



CITY OF CANEY

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City Administrator – Kelley Zellner

Mayor – Joshua Elliott

2/9/2023

To: House Water Committee (HB 2302) Water Situation Testimony for the City of Caney, Kansas

Since the drought of 2011 the City of Caney, Kansas, has been looking more seriously year after year at the insufficiency of its water source the “Little Caney River.” Not only has the river been a water issue for Caney, but its aging water infrastructure has also become a maintenance monster with an average of 4 broken line repairs per week. The weather pattern and weather predictions which Caney is presently in is also looking bleak with predictions of continuing drought. Because of this, the City of Caney must stay committed to its present course of searching for an alternative water resource, not just an emergency source but a source that can sustain the community indefinitely as needed.

Caney is searching for a reliable water source as the present water system is prone to fail the community of Caney in a couple of ways that has been proven this past year through drought and diminished water supply as well as subzero temperatures on the shallow river water resource. Grant are being sought for the community water system Search Process for the funding of Preliminary Engineering work and related costs. The City of Caney is a small community with an annual \$520,000 debt service. Most of this new debt was created by the improvements made to the City sewer system. The City of Caney was in a water emergency all last fall because of water source shortages. Once the City has identified a reliable source of water for the City through the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), funding and grant funding will be sought for a new water line to the city of Caney as well as funding for the replacement of the water distribution lines. Water grants are desperately needed in the City of Caney Kansas.

Respectfully!

Kelley R. Zellner CPA

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