



MINUTES OF THE GARY SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON **NOVEMBER 20, 2023**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

DATE: Monday, November 20, 2023
TIME: 11:00AM
LOCATION: GSD, Boardroom

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ABSENT MEMBERS

OTHERS PRESENT

Nick Snow, Attorney - *Harris Law Firm*
Rhonda Anderson, Executive Director
Jerome Foster, Finance Manager

OTHERS ABSENT

I. Call to Order: 11:00AM by Chairman Vicari

Chairman Vicari began the Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll-Call. He then stated prior to the start of the November 20, 2023 Board Meeting, there was NO Executive Session held.

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1. MINUTES

As per the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2023, Chairman Vicari called for the Board to make a motion for approving the minutes.

Commission Morris gave the motion to approve/accept the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2023, with any/all noted corrections. The motion for approval of the minutes was seconded by Commissioner Jackson and passed without dissent.

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

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.1 A Motion to Approve GSD's Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: October 9, 2023 through October 22, 2023, in the amount of \$246,410.03.

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

Chairman Vicari called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.1. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve and Ratify GSD's Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: October 9, 2023 through October 22, 2023 was seconded by Commissioner Morris and passed/approved.

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

2.2 A Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No.: SD23-13, Ratifying the Salaries and Wages for the Employees of the Gary Sanitary District for Calendar Year 2022.

Overview: Executive Director Anderson stated the GSD Board of Commissioners previously approved and adopted the Budget and total amount of Salaries and Wages for the GSD for calendar year 2022, but a Resolution was not adopted.

Chairman Vicari called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.2. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSD Resolution No.: SD23-13, Ratifying the Salaries and Wages for the Employees of the Gary Sanitary District for Calendar Year 2022 was seconded by Commissioner Lyles and passed/approved.

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

2.3 A Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No.: SD23-14, Amending GSD Resolution No.: SD23-02 by Ratifying the Salaries and Wages for the Employees of the Gary Sanitary District for Calendar Year 2023.

Overview: Executive Director Anderson stated the GSD Board of Commissioners previously approved and adopted the Budget and total amount of Salaries and Wages for the GSD for calendar year 2023, but a Resolution was not adopted.



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Chairman Vicari called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.3. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSD Resolution No.: SD23-14, Ratifying the Salaries and Wages for the Employees of the Gary Sanitary District for Calendar Year 2023 was seconded by Commissioner Lyles and passed/approved.

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

2.4 A Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No.: SD23-15, Ratifying the Salaries and Wages for the Employees of the Gary Sanitary District for Calendar Year 2024.

Overview: Executive Director Anderson asked for GSD Agenda Item 2.4 to be deferred.

Chairman Vicari called for the Board's pleasure with respect to DEFERRING GSD Agenda Item 2.4. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve DEFERRAL. The motion to DEFER GSD Resolution No.: SD23-15, Ratifying the Salaries and Wages for the Employees of the Gary Sanitary District for Calendar Year 2024 was seconded by Commissioner Lyles and passed/approved.

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

3. CLAIMS

3.1 GSD Claims Numbers: 3235 through 3288, in the amount of \$79,826.46

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

Question: Commissioner Mabon asked if the reason the claims amount was lower than usual related to the letter received from the incoming Mayor.

Response: Finance Manager Foster said the lower amount has nothing to do with the referenced letter received. The low amount relates to timing of input/processing; and a larger claims list will be made available for the next meeting.

Question: Commissioner Mabon asked if GSD plans to give staff Merit Pay in calendar year 2023. Asked if the Merit Pay was tied into Cease/Desist Orders given by the incoming administration

Response: Chairman Vicari stated that is a process that will happen at the end of the year. Executive Director Anderson concurred by stating Evaluations are currently being conducted for year-end Merit Pay.

Response: Commissioner Lyles stated there is nothing written in the Indiana Code that mandates a Board having to abide by orders for an incoming official. According to Indiana Code Title 36, a Mayor-Elect has no powers until Mayor-Elect actually becomes Mayor; and it would/could give a look of malfeasance if our Board were to follow orders of incoming administration prior to the term starts.



