



MINUTES OF THE GARY STORM WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 6, 2026

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: Friday, February 6, 2026
TIME: 12:30pm, cst
LOCATION: GSWMD, Boardroom

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ABSENT MEMBERS

William L. Allen, President

OTHERS PRESENT

Jewell Harris, 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: 12:50PM 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 Statues, 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

Director Graves gave the motion to approve/accept 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 Director Batiste and passed without dissent.

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

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.1 **A Motion to Approve GSWMD's Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: December 29, 2025 through January 11, 2026, in the amount of \$55,530.72.**

Overview: Finance Manager Jerome Foster recommended approval of the GSWMD Payroll Earnings Report submitted as GSWMD Agenda Item 2.1.

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

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

2.2 **A Motion to Approve a Contract Renewal by and between Gary Storm Water Management 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 GSD).**

Overview: Finance Manager Jerome Foster recommended approval of the GSWMD Payroll Earnings Report submitted as GSWMD Agenda Item 2.2.

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.2. Director Graves gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve a Contract Renewal by and between Gary Storm Water Management District and ESRI for the Annual Arc GIS Software Support and Product Subscriptions was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.

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

2.3 **A Motion to Approve a Contract by and between Gary Storm Water Management District and Metric Environmental for a One-Year Contract for Storm Water Support Services, in an amount not-to-exceed \$128,825.00.**

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

Chairman Cook called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSWMD Agenda Item 2.3. Director Graves gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve a Contract by and between Gary Storm Water Management District and Metric Environmental for a One-Year Contract for Storm Water Support Services was seconded by Director Batiste and passed/approved.



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

3. CLAIMS

3.1 GSWMD Claims Numbers: NO CLAIMS TO BE APPROVED

Overview: Finance Manager Jerome Foster stated there were NO CLAIMS to be approved at this time.

4. INFORMATION UPDATES

4.1 MS₄ Updates -

Leslie Thomas, Urban Conservation & Outreach Coordinator, provided the Board with an update.

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 12:56PM.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD DURING THE MEETING ON:

02/20/2026

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William L. Allen, President



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ADOPTED BY THE BOARD DURING THE MEETING ON:

02/20/2026

Willie Lee

William L. Allen, President

Willie Cook

Willie Cook, Secretary/Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William L. Allen, President

Ola V. Morris, Vice-President

Willie Cook, Secretary/Treasurer

Freida Graves, Member

Lawrence Batiste, Member