



MINUTES OF THE GARY SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON **OCTOBER 16, 2023**
Hybrid Meeting

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

DATE: Monday, October 16, 2023
TIME: 11:00AM
LOCATION: GSD, Boardroom

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Daniel F. Vicari, President – *Remotely*
Maurice G. Mabon, Vice President
Ola V. Morris, Secretary
Charles W. Jackson, Jr., Member
Darnail Lyles, Member

ABSENT MEMBERS

OTHERS PRESENT

Jewell Harris, Jr., Attorney – *Harris Law Firm*
Rhonda Anderson, Executive Director
Jerome Foster, Finance Manager

OTHERS ABSENT

- I. Call to Order: 11:18AM** by Chairman Mabon
Chairman Mabon began the Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll-Call. He then stated prior to the start of the October 16, 2023 Board Meeting, there was Executive Session held and there was nothing discussed in Executive Session that was not indicated on the Posted Notice of the Executive Session; and being in compliance with Indiana Statues, there were no final votes held during the Executive Session. Chairman Mabon asked if any Board member dissented to the certification. Hearing none, he proceeded with the meeting.

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1. MINUTES

As per the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2023, Chairman Mabon called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving the minutes.

A motion to accept the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2023, with any/all noted corrections; was given by Commissioner Morris. The motion for approval of the minutes was seconded by Commissioner Jackson and passed without dissent.

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

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.1 A Motion to Approve GSD's Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: September 11, 2023 through September 24, 2023, in the amount of \$252,690.48.

Overview: Finance Manager Jerome Foster recommended approval of the GSD Payroll Earnings Report submitted as GSD Agenda Item 2.1.

Chairman Mabon called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.1. Commissioner Lyles gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve and Ratify GSD's Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: September 11, 2023 through September 24, 2023 was seconded by Commissioner Jackson and passed/approved.

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

2.2 A Motion to Approve an Award of Bid to Alex Metz Sewers, Inc., for the Manhole Replacement and Sanitary Sewer Repairs at the vicinity of Ironwood Park, in an amount not-to-exceed \$36,100.00.

Overview: Executive Director Anderson stated the existing manhole has been demolished and sanitary sewers have lost their structural integrity and collapsed near the manhole, thereby causing a cave-in and infiltration of groundwater. The cave-in is a pedestrian hazard. The work comprises of removal of the old and installation of the new 4-foot diameter precast manhole replacing Manhole No. 994; removing and replacing existing 15-inch diameter pipe with 15-inch diameter PVC SDR35 ±42-linear feet starting from Manhole No. 994, going north towards Manhole No. 995; and removal and replacing existing 15-inch diameter pipe with 15-inch diameter PVC SDR35+14-linear feet starting from Manhole No. 994, going south towards Manhole No. 993.

Quotes were solicited from 14 Contractors; with five (5) responses. Gary-based Alex Metz Sewers, Inc. was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

Chairman Mabon called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.2. Commissioner Jackson gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve an Award of Bid to Alex



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Metz Sewers, Inc., for the Manhole Replacement and Sanitary Sewer Repairs at the vicinity of Ironwood Park was seconded by Commissioner Morris and passed/approved.

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

2.3 A Motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Area Plumbing & Sewers Co., for the Emergency Sanitary Sewer Force Main Repair at the vicinity of 2381 Wisconsin Street (Marshalltown), in an amount not-to-exceed \$30,000.00.

Overview: Executive Director Anderson stated the force sewer in the referenced location broke during the weekend and an emergency call-out for repair was needed. The job required additional excavating of the force main – replacing five (5) feet of force main to include backfilling.

Chairman Mabon called for the Board’s pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.3. Commissioner Lyles gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Area Plumbing & Sewers Co., for the Emergency Sanitary Sewer Force Main Repair at the vicinity of 2381 Wisconsin Street was seconded by Commissioner Jackson and passed/approved.

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

2.4 A Motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Kennedy Industries for the Emergency Repair of the North Mudwell Pump, in an amount not-to-exceed \$41,244.00.

Overview: Executive Director Anderson stated the North Mudwell Pump needs to be repaired. The pump was transported to Kennedy Industries for repair. Repairs to include the installation of new impeller rings (to mechanically lock in place), machine impeller rings, new case rings, dynamically balancing of rotating elements and the assembly of all rotating parts on shaft.

Chairman Mabon called for the Board’s pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.4. Commissioner Lyles gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Kennedy Industries for the Emergency Repair of the North Mudwell Pump was seconded by Commissioner Morris and passed/approved.

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

2.5 A Motion to Approve an Award of Bid to Great Lakes Electrical Maintenance, Inc. (GLEM), for the HVAC Replacement in the Electrical Building at the 27th & Chase Street Pump Station, in an amount not-to-exceed \$81,000.00.

Overview: Executive Director Anderson called for a motion to DEFER Agenda Item 2.5.

Chairman Mabon called for the Board’s pleasure with respect to approving DEFERRING GSD Agenda Item 2.5. Commissioner Lyles gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve DEFERRING GSD Agenda Item 2.5 was seconded by Commissioner Jackson and DEFERRAL was passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No



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3. CLAIMS

3.1 **GSD Claims Numbers: 2899 through 3055, in the amount of \$1,069,982.30**

Overview: Finance Manager Jerome Foster recommended approval and ratification of the GSD Claims.

