



MINUTES OF THE GARY SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON **FEBRUARY 6, 2026**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

**DATE:** Friday, February 6, 2026  
**TIME:** 12:00PM, cst  
**LOCATION:** GSD, Boardroom

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

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**ABSENT MEMBERS**

William L. Allen, President

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jewell Harris, Jr., Attorney, Harris Law Firm  
Ragen Hatcher, Executive Director  
Jerome Foster, Finance Manager  
Michael Suggs, City of Gary, Chief Operating Officer  
M. Celita Green, City of Gary, Controller  
Brandon Comer, Comer Capital Group

**OTHERS ABSENT**

**I. Call to Order: 12:22 PM by Chairman Cook**

Chairman Cook began the Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll-Call. He then stated prior to the start of the February 6, 2026 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 Cook 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 January 16, 2026**

Commissioner Morris gave the motion to for the approval / acceptance of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2026 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: December 29, 2025 through January 11, 2026, in the amount of \$287,917.68.**

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

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.1. Commissioner Graves gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSD Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: December 29, 2025 through January 11, 2026 was seconded by Commissioner Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Three (3)-Ayes / One (1)-Abstention (Morris)

2.2 **A Motion to Approve GSD Resolution No.: SD26-02, Approving a Declaratory Resolution for the Projects Required by the Gary Sanitary District's Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP).**

Overview: GSD Finance Consultant Brandon Comer gave an overview and recommended approval of GSD Agenda Item 2.2.

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.2. Commissioner Graves gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSD Resolution No.: SD26-02, Approving a Declaratory Resolution for the Projects Required by the Gary Sanitary District's Long-Term Control Plan was seconded by Commissioner Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Three (3)-Ayes / One (1)-Abstention (Morris)

2.3 **A Motion to Approve an Award of Bid / 1-Year Renewal to Rowell Chemical for the Purchase of Sodium Hypochlorite, estimating 250,000 Gallons annually, in an amount not-to-exceed \$372,500.00.**



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Overview: GSD Plant Superintendent Tim Alston gave an overview by stating Disinfection Season is approaching and Sodium Hypochlorite is needed. He further recommended approval of GSD Agenda Item 2.3.

What is Disinfection Season: Disinfection Season runs from April 1 to October 31, for wastewater treatment facilities. This period is crucial for ensuring that treated wastewater is safe for discharge into natural water bodies or for reuse, as it helps eliminate pathogenic microorganisms that can cause diseases.

Disinfection is a critical step in wastewater treatment, ensuring that pathogens are killed or inactivated to protect public health and the environment. The choice of disinfection method, such as chlorine or UV light, depends on various factors including the characteristics of the wastewater and the specific treatment system in use.

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.3. Commissioner Graves gave the motion to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.3. The motion to approve an Award of Bid to Rowell Chemical for the Purchase of Sodium Hypochlorite was seconded by Commissioner Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Three (3)-Ayes / One (1)-Abstention

2.4 **A Motion to Approve an Award of Bid to Gariup Construction for the Sanitary Sewer Repair at the vicinity of 525 McKinley Street, in an amount not-to-exceed \$227,000.00.**

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

Chairman Cook inquired the tentative completion date for the repair. GSD's Assistant Manager of Engineering, Jabez Anderson stated completion is estimated to be 60 days from the date of the issued Notice to Proceed.

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approved GSD Agenda Item 2.4. Commissioner Graves gave the motion to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.4. The motion to approve an Award of Bid to Gariup Construction for the Sanitary Sewer Repair at the vicinity of 525 McKinley Street was seconded by Commissioner Batiste and passed/approved.

The vote: Three (3)-Ayes / One (1)-Abstention

2.5 **A Motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Mechanical Concepts for the Emergency Replacement Blower Assembly (Building #1), in an amount not-to-exceed \$32,135.00.**



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

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.5. Commissioner Graves gave the motion to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.5. The motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Mechanical Concepts for the Emergency Replacement Blower Assembly was seconded by Commissioner Batiste and passed/approved.

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

2.6 **A Motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Industrial Technology Supply & Services for the Installation of an Electrical Mechanical HVAC System (GSD Motor Pool Area), in an amount not-to-exceed \$30,694.00.**

Overview: Executive Director Hatcher recommended approval of GSD Agenda Item 2.6.

Question: Commissioner Graves inquired if the work referenced in GSD Agenda Item 2.6 has been started.

Response: Executive Director Hatcher stated the work has started, therefore, the installation requires ratification.

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.6. Commissioner Graves gave the motion to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.6. The motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to Industrial Technology Supply & Services for the Installation of an Electrical Mechanical HVAC System was seconded by Commissioner Batiste and passed/approved.

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

2.7 **A Motion to Approve a Contract Renewal by and between Gary Sanitary District and Environmental Systems Research Institute (d/b/a ESRI) for the Annual Arc GIS Software Support and Product Subscriptions in an amount not-to-exceed \$20,747.50 (50% portion to be covered by GSWMD).**

Overview: Executive Director Hatcher recommended approval of GSD Agenda Item 2.7; noting GSWMD will cover 50% of the costs (total is \$41,495.00).

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.7. Commissioner Graves gave the motion to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.7. The motion to Approve a Contract Renewal by and between Gary Sanitary District and ESRI for the Annual Arc GIS Software Support and Project Subscriptions was seconded by Commissioner Batiste and passed/approved.



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

- 2.8 **A Motion to Approve a Contract Renewal by and between Gary Sanitary District and Presidio for the Annual Cisco Licensing for the Cisco Firewall, in an amount not-to-exceed \$17,406.14.**

Overview: Executive Director Hatcher recommended approval of GSD Agenda Item 2.8.

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.8. Commissioner Graves gave the motion to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.8. The motion to Approve a Contract Renewal by and between Gary Sanitary District and Presidio for the Annual Cisco Licensing for the Cisco Firewall was seconded by Commissioner Batiste and passed/approved.

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

- 2.9 **A Motion to Approve a Contract Renewal by and between Gary Sanitary District and Insight Public Sector for the Annual Microsoft Volume Licensing (for Computers and Servers) and Monthly Subscriptions, in an amount not-to-exceed \$46,846.11 (pricing is guaranteed for three (3) years).**

Overview: Executive Director Hatcher recommended approval of GSD Agenda Item 2.9.

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.9. Commissioner Graves gave the motion to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.9. The motion to Approve a Contract Renewal by and between Gary Sanitary District and Insight Public Sector for the Annual Microsoft Volume Licensing and Monthly Subscriptions was seconded by Commissioner Batiste and passed/approved.

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

### 3. CLAIMS

- 3.1 **GSD Claims Nos.: 287 - 302, in the amount of \$4,011,446.75**

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

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 3.1. Commissioner Graves gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSD's Claims Nos.: 287 - 302 was seconded by Commissioner Batiste and passed/approved.

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



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**4. INFORMATION UPDATES**

**4.1 Superintendent's Report –**

Timothy Alston, GSD Plant Superintendent, provided the Board with updates regarding GSD's Plant Activities.

**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**

There were NO Requests to Speak

**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:

02/20/2026

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*William Allen*

**WILLIAM ALLEN, PRESIDENT**

*Willie Cook*

**WILLIE COOK, SECRETARY**

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