



MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR
GARY SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON **JANUARY 6, 2020** AT 10:00AM – 3600 W. 3rd Ave., Gary, IN

1. The meeting was called to discuss the following, as authorized under Indiana Code Section 5-14-1.5-6:

- The initiation of litigation, pending litigation, or written notice of threatened litigation.

2. The following persons were in attendance at the Executive Session:

PRESENT


Tramel Raggs, President
Maurice G. Mabon, Vice-President
Ola V. Morris, Secretary
Charles W. Jackson, Jr., Member
Angela E. Jones, Member
Daniel F. Vicari, Executive Director
Vern E. White, Director of Administration

ABSENT


3. The following matters were discussed and information received by the Board during its advertised Executive Session, and NO OFFICIAL ACTION was taken.

- The initiation of litigation, pending litigation, or written notice of threatened litigation.

**GARY SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**



Tramel Raggs, President



Ola V. Morris, Secretary



MINUTES OF THE GARY SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON **JANUARY 6, 2020**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

DATE: Monday, January 6, 2020
TIME: 11:00AM
LOCATION: GSD, Board Room

TYPE: Regular Meeting
NOTICE PROVIDED IN ADVANCE: YES
QUORUM: YES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Tramel Raggs, President
Maurice G. Mabon, Vice-President
Ola V. Morris, Secretary
Charles W. Jackson, Jr., Member

ABSENT MEMBERS

Angela E. Jones, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Daniel F. Vicari, Executive Director
Vern E. White, Director of Administration
Jewell Harris, Jr., Attorney

OTHERS ABSENT

Call to Order: 12:08PM by Commissioner Raggs

Commissioner Raggs began the Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll Call. He then certified that prior to the January 6, 2020 Board Meeting, there was an Executive Session held and there was nothing discussed in the Executive Session that was not indicated on the Posted Notice of the Executive Session; and being in compliance with the Indiana Statues, there were no final votes held during the Executive Session. Commissioner Raggs asked if any Board Member dissented to the certification. Hearing none, he then proceeded with the meeting.

1. MINUTES

As per the Minutes of the December 16, 2019 Board Meeting, Commissioner Raggs called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving the minutes. A motion to accept the Minutes of the Executive Session Items and the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2019 with any/all noted corrections; was given by Commissioner Morris. The motion for approval of the minutes was seconded by Commissioner Mabon and passed without dissent.

The vote: Four (4)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

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2. NEW BUSINESS

- 2a. A Motion to Approve GSD's Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: November 25, 2019 thru December 8, 2019, in the amount of \$397,881.62.**

Overview: Director of Administration Vern White asked for the Board's approval of the GSD Payroll Earnings Report submitted as GSD Agenda Item 2a.

Commissioner Raggs called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2a. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve. The motion for approval of the GSD's Payroll Earnings (November 25, 2019 thru December 8, 2019) was seconded by Commissioner Morris and passed/approved.

The vote: Four (4)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

- 2b. A Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No. SD20-01, Approving Re-Establishment of an Interfund Loan from GSD Equipment Replacement Fund (435) to GSD General Operating Fund (670).**

Overview: Director of Administration Vern White stated due to the influx of unanticipated projects and expenses during 2019, an Interfund Loan was required to supplement GSD Fund (670). There was an Interfund Loan made from GSD Equipment Replacement Fund (435) during September to GSD General Operating Fund (670) totaling \$800,000. During the December 18, 2019 Board Meeting, GSD Resolution No. SD19-12 was approved requesting repayment of the loan to GSD Equipment Replacement Fund (435). GSD Resolution No. SD20-01 requests to re-establish \$400,000 of the loan through June 30, 2020 in order to cover GSD's operating expenses.

Director of Administration Vern White recommended approval of Agenda Item 2b.

Commissioner Raggs called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2b. Commissioner Jackson gave the motion to approve. The Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No. SD20-01, Approving Re-Establishment of an Interfund Loan from GSD Equipment Replacement Fund (435) to GSD General Operating Fund (670) was seconded by Commissioner Mabon and passed/approved.

The vote: Four (4)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

- 2c. A Motion to Approve a Professional Services Contract between Cender & Company, LLC. and Gary Sanitary District for Financial Consultant Services.**

Overview: Executive Director Vicari recommended approval of Agenda Item 2c.

Commissioner Raggs called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2c. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve. The Motion to Approve a Professional Services Contract between Cender & Company, LLC. and Gary Sanitary District for Financial Consultant Services was seconded by Commissioner Jackson and passed/approved.

The vote: Four (4)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No



2d. A Motion to Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate an Agreement between The Walker Law Group, PC and Gary Sanitary District.

Upon Executive Director Vicari's request, the overview was provided by Attorney Harris.