Chairman Mabon called for the Board pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 3.1. Commissioner Jackson gave the motion to approve. The motion for approval and ratification of GSD Claims Numbers 2899 – 3055 was seconded by Commissioner Lyles and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

4. INFORMATION UPDATES

4.1 **Plant Superintendent Updates**

Rhonda Anderson, Plant Superintendent, provided the Board with an update:

Major Projects

- Grit Project
- HMI Project – Factory Acceptance Testing

Maintenance

- Emergency repairs on the Center Mudwell Pump has been completed and it is back in service. Repairs of the North Mudwell pump are in progress and we expect it back this week.
- One of the sodium bisulfite pumps failed and was replaced by GSD staff.
- The South Pump in the East RAS Building has been completed and is back in service.
- The check valve on the South Pump in West RAS has been replaced.

4.2 **Construction Activity Updates**

Eric Tonk, GSD Resident Engineer, provided Construction Activity Updates:

PROJECT: AERATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Current Work: Execution of the Certificate of Final Completion

Planned Work: Purchase new Air Flow Meters

PROJECT: GRIT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Current Work: Construction Trailer has been removed. Walk through was conducted on October 10th with 18 items still remaining.

Planned Work: Completion of Punch List items and project close-out with the ACOE

PROJECT: 27TH AND CHASE PUMP STATION FORCE MAIN REPLACE, PH 2 PROJECT

Current Work: Contractor has mobilized and began installing new force main near 25th & Chase St.

Planned Work: Continue with the installation of piping near 25th & Chase. Work will continue heading north on Chase Street toward 23rd Avenue.



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PROJECT: LAKE STREET PUMP STATION FORCEMAIN RELOCATION

Current Work: Completion of Punch List.

Planned Work: Close out of Project.

PROJECT: LAKE STREET DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

Current Work: Installation of storm water chambers is continuing near 3rd Avenue going towards Birch Avenue and also between Birch Avenue and Hemlock Avenue. Utility relocations have been completed and work is continuing.

Planned Work: Continue with the installation of storm water chambers and prepare the surface for asphaltting.

PROJECT: 27TH & CHASE PUMP STATION BAR SCREEN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Current Work: Pre-Construction Meeting was held. Measurements were taken and the bar screens were being manufactured. Bar screens will be delivered by the end of December.

Planned Work: Electrical work to begin to prepare for the installation of the bar screen.

4.3 Community Engagement Updates

Todd McCain, Community Engagement Director, provided the Board with updates:

- A GSD/GYY *Air & Water Tour* will take place on 10/24 with Lake Ridge Middle School

4.4 American Structurepoint, Inc.

John Tucker, American Structurepoint, Inc., (ASI) provided the Board with updates:

- Force Main at 27th & Chase Street, Phase 2: Underground work currently being done

4.4 CDM Smith, Inc.

Matthew Bednarski, CDM Smith's Client Service Leader, provided the Board with updates:

- As pertaining to the 27th & Chase Bar Screen: A call is scheduled with the contractor (FH Paschen) regarding the H₂S (Hydrogen Sulfide). The contractor is asking for an additional \$8,500 to proceed with going into the work area.

Chairman Vicari recommended sending a letter of termination to FH Paschen if the work is not started within two (2) weeks; and also asking Contractor if work could be done if the additional \$8,500 is not given.

- The DOJ is in receipt of the letter pertaining to GSD's Alternative Analysis & Recommended Plan Report. A meeting has been scheduled.
- IDEM hosted an Open House on September 28th at Gibson Woods Nature Center for restoration efforts within the Grand Calumet River Area of Concern (AOC) and Ralston Street Lagoon.



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- 27th and Chase HVAC & 15th and Clay Grit: Still awaiting a response from IFA (Indiana Finance Authority) regarding project funding.

5. DISCUSSION

- Attorney Harris stated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds are not available to subsidize trash collection fees.
- Commissioner Mabon asked when is the 504 Customer Service Center expected to re-open to the public.
Response: Customer Service Manager Tamra Clark stated the office is presently not ready to re-open as there are areas relating to hardware/software to be addressed first. Chairman Vicari asked Executive Director Anderson to follow-up with Ms. Clark on the needs of 504's Office for re-opening.
- Commissioner Lyles inquired with Kara Burns, Human Resource Manager about GSD's 13 vacant positions.
Response: Ms. Burns stated GSD receives applicant information yet some don't follow through with showing up for the interviews.

6. REQUEST TO SPEAK

- Stephen Johnson, 8201 Lakewood, Gary, IN
Mr. Johnson wanted to address the Board (previously addressed the Board-June 2023) to inquire the status of the Notice of Claim previously submitted.

Attorney Harris stated he had reviewed the Claim and would speak with Mr. Johnson personally after this meeting to set-up a date/time to discuss.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:52AM.



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ADOPTED BY THE BOARD DURING THE MEETING ON:

11/06/2023

DocuSigned by:

Daniel F. Vicari

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Daniel F. Vicari, President

DocuSigned by:

Ola V. Morris

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Ola V. Morris, Secretary

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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