

Phoenicia Water Committee
Board Report
June 2, 2025

The Committee met in May at Phoenicia Library. Deputy Superintendent Joyce has taken over meter reading and is working toward completing a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) via a form provided by Rural Water. The Committee will not meet in June in order to give more time for Jameson to work on SOP. The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 1 at Simpson Park Gazebo at the corner of Rt. 214 and Main St.

Kathryn Haber is collecting reports on quality and water tower inspections. This documentation is needed to make Phoenicia grant-ready. Another component to being grant ready will be to hire an engineering firm to create a plan for required updates and repairs. I have attended inter-agency informational meetings (Environmental Facilities Corporation, DEC, Department of Health, Department of State and Home and Community Renewal) and while there is funding to upgrade rural drinking water facilities, the engineering plans are generally funded via loans.

Board Member Drake strategized that completing the SOP was a higher priority than completing the Lead Service Line Inventory: 1) because Jameson Joyce can complete the SOP in tandem with his job-learning process and 2) because Phoenicia's water system post-dated the period when lead pipes were installed and it is highly unlikely homeowners have lead piping. The Committee thanks Board Member Kneissl for attempting an inventory of Phoenicia's almost 300 lines. This work will continue, likely with assistance from R Cap Solutions, a nonprofit that Rich Winters from Rural Water shared.