

# Gull Lake Sewer & Water Authority

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## **MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 16, 2022 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, and Christina Hutchings. Commissioner Barry Bower was absent. Also present were Executive Director John Crumb, Executive Assistant Anne Richmond, Field Superintendent Aaron Grogg, Engineer Paul Schram, Village of Augusta Manager Jeff Heppler, Cooper Township Supervisor Jeff Sorensen, and Attorney Rob Thall. Also present were a few 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:** Nothing was presented.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Crumb noted that the Road Commission paid in full for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Street sewer damages. GLSWA paid Plummer's \$2,100 to repair an I&I problem found during inspection at LS #5. This will be tracked going forward.

The City of Kalamazoo is changing the way they bill for 2022 making it easier to budget. It will be similar to how Consumers Energy bills for their budget plan.

A motion was made by Stoneburner and seconded by Hutchings to approve the consent agenda. **Motion carried; all ayes.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Amend Articles of Incorporation

Motion

Crumb reported that all five entities have approved the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation adding Cooper Township as a contingent member of the Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority Board. The next steps, per Attorney Thall, are for the Ross Township Clerk to update the dates on the signed document, publish the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation within 30 days, and send the State and County notices. Attorney Thall stated that once the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation is published, Jeff Sorenson will be able to participate as a voting

member of the GLSWA Board. A motion was made by Hutchings to authorize the Ross Township Clerk to publish the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation and send the necessary notifications so that Jeff Sorensen will be able to vote at the March 9 GLSWA Board Meeting. Motion was seconded by Stoneburner. **Motion carried: all ayes.**

#### Connection Fee Installment Resolution

#### Discussion

Attorney Thall indicated that since the GLSWA Board had previously approved a resolution to authorize installment connection fees, it was not necessary to approve a new resolution. The document can be updated with the new terms.

#### 11938 Yorkshire Dr. Letter to Connect

#### Discussion

Crumb shared a letter he had written to a Sherman Lake resident letting them know that due to an oversight, they had not been required to hook to the public sewer system pursuant to Ross Township's Sewer Ordinance 179 when they repaired their home after a fire. He advised them of the requirement to hook to public sewer and asked them to decide on their intention to use the voluntary special assessment. Crumb discovered another oversight of the sewer ordinance not being enforced in a remodel/rebuild situation. Crumb, Hutchings, and Attorney Thall will work together to set protocol and inform AGS, Ross Township's agent, of the requirements.

#### Sherman Lake Project Update on Finance

#### Discussion

Attorney Thall stated that after Ross Township formally publishes notification of Sherman Lake sewer availability on March 1, the details of the voluntary special assessment can be developed, including the cost and timeline. Residents will need to sign a formal agreement to voluntarily participate in the special assessment district. The project will not start until after summer.

Crumb stated that GLSWA needs to enter into contractual purchasing prior to this in order to have material available at the best price. Ross Township needs to take action at their March meeting to allow GLSWA to purchase material in advance and be reimbursed from the future bond proceeds.

GLSWA received a letter from Halvas Law Firm-Residents Opposed to Sherman Lake Public Sewer Mandate and Preservation of Documents Notice. Attorney Thall will share more information as it becomes available.

Crumb reported that approximately 65% of the Sherman Lake properties are physically hooked or have verbally committed to hook to sewer. Two properties have no interest in hooking to sewer.

#### Review Rate Resolutions

#### Discussion

Approval of the Rate Resolution in Charleston Township is still outstanding. Five Township/Village Rate Resolutions were approved for the full 3 years. One Township Rate Resolution was approved for only the first year rate increase. Crumb intends to revisit this next year with the Township. If the Township does not approve the second or third-year rate increases, GLSWA will invoice for the rate difference based on the billed REU's.

**Request to Review Meeting Day****Motion**

A request was made to change the day of the GLSWA Board Meeting. A motion was made by Harma and seconded by Hutchings to change the GLSWA Board Meeting day to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month (except in November & December) at 1:30, starting with the April meeting. **Motion carried; all ayes.**

**Status Update on Executive Assistant Position****Discussion**

Heather Mezo has accepted an offer for the Executive Assistant position. She will start on March 1. Harma was pleased with the hiring process and thought it went well.

**M96 Pipe Rehab Update****Discussion**

GLSWA received the video pipe inspection. The Authority is still waiting on the permit from MDOT/Amtrak.

Heppler asked for notification as soon as the M96 work is scheduled. He may need to coordinate the work with a pump project. Heppler also requested 42<sup>nd</sup> Street pipe video.

**OLD BUSINESS: On Going****Projected**

Crumb included the Old Business On-Going update in the packet mailed to the Board. There were no questions.

**CLOSING COMMENTS**

Stoneburner reported Prairieville Township is working with Barry Township on ambulance service.

Harma commented on the good job Crumb did communicating at the Richland Township Board meeting-he was very prepared and did well answering questions. Per Richland Township Board direction, Harma asked the GLSWA Board to consider a 75% supermajority vote requirement to expand the sewer or water system. Harma thanked the residents attending the GLSWA Board meeting.

Crumb stated that the Water Advisory Committee meetings are on hold.

**ADJOURN.**

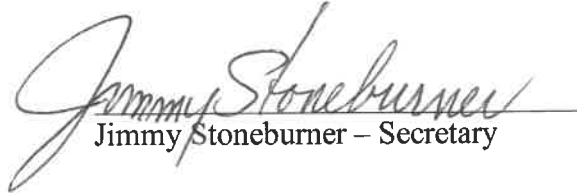
Hutchings made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Stoneburner. **Motion carried: all ayes.**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022 1:30 P.M.

Submitted for approval



Jimmy Stoneburner – Secretary