



MINUTES OF THE GARY STORM WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON **DECEMBER 12, 2025**

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**DATE:** Friday, December 12, 2025  
**TIME:** 12:30PM, cst  
**LOCATION:** GSD, Boardroom

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

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**ABSENT MEMBERS**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jewell Harris, Jr., Attorney, Harris Law Firm  
Ragen Hatcher, Executive Director  
Jerome Foster, Finance Manager  
Brandon Comer, Comer Capital Group

**OTHERS ABSENT**

**I. Call to Order: 1:10PM** by Chairman Allen

Chairman Allen began the Meeting with Roll-Call. Chairman Allen then stated prior to the start of the December 12, 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 Statues, 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.

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### 1. MINUTES

#### 1.1 **Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2025**

Director Cook gave the motion to approve/accept the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2025 with any/all noted corrections. The motion for approval of the minutes was seconded by Director Batiste and passed without dissent

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

### 2. NEW BUSINESS

#### 2.1 **A Motion to Approve GSWMD Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: October 20, 2025 through November 2, 2025, in the amount of \$20,830.95.**

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

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.1. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSWMD's Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: October 20, 2025 through November 2, 2025 was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

#### 2.2 **A Motion to Approve GSWMD Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: November 3, 2025 through November 16, 2025, in the amount of \$41,479.21.**

Overview: Finance Manager Jerome Foster recommended approval and ratification of GSWMD Agenda Item 2.2.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.2. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSWMD's Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: November 3, 2025 through November 16, 2025 was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

#### 2.3 **A Motion to Approve the GSWMD Board Meeting Calendar for Year 2026.**

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

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



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Board Meeting Calendar for Year 2026 was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

2.4 **A Motion to Approve GSWMD Resolution No.: SW25-06, Approving and Authorizing an Interfund Loan from Gary Storm Water Management District Fund (6501) to the GSD Solid Waste Disposal Fund (6604).**

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

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.4. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSWMD Resolution No.: SW25-06, Approving and Authorizing an Interfund Loan from Gary Storm Water Management District to the GSD Solid Waste Disposal Fund was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

2.5 **A Motion to Approve GSWMD Resolution No.: SW25-07, Approving the GSWMD 2026 Budget (Fund 6501).**

Overview: Executive Director Ragen Hatcher recommended approval of GSWMD Agenda Item 2.5.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.5. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSWMD Resolution No.: SW25-07, Approving the GSWMD 2026 Budget was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

2.6 **A Motion to Approve GSWMD Resolution No.: SW25-08, Approving the Salaries and Wages for the GSWMD Employees for Calendar Year 2026.**

Overview: Executive Director Ragen Hatcher recommended approval of GSWMD Agenda Item 2.5.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.5. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSWMD Resolution No.: SW25-08, Approving the Salaries and Wages for GSWMD Employees for Calendar Year 2026 was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No



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- 2.7 **A Motion to Approve GSWMD Resolution No.: SW25-09, Amending GSWMD Resolution No.: SW24-08, Ratifying the Salaries and Wages for the GSWMD Employees for Calendar Year 2025.**  
*Overview:* Executive Director Ragen Hatcher recommended approval of GSWMD Agenda Item 2.5.  
Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.5. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSWMD Resolution No.: SW25-09, Amending GSWMD Resolution No.: S24-08, Ratifying the Salaries and Wages for the GSWMD Employees for Calendar Year 2025 was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.  
The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No
- 2.8 **A Motion to Approve GSWMD Resolution No.: SW25-10, Approving the Bonus Pay Distribution for the GSWMD Employees for Calendar Year 2025.**  
*Overview:* Executive Director Ragen Hatcher recommended approval of GSWMD Agenda Item 2.5.  
Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.5. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSWMD Resolution No.: SW25-10, Approving the Bonus Pay Distribution for the GSWMD Employees for Calendar Year 2025 was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.  
The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No
- 2.9 **A Motion to Approve a Professional Services Contract by and between Gary Storm Water Management District and Cender | Dalton Municipal Advisors for Financial Consultant Services for Year 2026.**  
*Overview:* Executive Director Ragen Hatcher recommended approval of GSWMD Agenda Item 2.9.  
Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.9. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve a Professional Services Contract by and between Gary Storm Water Management District and Cender | Dalton Municipal Advisors for Financial Consultant Services for Year 2026 was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.  
The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No
- 2.10 **A Motion to Approve a Professional Services Contract by and between Gary Storm Water Management District and Harris Law Firm, PC., for Professional Legal Services for Year 2026.**



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Overview: Executive Director Ragen Hatcher recommended approval of GSWMD Agenda Item 2.10.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.10. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve a Professional Services Contract by and between Gary Storm Water Management District and Harris Law Firm, PC., for Professional Legal Services for Year 2026 was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

2.11 **A Motion to Approve a Professional Services Contract by and between Gary Storm Water Management District and Attorney Deidre Monroe for Professional Legal Services for Year 2026.**

Overview: Executive Director Ragen Hatcher recommended approval of GSWMD Agenda Item 2.11.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.11. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve a Professional Services Contract by and between Gary Storm Water Management District and Attorney Deidre Monroe for Professional Legal Services for Year 2026 was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

2.12 **A Motion to Approve Task Order No.: 1 for Metric Environmental for Technical Standards Manual Updating Services, in an amount not-to-exceed \$54,875.00.**

Overview: Executive Director Ragen Hatcher recommended approval of GSWMD Agenda Item 2.12.

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.12. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve Task Order No.: 1 for Metric Environmental for Technical Standards Manual Updating Services was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

### 3. CLAIMS

3.1 **GSWMD Claims No.: 127 through 143, in the amount of \$125,179.47**

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



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Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 3.1. Director Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSWMD's Claims Nos.: 127 through 143 was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Five (5)-Ayes / Zero (0)-No

**4. INFORMATION UPDATES**

**4.1 MS4 Department Updates -**

MS4 Coordinator Brenda Scott-Henry was absent. No MS4 Departmental Updates were given.

**5. DISCUSSION**

There were no discussion items.

**6. REQUEST TO SPEAK**

There were no requests to speak.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:26 PM



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ADOPTED BY THE BOARD DURING THE MEETING ON:

01/02/2026

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

*William Allen*

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**WILLIAM ALLEN, PRESIDENT**

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**WILLIE COOK, SECRETARY**