

March 12, 2026

## Proposed Project: Hydraulic Upgrade/Leak Detection and Remediation – Timeline

July 9, 2024: Based on consumer complaints of low water pressure and sediments (poor water turn over in tanks) consistently in water lines of some residents, LCWW Board voted to request proposals for Hydraulic Modeling of our entire water delivery system to identify problem areas. Leny Baker was asked to get 2-3 proposals on completing this task and present to the board at our next meeting.

August 12, 2024: Leny presented the quotations to the board (dated July 25). Two proposals were submitted for the hydraulic modeling of all delivery lines and relevant equipment (Tanks, pumps, valves meters etc. Both proposals fit the scope of the request – PMI (A Terracon company) submitted a proposal for a cost of \$15K. Crist Engineering submitted a proposal for a cost of \$25K. Both companies have a solid reputation and met the scope of the work. The only factor that separated the two companies was price. It was voted on to accept the PMI proposal and for work to begin asap (several months as PMI has other obligations). PMI's representative (Brad Wingfield, PE) believes the study will be completed within 6+ months.

May 12, 2025: PMI representative, Brad Wingfield, presented the study and showed the Hydraulic Model (KY pipe software) where low pressure and other issues were identified and needed to be addressed. He presented an “overhaul” of our system that would replace many supply and delivery lines, along with the addition of a new Holding tanks and additional booster pumps (\$3M) to alleviate all issues. Other lesser options were presented that would provide limited solutions (\$1.5M).

The board voted to table the issue while researching the financial impact of each proposal on our users' rates along with our long-term financial position. We will continue to research other potential options.

September 8, 2025: Leny notified that PMI (Brad) can pursue financing options with the state based on proposals.. It was agreed to let him continue and see what was available on our behalf.

Side note: November 3, 2025: The board was notified of large losses of water within our water distribution system. For our Fiscal Year (Ends in October) we showed that we purchased 49M gallons of water and sold 28M gallons - we are losing 21M gallons a year within our distribution system. (rural water district typical/acceptable water losses are 10-20%). At this time, Leny committed to work with the Arkansas Rural Water Association to begin leak audits after the Holidays (January or February 2026) as they are currently busy with other issues. These audits will take place after hours (12-5am) when most water usage has ceased to get accurate readings. These potential water losses/breaks in the line are likely contributing to the low pressure we are noticing within the distribution system. We must first confirm the leaks.)

January 13, 2026: Leny reported that Brad (PMI) had notified him that all funding available from the State of Arkansas for 2026 had been distributed to other water providers with more pressing needs. We are currently looking at other options to give some improvement.

February 10, 2026: Leny reported that the leak detection audits had begun with the Rural Water Associations (RWA) assistance and over 2-3 nights of working, no leaks had been found.

March 10, 2026: Leny reported that more leak detection audits had been performed with RWA personnel and still no leaks have been found. The board discussed other methods of detecting leaks – 1) drones with temperature sensing capabilities; 2) installation of “listening sensors” that would detect vibrations of water moving at night. Joe and Leny will research possibilities and report back findings.