

# MINUTES OF THE **EXECUTIVE SESSION** FOR **GARY SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** HELD ON **NOVEMBER 18, 2019** AT 10:00AM – 3600 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> 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:

Tramel Raggs, President
Maurice G. Mabon, Vice-President
Ola V. Morris, Secretary
Charles W. Jackson, Jr., Member
Daniel F. Vicari, Executive Director
Vern E. White, Director of Administration
Jewell Harris, Jr., Attorney
Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson

- 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



### **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

DATE:	Monday, November 18, 2019	TYPE:	Regular Meeting	
TIME:	10:00AM	NOTICE PROVIDED IN ADVANCE:	YES	
LOCATION:	GSD, Board Room	QUORUM:	YES	
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT		ABSENT MEMBERS		
Tramel Raggs,	President			
Maurice G. Mabon, Vice-President				
Ola V. Morris,	Secretary			
Charles W. Jackson, Jr., Member				
OTHERS PRESENT		OTHERS ABSENT		
Daniel F. Vicar	i, Executive Director			
Vern E. White,	Director of Administration			
Jewell Harris, Jr., Attorney				

Call to Order: 10:20 AM by Commissioner Raggs

Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson

Commissioner Raggs began the Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll Call. He then certified that prior to the November 18, 2019 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 November 4, 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 November 4, 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 (o)-No

#### 2. NEW BUSINESS

2a. A Motion to Approve GSD's Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: October 14, 2019 thru October 27, 2019, in the amount of \$241,114.12.

<u>Overview</u>: 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 Jackson gave the motion to approve. The motion for approval of the GSD's Payroll Earnings (October 14, 2019 thru October 27, 2019) was seconded by Commissioner Mabon and passed/approved.

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

2b. A Motion to Approve and Ratify GSD Resolution No. SD19-08, Authorizing Closing Out and Transferring Various GSD TrustIndiana Dormant Bank Accounts to GSD Centier General Operating Fund (670) and GSD Equipment Replacement Fund (435).

<u>Overview</u>: Director of Administration Vern White stated the smaller balances are being transferred from TrustIndiana and being consolidated into GSD Centier accounts in the amount of \$34,780.87.

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 and Ratify GSD Resolution No. SD19-08, Authorizing Closing Out and Transferring Various GSD TrustIndiana Dormant Bank Accounts to GSD Centier General Operating Fund (670) and GSD Equipment Replacement Fund (435) was seconded by Commissioner Morris and passed/approved.

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

2c. A Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No. SD19-09, Authorizing and Transferring Funds from GSD Equipment Replacement Fund (435) Investment Account to GSD Equipment Replacement Fund (435) Non-Investment Account.

<u>Overview</u>: Director of Administration Vern White stated due to the influx of Projects and Claims to be paid from GSD's Equipment Replacement (435) Non-Investment Account, \$500,000.00 is being transferred to have adequate funding in the account for vendor payments.

Director of Administration Vern White 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 GSD Resolution No. SD19-09 was seconded by Commissioner Morris and passed/approved.

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

2d. A Motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Alex Metz Sewers, for an Emergency Sanitary Sewer Repair (Alternate No. 1 Point Repair) at the vicinity of 1301 Garfield Street, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$86,100.00.

<u>Overview</u>: Executive Director Vicari stated the cave-in at the vicinity of 1301 Garfield Street resulted in a major cave-in. Quotes were solicited from 12 contractors; with three (3) contractors responding. Ultimately, Alex Metz Sewers was deemed to be the lowest responsive, responsible bidder as



Grimmer Construction WAS the lowest responsive, responsible bidder yet couldn't commit due to timing as this job was deemed an emergency – hence, the job being awarded to Alex Metz Sewers. The repair has been completed and the street/location is being back-filled.

Executive Director Vicari 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 Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Alex Metz Sewers for a Sanitary Sewer Repair at the vicinity of 1301 Garfield Street was seconded by Commissioner Jackson and passed/approved.

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

2e. A Motion to Approve an Award of Bid to Area Plumbing & Sewers, for the Purchase and Installation of an Emergency Bypass System for the Marshalltown Pumping Station, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$22,800.00.

<u>Overview</u>: Executive Director Vicari stated in order of priority of risk, GSD's lift stations are being inventoried for the need of Emergency Bypass Systems. The Bypass System allows for GSD to hook-up its trailer-mounted pump at a pumping station experiencing a power failure and hook-up our generator-driven pump to the station for the purpose of the station to not cause basement back-ups in the area. Quotes were solicited from various contractors, with three (3) contractors responding: Area Plumbing, Alex Metz Sewers and LGS Plumbing. Area Plumbing & Sewers was the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

Executive Director Vicari recommended approval of Agenda Item 2e.

Commissioner Raggs called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2e. Commissioner Jackson gave the motion to approve. The Motion to Approve an Award of Bid to Area Plumbing & Sewers for the Purchase and Installation of an Emergency Bypass System for the Marshalltown Pumping Station was seconded by Commissioner Mabon and passed/approved.

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

2f. A Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No. SD19-10, Authorizing the Refunding of the GSD Revenue Bonds, Series 2011A.

Executive Director Vicari asked for Attorney Jewell Harris, Jr. to provide an Overview of Agenda Item 2f.

