 60 days to make application and pay the current connection fee. Applicants must pay by check and checks will be held until the December Board Meeting (see Phase 4). 51% of homeowners must pay the connection fee.
4. **Board Meeting: December** - The NCWSA Board will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month to authorize the petitioned water line extension (subject to confirmation of funding) based on the percentage of paid customers. If the extension is denied, homeowners will be notified, and their checks will be shredded.
5. **Construction: April – September** - After approval by the Board, construction will commence in the Spring of the following calendar year. If additional homeowners in the petitioned area wish to connect to water, they may do so after application and payment of connection fees.

Up to \$1 Million will be budgeted for Water System Extension annually; this funding amount will typically cover two communities. During the Enrollment Phase, interest may not be collected on checks if extension is denied. It is the NCWSA Board's discretion to approved or deny any and all proposed Water System Extension proposals.

Figure 1 - Water System Extension Policy

