## <u>Press Release December 12, 2023</u> <u>North Central Crawford County Water System Improvements</u>

On January 27, 2023, I was informed that we were awarded the funds needed from the USDA Rural Development. We have moved forward with the design, permitting, and property/easement acquisitions required for this project. This project would not have been possible without all the help of our County, State and Federal elected officials and hard-working folks.

This is a huge project with approximately 68 miles of pipe, pump stations and water storage facilities. This will cover 56 square miles and service households that do not have potable water.

We have two different ways to access the new system.

- Sign a User's Agreements the cost is \$100.00, it says that you understand that you will get a tap on the new system, but you will be responsible for a water bill for the next 40 years with a minimum monthly bill of \$60.00 a month for the first 1000 gallon. or
- You can purchase a tap on the line with no User's Agreement and you can turn the water on and off as much as you want for \$2500.00, minimum monthly bill of \$60.00 a month for the first 1000 gallon.

## **Upcoming dates**

- Update meetings will be held at Mountainburg City Hall February 1<sup>st</sup>, March 1<sup>st</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup>, and May 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm.
- December 2023 we are filing all documents for easements that have been or need to be acquired and purchasing property for pump stations and water storage facilities.
- December 2023 we will be sending all documents to the Office of General Council to satisfy funding agency requirements. We hope to hear back from them in early February 2024.
- Bidding is tentatively scheduled for February 2024, pending approval from the funding agency. We will set a time to open bids here at City Hall and hope to award contracts at the March 11<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.
- We hope to issue a Notice to Proceed Construction by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

All these dates are tentative, but we hope to stick close. In the future if Mountainburg Public Schools are closed, the update meetings will be postponed.

Respectfully, Susan Wilson, Mayor