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Chairman Vicari called for the Board pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 3.1. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve. The motion for approval and ratification of GSD Claims Numbers 3235 – 3288 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

- HMI Project

Operations:

- Plant Performance

Maintenance:

- Intermediate Tank #6 has been cleaned and repaired and it is back in service. Rake arms
- The control panel was installed on Autosampler 38.0 and it is back in service.
- Programming changes were made to filter influent valves to prevent faulting when in backwash mode.
- Show/Tell of the Membranes

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: Waiting on response on how to close out project properly

PROJECT: GRIT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Current Work: Delivery of Spare Parts and Inventory. Warranty issue on level sensor on East Grit.

Planned Work: Delivery of Final 9 Punch List Items. All being paper work. Project close out w/ ACOE.

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

Current Work: Clean up site and prepare roadway for winter project

Planned Work: Button up site for winter

PROJECT: LAKE STREET PUMP STATION FORCEMAIN RELOCATION

Current Work: Completion of Certificate of Final Completion and Release of Retainage paper work.

Planned Work: Close out of Project.

PROJECT: LAKE STREET DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

Current Work: Asphalt base layers installation.



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Planned Work: Preparing roadways for winter usage. Project to continue in Spring 2024.

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

Current Work: Electrical demolition and digging of trench for electrical bank.

Planned Work: Prepare for the demolition of one of the bar screens.

Question: Commissioner Mabon asked who is First Street Contractors?

Response: Eric Tonk responded that First Street Contractors is a joint-venture by which a few contracting parties joined a partnership to bid on an ACOE job.

Question: Commissioner Mabon asked about the GLEM Project (HVAC Project/27th & Chase) by which the sub-contractor is be awarded 62% of the project value. Is it traditional to give 62% of the project's value to a sub-contractor?

Response: Eric Tonk stated it may not be traditional, however, jobs have been awarded in this way in the past; and GLEM was the lowest bidder.

Question: Commissioner Lyles stated during the last meeting, the Board had been told there were no other minority HVAC contractors within the City of Gary, however there is another company called Mechanical Concepts (Miller) and why is it they were not asked to bid on the job.

Response: Chairman Vicari stated Mechanical Concepts has been given the opportunity to bid on jobs at GSD and they have only bid on one (1) job.

4.3 **Community Engagement**

Todd McCain provided the Board with updates:

- Compliance:

- Lake Street Project/Grimmer Construction
Three (3) of the eight (8) employees are Gary residents
- West 37th Avenue Project/Alex Metz Sewers
One (1) of the four (4) employees is a Gary resident
An email was sent to Alex Metz Sewers to abide by hiring practices for obtaining Gary residents
- 800 Montgomery Street Project/Alex Metz Sewers
One (1) of the four (4) employees is a Gary resident
An email was sent to Alex Metz Sewers to abide by hiring practices for obtaining Gary residents

Question: Commissioner Mabon stated he feels the math is inaccurate in the reporting submittal.



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- Tours
 - o Hobart High School postponed the student tour as students with inadequate grades are not allowed to participate in away from school activities.
 - o Lake Ridge Middle School (7th graders) tour was successfully
 - o Serviced 115 students in Year 2023

4.3 American Structurepoint, Inc.

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

- 27th & Chase Project: Being winterized
- Lake Street Force Main:
Punchlist items have been resolved. The final paperwork is being completed now.
A deduction change order is forthcoming

4.4 CDM Smith, Inc.

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

- 27th & Chase Street Bar Screen Project is being funding by IFA via SRF
Will be talking further with the State for future funding for future projects

5. DISCUSSION

Commissioner Mabon gave thanks to all Veterans (belated Veteran's Day)

6. REQUEST TO SPEAK

- Ron Matlock:
Would like to reiterate his feelings pertaining City of Gary landlords being responsible for outstanding sewer billing left by tenants.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:39AM.



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ADOPTED BY THE BOARD DURING THE MEETING ON:

12/04/2023

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

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