<u>Overview</u>: Attorney Harris stated in Year 2011, the Gary Sanitary District issued several revenue bonds. The current balance of said bonds is in excess of \$20 Million. The rates for said bonds fluctuates between 5.05% - 5.5% interest rates. At present, the market is good and GSD has the opportunity to refund (refinance) said bonds at rates ranging between 2.86% and 2.93%. It is



estimated if the Board takes action to refund (refinance) said bonds, the District could save in access of \$2 Million.

Attorney Harris recommended approval of Agenda Item 2f.

Question:

Commissioner Jackson asks if better rates (than what is being proposed) were to become available, would GSD being in a position to maneuver to the better rates.

Response:

Attorney Harris stated GSD does have the right to refinance (again) should the rates become better than what is current in the market. If the Board approves GSD Resolution No. SD19-10, there should be a closing within 30 days. Rates can, however, fluctuated within the 30 days. If the market fluctuates to a point where there it is not beneficial to GSD to accept the rates (at the time of closing), then GSD

has the right to not move forward with the closing.

Commissioner Raggs called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2f. Commissioner Mabon gave the motion to approve. The Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No. SD19-10, Authorizing the Refunding of the GSD Revenue Bonds, Series 2011A was seconded by Commissioner Morris and passed/approved.

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

#### CLAIMS

#### GSD Claims Numbers: 4406 thru 4565, in the amount of \$1,335,137.36 **3a.**

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 4406 thru 4565 was seconded by Commissioner Jackson and passed/approved. The vote: Four (4)-Ayes / Zero (o)-No

### 4. INFORMATION UPDATES

#### **Plant Superintendent** 4a.

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

Overview:

General

- Congratulations was extended to Durwin Fletcher for passing the Wastewater Operator Certification Class IV.
  - Durwin Fletcher's Class IV Operator Certification now allows for GSD to have 12 Operators (out of 13) to hold a Class IV Wastewater Certification License. The one (1) remaining operator without the Class IV Certification is fairly new to the



Operations Department and his years of service/operator experience (has only been an Operator for approximately 6 months) doesn't allow him to yet qualify for the Class IV Certification (Number 13 has already passed the Class III Certification Exam). Number 13 will take the Class IV Certification Exam as soon as he qualifies (years of service/operator experience).

- Members of the Indiana Water Environment Association (IWEA) Operations & Maintenance (O & M) Committee are in the process of reviewing abstracts for the Core Conference to be held in Greenwood, Indiana in March 2020.
- On November 8<sup>th</sup>, GSD met with CDM Smith Inc. to discuss the 30% design for the Boiler Replacement.
- The October 2019 Northwest Indiana Operators Association (NWIOA) meeting was hosted by Michigan City, Indiana on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The Technical Presentation was conducted by Mike Kuss (Michigan City Sanitary District Director). The presentation was "Partnership: The Key to Pollution Prevention and Environment Sustainability".

### Operations

- Disinfection season ended on October 31<sup>st</sup> - - with no effluent limit *E.coli* violations.

### Maintenance

- The west belt filter press conveyor (in Dewatering Building) has been repaired by GSD staff.
- The 6.0 auto-sampler was repaired.
- Rags (enough to fill a 6-yard container) dumped into the sewer / collection system (somewhere within the collections system) were removed by the trash rack and bar screens.
- Progress continues to be made by Maintenance Department in the No. 9 Primary Tank currently replacing chains and flights.

### NIPSCO Rebate Information

- It has been confirmed that NIPSCO accepted GSD's application for the energy incentive offer for the Aeration Project.

REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



### 4b. Construction Activities

Eric Tonk provided the Board with updates on GSD Spring 2019 Construction Activities: *Overview*:

- Clark Road Improvements Project:
  - One (1) punch-list items to complete (still awaiting NIPSCO needs to lower a valve).
- Ambridge Neighborhood Sewer Rehabilitation Project:
  - The sewer lines are being prepped for lining. Three (3) sections were discovered to be in need of point-repair. Strategy is currently being done for solutions.
- Lake Street Road Construction Project:
  - Concrete is currently being poured. Other bare areas will be filled in with gravel.
    The parking lot at old Ming Ling will be asphalted this week.
- WWTP Paving Project:
  - Project is completed. Awaiting documents for Substantial Completion and Retainage.
- Forest Avenue & Locust Street Project:
  - Paving delayed due to unexpected cold weather. Project should be completed by year's end.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue Taft to Ellsworth Project:
  - Paving delayed due to unexpected cold weather. Project should be completed by year's end.

Question:

Commissioner Jackson asked if the asphalt companies were still open.

Response:

Eric Tonk stated the asphalt companies are still open and should remain open until sometime in December.

### 4c. Compliance Department

Tammi Davis provided the Board with updates relative to the Compliance Department and its activities:

- The Compliance Department participated in a Trades Workshop hosted by the Indiana Plan.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Construction and Skilled Trades Day will be held on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> –
  8:00am 2:00pm, Lake County Fairgrounds Industrial Building, 889 S. Court Street, Crown Point, Indiana.
- The U.S. Small Business Administration will hold a "how-to" event for the marketing of buying goods and services from small business. Event will be held on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> 10:00am 11:30am, Purdue Technology Center of NWI, 9800 Connecticut Drive, Crown Point, Indiana.

### 5. DISCUSSION

There were no discussion items.



### 6. REQUEST TO SPEAK

There was no one present requesting to speak.

### 7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:56AM

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD DURING THE MEETING ON:
12/02/2019
Commence of the second of the
Tramel Raggs, President
Ola O. Mossia
Ola V. Morris, Secretary

### **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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