Gull Lake Sewer & Water Authority

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MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 29, 2012 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Authority Board Meeting

1:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL: Chairman Bither called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. Commissioners present were Jeff Bither, Jackie Light, Jimmy Stoneburner and Wes Kahler. None Absent. Also present were Director Rich Pierson, Administrative Assistant Anne Richmond, Engineer Tom Wheat, and Richland Township Supervisor Alan Bussema.

REVIEW AND SET THE AGENDA: Stoneburner made the motion to accept the Agenda as presented with an update on Bay Arbor under New Business. Motion was seconded by Light. **Motion carried; all ayes.**

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 25, 2012 REGULAR MEETING: A motion was made by Kahler and seconded by Light to accept the regular meeting minutes of October 25, 2012 as presented. <u>Motion carried; all ayes</u>.

HEAR THOSE PRESENT (Non-Agenda Items): None Present.

CORRESPONDENCE: Pierson reviewed the following correspondence:

Percival-Burnham-Cooper Twp 5273 Wayne Street
The sump pump at 5273 Wayne Street was reconnected to the sewer without
GLSWA's knowledge due to a fuel oil spill 9 months after being disconnected.
Pierson reviewed correspondence regarding this situation. We have been withholding invoicing the homeowner for the estimated excess water until a determination can be made if the water is now "clean" and can be turned back outside (disconnected) without negative impact to the surrounding soils. Engineer Wheat stated that the DEQ needs to make this determination.

DEQ Letter to Mr. Percival 5273 Wayne Street Pierson reviewed the DEQ citation letter to Mr. Percival regarding the fuel oil spill.

Ms. Bedford-6291 N. 37th Street Request to Disconnect Pierson reviewed a summary of a 10/25/2012 phone discussion and emails with Ms. Bedford regarding her request to disconnect from the sewer and receive a refund of the fees she has paid.

Health Dept. Letter to Ms. Bedford Request to Disconnect Pierson reviewed a Memorandum from the Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services informing Ms. Bedford that after reviewing the barn facilities, they have no objection to her request to disconnect from the sewer.

Cook – Interlochen Sump Pump Attorney Letter
Ms. Cook's Attorney, Mr. James Durant, sent a letter to the Authority requesting that
the Authority inform the Cooks in writing of any intended public disclosure of
information concerning their property to businesses, associations, or individuals prior
to doing so. *Pierson will respond with review from legal counsel*.

DeLong – 12158 Sherman Lake Drive Quote to Connect Mr. DeLong was provided a Good Faith Estimate to connect to the sewer. We are uncertain if Mr. DeLong will connect.

Boyle – No Address Given Request for Clarification on Sump Pumps Doyce Boyle requested clarification on whether air conditioner water discharge is permitted to go to the sewer. Pierson responded that it is.

UTILITY SERVICE REPORTS

New format not yet active – Antero Maintenance Software Installed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Bedford – 6291 N. 37th Street Follow-up Discussion
Pierson informed the Board that he met with Ms. Bedford on November 28, 2012 and she presented a proposed settlement. *Pierson to further discuss the matter with Attorney Sparks and inform the Authority's Insurance carrier of a potential claim.*This will be discussed again at the December 20, 2012 Board Meeting.

Mid-Year Staff Reviews + Discussion Review of Annual Discussion with Staff Pierson presented to the Board the Mid-Year Staff Performance and Evaluation Review he had prepared and discussed where he believes the organization is headed. This will be discussed further in 2013 and he welcomed the Board's input.

Joint Utility Mgmt Conference Pierson Request to Attend Pierson requested Board approval to attend the 2013 Utility Management Conference on March 10 -13, 2013. Stoneburner made the motion to authorize Pierson to attend the Joint Utility Management Conference for a cost not to exceed \$2,000. Motion was seconded by Kahler. Motion carried; all ayes.

Bay Arbor

Call from Title Agency

Pierson noted it appeared Bay Arbor may be moving toward foreclosure. GLSWA currently has an outstanding Sewer Construction Contract for this property.

PROJECT UPDATE:

D. Avenue West Project

Information Meeting in January

There was an opportunity for Richland Village to obtain MDOT funds for the D. Avenue West Sewer Project. The design is completed and shovel ready, but the Village has not gone through the informational meeting/assessment process. Pierson suggested for Village Council consideration that it might be appropriate for GLSWA to mail out information based on a "target special assessment" of \$7,000 and hold an informational meeting for the D. Avenue residents providing the Council feedback from the affected property owners so that the Village could commit to a project should funds become available again. Pierson and Lewis (P/N) presented the road and sewer issues at the June 2012 Richland Village Council Meeting. The informational meeting will probably not be until January 2013. The funds would not be available until October of 2013.

37th Street Repaving

Update

This has been completed. The forcemain was protected at the creek, 6 manholes were raised and the ditch has been added at our entrance.

Lift Station Guide Rail Replacement Project Update

Lift Station #5 was done on 9/20; #16 yet to be done this year? Others will be done as budget, time + staffing allow.

Office Construction Items

Update

Main entrance sign + minor landscaping. Pierson working on permit; to be completed by Spring.

