

One retailer, one manufacturer and four contractors OK'd by state regulators

CHARLESTON -- The **West Virginia Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Board** approved one retailer, four contractors and one manufacturer license today during a teleconference meeting, while delaying a request to open a retail outlet at an old **J&J Homes Inc.** lot in Morgantown.

The board postponed action on a request for \$24,000 from the recovery fund for a Preston County couple until the staff further investigates the case.

The board approved a retailer license for a second lot for **Midwest Manufacturing Inc. LLC** of Frazeyburg, OH.

The board did not act on a request by **Tim and Cathy Slaughter** to activate a retailer license for **Paradise Homes Inc.** of Morgantown on the Grafton Road location formerly occupied by J&J.

Manufactured housing Chief Mitch Woodrum said the staff wanted to investigate further after the application showed Tim Slaughter would be president of Paradise and that he also served as an officer for the defunct J&J from 2002 to 2006.

Woodrum said staff wanted to learn whether Slaughter might be financially responsible for losses filed against the recovery fund because of J&J's bankruptcy.

Further action was delayed until the board's June 21 meeting. Board member and Morgantown businessman **Steve Solomon**, who said he has purchased the lot where Paradise hopes to open, abstained from voting.

Pending further investigation, the board delayed a \$24,000 reimbursement request from the recovery fund by a Preston County couple over their purchase of a home from J&J. The home has not been delivered. Solomon asked for further investigation into who should receive the money – the bank financing the purchase or the couple.

The board OK's contractor licenses for:

--**Winters and Winters Construction, LLC** - Tunnelton, WV.

--**S&S Mobile Home Transporting, LLC** - Grafton, WV.

--**Charles W. Johnson doing business as Diggerman** - Reedsville, WV

--**King's Electric, LLC** - Weston, WV.

The board approved the application of **Southern Energy Homes Inc.**, doing business as Southern Homes Plant 4, Double Springs, AL, to ship homes into West Virginia as a manufacturer.

The board also approved a recovery fund request involving a consumer who is seeking to sue the defunct **JEB Quality Homes Inc.** of Sophia, Raleigh County.