



MINUTES OF THE GARY SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON **JUNE 17, 2024**

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**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

**DATE:** Monday, June 17, 2024  
**TIME:** 12:00PM, cst  
**LOCATION:** GSD, Boardroom

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

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

William L. Allen, President  
Ola V. Morris, Vice President  
Maurice G. Mabon, Secretary/Treasurer  
William Cook, Member

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**ABSENT MEMBERS**

Darnail Lyles, Member

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**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jewell Harris, Jr., Attorney – *Harris Law Firm*  
Brenda Scott-Henry, Interim Director/Adm.  
Jerome Foster, Finance Manager

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**OTHERS ABSENT**

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**I. Call to Order: 12:14PM** by Chairman Allen

Chairman Allen began the Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll-Call. He then stated prior to the start of the June 17, 2024 Board Meeting, there was an 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 Statutes, there were no final votes held during the Executive Session. Chairman Allen asked if any Board member dissented to the certification. Hearing none, he proceeded with the meeting.

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**1. MINUTES**

Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve/accept the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of June 3, 2024, with any/all noted corrections. The motion for approval of the minutes was seconded by Commissioner Cook 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: May 6, 2024 through May 19, 2024, in the amount of \$253,278.93.**

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

Chairman Allen 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: May 6, 2024 through May 19, 2024 was seconded by Commissioner Cook and passed/approved.

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

Question: Commissioner Mabon asked (of Jerome Foster) if there has been discussion and/or polling of staff to determine the consensus of payment of employee longevity pay. Ex: If staff likes the longevity being paid as is, which is equally split and paid within each pay period throughout the year; or if it is more to the staff's liking to be compensated in one (1) lump sum.

Response: Jerome Foster stated he has not polled any staff concerning longevity as it is currently paid equally over 26 pays per calendar year.

Response: Attorney Harris stated the longevity, for covered employees, is a negotiated item via the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Collective Bargaining Agreement's (CBA) process. The discussion of longevity will be discussed soon as there is a newly proposed AFSCME CBA to be negotiated.

**2.2 A Motion to Approve an Award of Bid to LGS Plumbing, Inc., for the Sanitary Sewer Repair at the vicinity of 2437 Delaware Street, in an amount not-to-exceed \$67,290.00.**

Overview: Interim Director Scott-Henry recommended approval of GSD Agenda Item 2.2; and asked Interim Director of Plant Operations (and Director of Engineering) Kola Awosika to provide a brief overview.

Director of Engineering / Interim Director of Plant Operations Kola Awosika stated the existing combined sewer has lost its structural integrity causing a cave-in of the alley and allowing infiltration



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of sand and groundwater. The surface cave-in is a vehicle and pedestrian hazard. The Engineering Department solicited quotes from 12 contractors; receiving two (2) responses. LGS Plumbing (Crown Point) was the lowest responsive, responsible bidder at \$67,290.00.

Chairman Allen 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 an Award of Bid to LGS Plumbing, Inc., for the Sanitary Sewer Repair at the vicinity of 2437 Delaware Street was seconded by Commissioner Cook and passed/approved.

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

**2.3 A Motion to Approve the Purchase of the Annual Microsoft Volume Licensing (for computers and servers) from Insight Public Sector, in an amount not-to-exceed \$86,785.53.**

Overview: Interim Director Scott-Henry recommended GSD Agenda Item 2.3 be deferred.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to DEFERRING GSD Agenda Item 2.3. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approving to DEFER. The Motion to approve DEFERRING the Purchase of the Annual Microsoft Volume Licensing from Insight Public Sector was seconded by Commissioner Cook and passed/approved.

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

**3. CLAIMS**

**3.1 GSD Claims Numbers: 1558 through 1645, in the amount of \$904,958.46**

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

Chairman Allen 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 1558 – 1645 was seconded by Commissioner Cook and passed/approved.

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

**4. INFORMATION UPDATES**

**4.1 Plant Activities** – Kola Awosika, Interim Director of Plant Operations / Director of Engineering, provided the Board with updates of Plant Activity:

- Attempting to make improvements to flow capacity of GSD's system as well as addressing IDEM violations within the plant
- Working inhouse to put Tank #10 back in service
- Making improvements to solids handling
- Working to put Digester #4 back online
- Digesters #7 and #10 are back online



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**4.2 Construction Activity Updates**

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

PROJECT: 27<sup>TH</sup> & CHASE PUMP STATION BAR SCREEN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Current Work: Electrical Panel installation and connecting to installed West Bar Screen and began wiring for the East Bar Screen.

Planned Work: Cleaning of East Pit to prepare for removal and installation of East Screen. East Bar Screen installation will begin on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

PROJECT: LAKE STREET DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

Current Work: Hardscape work between 3rd Ave and Birch Ave is being completed. Hardscape and road paving between Cypress and Hemlock has started.

Planned Work: Underground work to continue north of Hemlock once the bridge work is completed. Installation of Sidewalk and Bike Path north of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue once pedestrian bridge is completed for the National Lakeshore.

PROJECT: 27<sup>TH</sup> & CHASE STREET PUMP STATION FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT, PHASE II

Current Work: Site preparation for construction season. Closing of intersection.

Planned Work: Mobilization begins on June 20<sup>th</sup>

PROJECT: GRIT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Current Work: Certificate of Submittal Completion has been approved by the ACOE. Purchase spare Grit Pump Motor from Contractor as part of negotiations has been completed.

Planned Work: Litigation is underway regarding liquidated damages.

**4.3 American Structurepoint, Inc.**

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

**5. DISCUSSION**

There were no discussion items.

**6. REQUEST TO SPEAK**

There were no requests to speak.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:52PM.



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**ADOPTED BY THE BOARD DURING THE MEETING ON:**

07/01/2024

DocuSigned by:

*William L. Allen*

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**William L. Allen, President**

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*Maurice G. Mabon*

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**Maurice G. Mabon, Secretary**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

- William L. Allen, President
- Ola V. Morris, Vice-President
- Maurice G. Mabon, Secretary
- Darnail Lyles, Member
- William Cook, Member