OLD BUSINESS: ACTIVE

Fred Einspahr, 4880 EGLD 2006 Connection Missed a Primary 4" Pipe Restoration has been completed at Authority expense. An email was sent to Mr. Einspahr informing him of Pierson's recommendation that there would be no reimbursement to him for Roto Rooter.

Snelling – 8307 Harvest

FYI - Settlement Accepted

The Snellings accepted the proposed settlement.

Groundwater – Clean Water Elimination Issues, Policy, and Procedure Discussion Pierson to continue to develop policy recommendations going forward and will be meeting with Sparks regarding recommended ordinance modifications.

Connection Inspections + 4" Pipe Inspections Sale of Home Requirement There are approximately 800 homes around Gull Lake that were connected to sewer prior to inspections by GLSWA (1993 to present). The state plumbing division inspectors performed, based on our knowledge, only cursory inspections. We have found multiple significant deficiencies in these un-inspected connections recently (and historically). Pierson is contemplating a recommendation that the municipalities within the Authority district require each home sold in our district to have a complete camera inspection of the private building sewer, beginning within the home to the tap at the street. Such a policy would protect buyers from having problems and from contingent liability for the Authority that may occur, plus it would identify sump pumps, gravity stormwater connections and 4" pipes that have infiltration evident. *Pierson to continue to develop policy recommendations going forward*.

Software – GIS – M-Power – Scanning Review Update
NSI was ordered but not paid for due to issues between Konica-Minolta and the software providers as we completed the scope of services documents. In addition, we have been comparing Doc Record vs. Filebound vs. InPoint for more complete document management solutions, plus we are also evaluating a Scanner vs. Copier for scanning. Richmond and Pierson to continue to work on understanding and predicting future needs and to make a decision in the very near future.

Kalamazoo Regional Water + Wastewater Comm. Update The FOIA lawsuit court date is 12-3-2012 on the rate model, then, additional discovery + strategy planning will occur.

OLD BUSINESS: STATUS UNCHANGED

Malpass, Sherman Lake Grinder Customer Sewer Back-up Liability Concern Mr. Malpass is concerned about GLSWA's limited liability under the statutes for sewer back-ups for Grinder Pump customers where the tank, pump, and line to the street are publicly owned. Pierson to discuss this issue with Mr. Malpass and present alternatives at a subsequent meeting to better serve our grinder pump customers if feasible.

Manhole Inspection/Inflow/Infiltration Project Update
Postpone manhole inspections + repair of piping until Spring 2013 - staffing issues/\$\$

Groundwater – Clean Water Elimination Update
All weather stations installed (4 purchased); LS date-time stamp devices installed. We now need to tabulate the data.

Grinder Lines (37th Street Only)

There is a corrosion issue with ductile iron next to copper grinder line connections and these are being remedied (wrapped or replaced with plastic). *There are 4 in Charleston yet to do.*

Charleston Township Sewer Update on Rates: Begin Cost-Benefit Analysis 80 homes +/- +2 pumping stations; Pierson to continue with cost-benefit analysis. Their sewer contract expires 2016.

Comstock Township Sewer + Water Update on Rates: Begin Cost-Benefit Analysis Discussed briefly with incoming Supervisor, Ann Nieuwenhuis; sewer contract expired.

Grease Ordinance + Enforcement Update

Pierson to review ordinances and initiate program for grease enforcement.

CMOM-Collection System Requirements Pending / Self Assessment: On-Going. CMOM stands for "Capacity, Management, Operations, and Maintenance" and is a framework for municipalities to utilize widely-accepted wastewater industry practices to better manage sewer collection systems. Self Assessment is on-going.

Billboard/Purchase of Consumers Energy Property Pierson Met With Representative Pierson met with a Consumers Energy representative regarding billboard removal and/or relocation. *Pierson to write a letter*.

Easement Releases Ongoing Project-coordinate w/ scanning files to GIS.

Sewer Connection Fee Issues No response; \$8,900 Eng Fees not Paid There has been no response from Attorney Ken Sparks letter to Attorney Swenarton as of yet. In addition, Rosenberger still owes GLSWA engineering fees of approximately \$8,900.

30th Street South Gravity Design Easement Pursuit *Easement pursuit to be accomplished by Pierson.*

Water Connection Fee Issues Ongoing Project

Plan to be developed for administering water connections for Richland Township and Richland Village in order to cost-average short-side and long-side taps to the water main, preventing one side of the road paying more than the other side (where the water main is located). *Pierson to make recommendations*.

Also, need to establish adequate connection fees to provide for the replacement of watermain in the future, as the Township owns the watermain. Pierson acquiring data on the assets.

Sherman Lake Easement-Clean-up and Check Review *Pierson to review easements and check for accuracy – file in GIS system.*

FINANCIAL REVIEW/ PAY BILLS

A motion was made by Light and seconded by Stoneburner to file the financial reports as presented, approve the standard bills paid, and pay the Prein & Newhof bill. **Motion carried; all ayes.**

CLOSING COMMENTS

Light stated she received a subpoena to testify at the Gentry vs. See-Wright LLC case.

ADJOURN. NEXT MEETING THURSDAY DECEMBER 20, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. following CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON STARTING AT 12:00 NOON Chairman Bither adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Submitted for approval

Jacqueline Light - Secretary