



MINUTES OF THE GARY SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING HELD ON **AUGUST 15, 2025**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

DATE: Friday, August 15, 2025
TIME: 12:00PM, cst
LOCATION: GSD, Boardroom

TYPE: Regular Meeting
NOTICE PROVIDED IN ADVANCE: YES
QUORUM: YES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

William L. Allen, President
Ola V. Morris, Vice President
Willie Cook, Member
Freida Graves, Member

ABSENT MEMBERS

Lawrence Batiste, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Nick Snow, Attorney, Harris Law Firm
Ragen Hatcher, Executive Director
Jerome Foster, Finance Manager
Brandon Comer, Comer Capital Group

OTHERS ABSENT

I. Call to Order: 12:10 PM by Chairman Allen

Chairman Allen began the Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll-Call. He then stated prior to the start of the August 15, 2025 Board Meeting, there was an Executive Session held and there was nothing discussed in Executive Session that was not indicated on the Posted Notice of the Executive Session; and being in compliance with Indiana Statutes, there were no final votes held during the Executive Session. Chairman Allen asked if any Board member dissented to the certification. Hearing none, he proceeded with the meeting.

II. Public Expression - Request to Speak:

Chairman Allen called for the Request to Speak to take place at this time.

- Joe Zumpano, Attorney for Dentons Bingham & Greenebaum - Representing three (3) Customer Communities (Lake Station, Hobart and Merrillville): Expressed objection to GSD's proposed Resolution No.: SD25-25 and requests the attempt at raising rates for the Customer Communities be rejected.
- Mayor Josh Huddlestun, City of Hobart, Indiana: Requested GSD table its proposed Resolution No.: SD25-25 and negotiate with the Customer Communities and mutually agree upon rates.



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III. Bid Opening: Sanitary Sewer Repair at vicinity of 2101 Broadway

Chairman Allen made a final call for the acceptance of Bids for the Sanitary Sewer Repair at the vicinity of 2101 Broadway. With no additional bids being received, the bids were opened.

- Metz Sewer Plumbing & Pumping, Gary, IN

- Alt. 1: \$225,700.00
- Alt 2: \$169,000.00
- Alt 3: \$235,000.00

- LGS Plumbing, Crown Point, IN

- Alt 1: \$239,000.00
- Alt 2: \$178,340.00
- Alt 3: \$251,200.00

- Gariup Construction, Gary, IN

- Alt 1: \$367,500.00
- Alt 2: No Bid
- Alt 3: No Bid

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1. MINUTES

1.1 Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of August 1, 2025

Commissioner Cook gave the motion to approve/accept the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of August 1, 2025 with any/all noted corrections. The motion for approval of the minutes was seconded by Commissioner Graves and passed without dissent

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

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.1 A Motion to Approve GSD Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: July 14, 2025 through July 27, 2025, in the amount of \$305,846.32.

Overview: Finance Manager Jerome Foster recommended approval and ratification of GSD Agenda Item 2.1.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.1. Commissioner Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSD Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: July 14, 2025 through July 27, 2025 was seconded by Commissioner Graves and passed/approved.

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

2.2 A Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No.: SD25-25, Approving and Establishing Wastewater Treatment Fees for Contract Communities.

Overview: Executive Director Hatcher recommended approval of GSD Agenda Item 2.2.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.2. Commissioner Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSD Resolution No.: SD25-25, Approving and Establishing Wastewater Treatment Fees for Contract Communities was seconded by Commissioner Graves and passed/approved.

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

2.3 A Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No.: SD25-26, Approving and Establishing Wastewater Treatment Fees for Non-Residential Users.

Overview: Executive Director Hatcher recommended approval of GSD Agenda Item 2.3.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.3. Commissioner Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSD Resolution



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No.: SD25-26 Approving and Establishing Wastewater Treatment Fees for Non-Residential Users was seconded by Commissioner Graves and passed/approved.

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

2.4 A Motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Metz Sewer Plumbing & Pumping, LLC., for the Emergency Sanitary Sewer Repair at the vicinity of 1132 Pennsylvania Street, in an amount not-to-exceed \$159,400.00.

Overview: Executive Director Hatcher recommended approval of GSD Agenda Item 2.4.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.4. Commissioner Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Metz Sewer Plumbing & Pumping, LLC., for the Emergency Sanitary Sewer Repair at the vicinity of 1132 Pennsylvania Street was seconded by Commissioner Graves and passed/approved.

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

3. CLAIMS

3.1 GSD Claims Nos.: 1580 through 1694, in the amount of \$760,996.53

Overview: Finance Manager Jerome Foster recommended approval and ratification of GSD Agenda Item 3.1.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 3.1. Commissioner Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSD's Claims Nos.: 1580 through 1694 was seconded by Commissioner Graves and passed/approved.

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

3.2 GSD Financial Reporting – Period Ending: April 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025

Submitted as a matter of record.

4. INFORMATION UPDATES

4.1 Superintendent's Report –

Timothy Alston, GSD Plant Superintendent, provided the Board with updates regarding GSD's Plant (operations and maintenance) activities.



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4.2 **Construction Activities –**

Jabez Anderson, GSD Assistant Manager of Engineering, provided the Board with updates regarding GSD's Construction Projects.

5. **DISCUSSION**

There were no discussion items.

6. **REQUEST TO SPEAK**

- Emanuel Smith, Gary Resident
Expressed complaint with the Customer Service Department and an outstanding balance for sewer services.
- Cardell Smith, Gary resident/Landlord
Expressed complaint with Landlords being responsible for outstanding sewer services left unpaid by tenants.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45PM.



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ADOPTED BY THE BOARD DURING THE MEETING ON:

09/05/2025

WILLIAM ALLEN, PRESIDENT

William Allen, President
Ola V. Morris, Vice President
Willie Cook, Secretary
Freida Graves, Member
Lawrence Batiste, Member

WILLIE COOK, SECRETARY