



MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2026, BOARD MEETING

Authority Board Meeting

1:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL: Commissioner Stoneburner called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Commissioners present were Jimmy Stoneburner, Jeff Sorensen, Bear Priest, Christina Hutchings, and Barry Bower. Also, present were the Executive Director John Crumb, Office Manager Leslee Schnepf, Field Superintendent Aaron Grogg, Water Services Superintendent Bill Bresson, Engineer Paul Schram, legal counsel Lindsay Dangel, legal counsel Shawn Grinnen and some area residents.

REVIEW AND SET THE AGENDA:

Motion

Sorensen made a motion to approve the the agenda with removal of the Employee Payroll Report. Motion was seconded by Bower.

Motion carried: 4 ayes, 1 nay.

HEAR THOSE PRESENT:

- A few residents spoke related to the Sherman Lake overages. A redacted copy of the SAD contract was presented by a resident and is attached.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion

- April 16, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes
- April 16, 2026, Closed Session Minutes

Sorensen made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda, with an amendment to the closed session minutes. Motion was seconded by Priest.

Motion carried: all ayes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- April 16, 2026, Board Meeting Sign-In Sheet
- The Bluffs April 2026
- SCSWA April 2026
- City of Kalamazoo April 2026
- Charleston Twp, Richland Twp, and Ross Twp
- 5304 N 37th St SSO
- RCKC Permit
- Village of Augusta Flow Invoice

- 1327 E Crooked Lake Dr
- Advia CU CD Certificate
- Charleston Twp Rate Resolution Approval
- Letter from the Village of Augusta

Closed Session: *Consult with legal counsel to consider attorney client material exempt from disclosure pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(h) and MCL 15.243(1).*

At 1:53 p.m. Sorensen moved that the Authority Board enter Closed Session with all Board members and the Executive Director. The Motion was seconded by Bower.

Roll Call Vote: Stoneburner – aye; Priest- aye; Sorensen- aye; Bower-aye; Hutchings-aye.
Motion carried.

A Motion was made by Sorensen and seconded by Hutchings to come out of closed session at 2:11 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Stoneburner – aye; Priest- aye; Sorensen- aye; Bower-aye; Hutchings-aye.
Motion carried.

Closed Session: *Closed session to discuss trial or settlement strategy in the pending litigation of Ross Township and Richland Township v Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority, Case No. 26-0043-CK*

At 2:12 p.m. Sorensen moved that the Authority Board enter Closed Session to *discuss trial or settlement strategy in the pending litigation of Ross Township and Richland Township v Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority, Case No. 26-0043-CK*

And to include Bower, Stoneburner, Sorensen and Executive Director Crumb. The Motion was seconded by Stoneburner.

Roll Call Vote: Stoneburner – aye; Priest- nay; Sorensen- aye; Bower-aye; Hutchings-nay.
Motion failed.

Sorensen amended his motion to *discuss trial or settlement strategy in the pending litigation of Ross Township and Richland Township v Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority, Case No. 26-0043-CK* . to include Bower, Stoneburner, Sorensen and exclude Executive Director Crumb at 2:14 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Stoneburner – aye; Priest- aye; Sorensen- aye; Bower-aye; Hutchings-nay.
Motion carried.

A Motion was made by Sorensen and seconded by Stoneburner to return to the regular meeting at 2:26 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Stoneburner – aye; Priest- nay; Sorensen- aye; Bower-aye; Hutchings-aye.
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Board vote on recommendation of counsel.**

Motion

Sorensen made the motion to accept the recommendation of Attorney Grinnen as follows:

To instruct Executive Director Crumb NOT to attend constituent member Board meetings during the pendency of Ross and Richland Townships lawsuit against the Authority Case #2026-0043-CK or until further instructed by the Authority Board.

Motion was seconded by Stoneburner.

Roll Call Vote: Stoneburner – aye; Priest- nay; Sorensen- aye; Bower-aye; Hutchings-nay.
Motion carried.

- **Board vote on recommendation of counsel.**

Motion

Sorensen made the motion to accept the recommendation of Attorney Grinnen as follows:

To suspend the contractual requirement in Executive Director Crumb's employment contract to appear at constituent member Board meetings during the pendency of the reference lawsuit or until further instructed by the Authority Board.

Motion was seconded by Stoneburner.

Roll Call Vote: Stoneburner – aye; Priest- nay; Sorensen- aye; Bower-aye; Hutchings-nay.
Motion carried.

- **Financial Report / Bills Pd. +Payables for March 2026**

Motion

Sorensen made the motion to approve the financials as presented.

Motion was seconded by Stoneburner.

Motion carried: 3 ayes, 2 nays.

- **Sherman Lake SAD Overages Invoices**

Motion(s)

Priest made the motion, seconded by Hutchings, to not send the overages invoice to Ross Township.

Motion failed: 2 ayes, 3 nays.

During discussion Hutchings made a motion to amend the agenda to add an item for termination of Executive Director Crumb for misappropriations related to the Sherman Lake SAD Project and Robert Half.

Motion failed: 2 ayes, 3 nays.

- **Robert Half Invoice**

Motion(s)

Priest made the motion to approve the payment to Robert Half, contingent on the termination of Executive Director Crumb.

Motion was seconded by Hutchings.

Motion failed: 2 ayes; 3 nays.

Sorensen made the motion to pay the invoice for Robert Half. The motion was seconded by Stoneburner.

Motion carried: 3 ayes; 2 nays.

• **Ross Twp Request for Regional Commission Dues Reimbursement**

Motion

Sorensen made the motion to grant reimbursement to Ross Twp for Regional Commission Dues. Motion was seconded by Stoneburner.

Motion carried: all ayes.

• **37th Street FM Project Update from Engineer Schram**

Discussion

Executive Director Report

Discussion

Executive Director Crumb updated the board on items he has been working on and continues to work on.

OLD BUSINESS

- LS # 5 Permit Status with RCKC – Executive Director Crumb provided an update.

• **June Date Change**

Motion(s)

Stoneburner made a motion to amend the agenda to adjust the June Board Meeting date. The motion was seconded by Sorensen.

Motion carried: all ayes.

Stoneburner made a motion to move the June Board Meeting to June 25, 2026, at 1:30p.m. The motion was seconded by Sorensen.

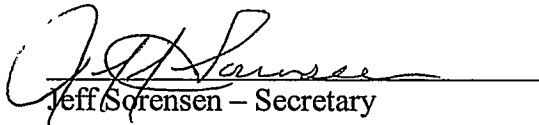
Motion carried: all ayes.

Adjourn

Motion by Sorensen to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Hutchings.

Motion carried: all ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.


Jeff Sorensen – Secretary