

Gull Lake Sewer & Water Authority

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MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 8, 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Authority Board Meeting

1:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL: Chairperson Harma called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Commissioners present were Lysanne Harma, Jimmy Stoneburner, Barry Bower, and Christina Hutchings. Also present were Executive Director John Crumb, Executive Assistant Anne Richmond, Engineer Paul Schram, Village of Augusta Manager Jeff Heppler, Cooper Township Supervisor Jeff Sorensen, Rate Consultant Andy Campbell and Attorney Rob Thall. Also present were several area residents.

REVIEW AND SET THE AGENDA: Stoneburner made the motion to set the Agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Hutchings. Motion carried; all ayes.

HEAR THOSE PRESENT (Non-Agenda Items): Citizen comment began at 1:35 p.m. Several area residents spoke regarding possible future plans for a water system around Gull Lake and requested more communication and transparency from the GLSWA Board. Citizen comment ended at 2:05 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Crumb explained to the Board that the Pole Barn boiler was improperly installed, and the original installer refused to fix it. Other contractors made the repairs, and these costs will be submitted to the original installer for payment.

AT&T submitted a Demand and Claim for Damages to GLSWA. GLSWA has denied this in full. Attorney involvement may be required to obtain a credit memo.

GLSWA assisted with the resolution of a sewer blockage at 462 South Gull Lake Drive and obtained a drawing of the sewer location for future reference.

Commissioner Stoneburner stated that the GLSWA Board is listening to the Water Advisory Committee and is not trying to drive anything. The Water Advisory Committee will report to the GLSWA Board.

A motion was made by Stoneburner and seconded by Bower to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carried; all ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

Rate & Fee Analysis

Presentation/Motion

Andy Campbell with Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors reviewed a rate study for GLSWA recommending a rate increase to \$120 per quarter for 2022/2023. Engineer Schram discussed the Capital Improvement Plan that was used for the study and emphasized the need to be proactive and replace assets prior to failure. Campbell noted the other main drivers of a rate increase: GLSWA Designated Cash and Investments has been going down, GLSWA has rate exposure to two large commercial customers, and the City of Kalamazoo is increasing treatment costs and that is 40% of GLSWA's budget. An unknown at this time is the funding/cashflow for the mandatory Sherman Lake sewer connections.

Andy Campbell will submit a memo to GLSWA recommending a sewer connection charge of \$2,955.

The rate increase and new sewer connection charge will be brought to the January GLSWA Board Meeting for approval.

Liability Insurance Renewal

Motion

Crumb provided the EMC liability insurance renewal proposal for Board review and recommended approval. A motion was made by Bower and seconded by Hutchings to accept EMC's insurance proposal and renew insurance coverage with EMC. **Motion carried; all ayes.**

Hi-Tech Phone Recommendation

Motion

GLSWA's IT provider, Hi-Tech, recommended a new phone system for GLSWA and provided a proposal. A motion was made by Hutchings and seconded by Stoneburner to approve the proposal for the new phone system. **Motion carried; all ayes.**

Sherman Lake Sewer

Discussion

A special meeting will be scheduled for January 11, 2022 to communicate information regarding Sherman Lake sewer connection.

Cooper Township Resolution

Motion

A motion was made by Hutchings and seconded by Stoneburner to engage Attorney Thall to meet with Cooper Township's attorney to work out an agreement for Cooper Township to join the Authority and transfer certain sewer assets to the Authority.

Motion carried; all ayes.

M96 Pipe Rehab Update

Discussion/Motion

There is additional paperwork that needs to be filled out and a check needs to be mailed for a permit fee. A motion was made by Hutchings and seconded by Stoneburner to approve sending a check for \$9,360 for the permit fee. **Motion carried; all ayes.**

OLD BUSINESS: On Going

Projected

Crumb reviewed the updated Master List.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Crumb reported that he was able to obtain great trade-in value for GLSWA's used trucks and came in \$8,000 under budget for the new truck purchases net of trade-ins. Crumb informed the Board that there was a sewer backing on 32nd Street as a result of RCKC work and GLSWA will be rebilling RCKC for any expenses incurred to resolve the situation.

Crumb informed the Board that the Gapvax delivery has been further delayed.

ADJOURN.

Bower made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Hutchings.

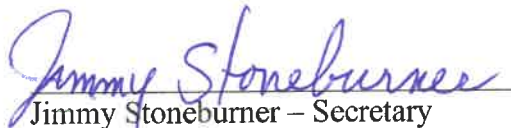
Motion carried; all ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021 1:30 P.M.

Submitted for approval


Jimmy Stoneburner – Secretary