Overview:

Attorney Harris stated per the transition, Professional Legal Services are being requested from The Walker Law Group. As GSD has standard formatted agreements, an agreement is being prepared for The Walker Law Group in said format. Approval of Agenda Item 2d authorizes GSD's Executive Director to negotiate the agreement. The agreement will be complete for presentation at the next GSD Board Meeting in GSD's standard (agreement) format. Approval today allows Executive Director to approve the agreement – subject to final form.

Attorney Harris recommended approval of Agenda Item 2d.

Commissioner Raggs called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2d. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve. The Motion to Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate an Agreement between The Walker Law Group, PC and Gary Sanitary District was seconded by Commissioner Morris and passed/approved.

The vote: Four (4)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

3. CLAIMS

3a. GSD Claims Numbers: 1 thru 155, in the amount of \$472,389.14

Overview: Director of Administration Vern White recommended approval and ratification of the GSD Claims.

Commissioner Raggs called for the Board pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 3a. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve. The motion for approval and ratification of GSD Claims Numbers 1 thru 155 was seconded by Commissioner Morris and passed/approved.

The vote: Four (4)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

4. INFORMATION UPDATES

4a. Plant Superintendent

Rhonda Anderson, Plant Superintendent, provided the Board with plant updates:

Overview:

- Lighting Project Update
 - NIPSCO's Energy Efficiency Program Representative visited GSD (12/19/19) and conducted an inspection of the 109 lights replaced via the Lighting Project. Project completion documents were submitted to NIPSCO and GSD expects to receive a rebate/incentive check in February 2020.



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Question: Commissioner Mabon asked what will the amount of the expected Incentive/Rebate check for the Lighting Project.

Question: Executive Director Vicari asked if an overview of all expected Incentive/Rebate checks could be given.

- Incentive/Rebate Check Anticipated amounts are as follows (once each Project has been completed and inspected by NIPSCO Energy Efficiency Program Representative):

- Lighting Project:	\$11,333.00
- Aeration Project:	\$500,000.00
- Boiler Replacement Project:	\$69,000.00

- Boiler Replacement Update
 - Bid publications for the Boiler Replacement Project will be advertised on January 9th and January 17th.
 - The Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled for January 13th.
 - Bids will be publicly accepted/opened on January 27th.
- NPDES Priority Pollutant Monitoring Scan
 - The Pollutant Monitoring Scan was submitted to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and United States Protection Agency (USEPA) in December, 2019.
- 2019 Highlights
 - GSD Operator Certification requirements
 - All GSD Operators are 100% in compliance with certification requirements implemented in Year 2017.
 - There are 12 of 13 Operators with a Class IV Operators Wastewater License.
 - There are 21 GSD Employees with a Class IV Operators Wastewater License – which is the highest number of licenses (Class IV) in GSD history.
 - GSD staff presented and co-presented at Illinois Water Environment Association (Illinois IWEA), Indiana Water Environment Association (Indiana IWEA) and Northwest Indiana Operators Association (NWIOA) annual conferences and monthly meetings on Biological Phosphorus Removal, Chlorine Disinfection in Wastewater and Conventional Activated Sludge, to name a few.
 - There was a significant increase in operator participation in NWIOA where they networked with operators at NWI WWTP and earned CEUs.
 - Due to record rain in May 2019, we set a GSD monthly average record of 91.4 MGD.

Question: Commissioner Jackson asked when demolition will start for the Aeration Project and what the amount of this project.



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Response: Superintendent Rhonda Anderson stated there will be a Progress Meeting to discuss further details for the Aeration Project this week. Yet demolition is expected to start towards the end of January, 2020.

The Project is valued at \$7.9Million. Once the blowers have been installed, we can expect to see a 60% savings in electricity.

4b. Construction Activities

No Construction Activity was reported during this segment of the meeting as Eric Tonk was absent.

5. DISCUSSION

There were no discussion items.

6. REQUEST TO SPEAK

Mr. Lonnie McDade requested to speak.

Mr. McDade stated he is the landlord/owner of a City of Gary property located at 652 Maryland Street. He further stated a past tenant left an outstanding sewer bill in year 2012 – yet in 2019 he received a Debt Collection Notice. He feels it is unfair that he was not notified of the outstanding amount and was turned over directly to collections in his name and the tenant not be held accountable for paying the outstanding amount.

Commissioner Raggs asked Mr. McDade to speak with GSD representatives after the Board Meeting to discuss his issue further.

Mr. Ron Matlock requested to speak.

Mr. Matlock stated as a property owner/landlord, he feels GSD should better communicate with Indiana American Water Company to implement better security measures for tenants requesting water and/or sewer services as a tenant will rent/lease a property yet have said services connected under someone else's identity.

Question: Commissioner Mabon asked if there was an Ordinance within the City of Gary that would protect a landlord from situations described by Mr. McDade and Mr. Matlock.

Response: Attorney Harris stated there is no such ordinance that protects a property owner from an irresponsible tenant.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:32PM



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ADOPTED BY THE BOARD DURING THE MEETING ON:

01/22/2020

Tramel Raggs, President

Ola V. Morris, Secretary

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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