



MINUTES OF THE GARY SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON APRIL 17, 2026

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

**DATE:** Friday, April 17, 2026  
**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, Secretary/Treasurer  
Freida Graves, Member

**ABSENT MEMBERS**

Lawrence Batiste, Member

**OTHERS PRESENT**

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

**OTHERS ABSENT**

**I. Call to Order:** 12:19 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 March 20, 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 Allen asked if any Board member dissented to the certification. Hearing none, he proceeded with the meeting.

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**II.** Chairmen William Allen made a final call for the acceptance of Bids for the *New Administration HVSC Renewal Project*. With no additional bids being received, Chairman Allen declared the bidding closed and floor yielded to Attorney Harris to publicly open and announce the bids received.

1. In-Person Bid:  
Mechanical Concepts, located in Gary, IN  
Bid Amount: \$156,865.00
2. Uploaded Bid (OpenGov/ Opened Live):  
Arctic Engineering, located in Merrillville, IN  
Bid Amount: \$176,000.00
3. Uploaded Bid (OpenGov/ Opened Live):  
Powers & Sons Construction, located in Gary, IN  
Bid Amount: \$267,500.00

Attorney Harris stated that the bids will be submitted to staff for review and recommendation.

**1. MINUTES**

**1.1 Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2026**

Commissioner Cook gave the motion to for the approval / acceptance of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of March 20, 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

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2. NEW BUSINESS

- 2.1 GSD Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: February 23, 2026 through March 8, 2026, in the amount of \$277,649.23.

Overview: Finance Manager Jerome Foster recommended approval of GSD Agenda Items 2.1 and 2.2

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving **GSD Agenda Items 2.1 and 2.2**. Commissioner Cook gave the motion to approve. The motion to Approve GSD Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: February 9, 2026 through February 22, 2026 and GSD Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: March 9, 2026 through March 22, 2026, in the amount of \$287,922.74 was seconded by Graves and passed/approved.

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

- 2.2 GSD Payroll Earnings for Period Ending: March 9, 2026 through March 22, 2026, in the amount of \$287,922.74.

Note: Agenda Item 2.2 was passed/approved along with Agenda Item 2.1.

- 2.3 Ratification of an Award of Bid to LGS Plumbing for the Emergency Sanitary Sewer Repair at the vicinity of 722 West 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in an amount not-to-exceed \$152,880.00.

Overview: Executive Director Ragen 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 GSD Agenda Item 2.3. The motion to Approve and Ratify an Award of Bid to LGS Plumbing, for the Emergency Sanitary Sewer Repair at the vicinity of 722 West 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue was seconded by Commissioner Graves and passed/approved.

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

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**2.4 Resolution No.: SD26-07, Approving a Lease-to-Purchase Agreement, establish a Bank Account, and designate Signatories.**

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 GSD Agenda Item 2.4. The motion to Approve Resolution No.: SD26-07, Approving a Lease-to-Purchase Agreement, Establish a Bank Account, and Designate Signatories was seconded by Commissioner Graves and passed/approved.

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

**2.5 Resolution No.: SD26-08, Adopting the Minimum Wastewater Billing Unit of 1,000 Gallons, at the Rate of \$8.50 per unit.**

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

Chairman Allen called for the Board's pleasure with respect to approving GSD Agenda Item 2.5. Commissioner Cook gave the motion to approve GSD Agenda Item 2.5. The motion to Approve Resolution No.: SD26-08, Adopting the Minimum Wastewater Billing Unit of 1,000 Gallons, at the rate of \$8.50 per unit was seconded by Commissioner Graves and passed/approved.

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

**3. CLAIMS**

**3.1 GSD Claims Nos.: 550 – 675, in the amount of \$1,248,199.44**

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.: 453 - 549 was seconded by Commissioner Graves and passed/approved.

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

**Discussion:** Commissioner Cook requested that the Claims Listing be printed on larger paper, for viewing purposes.



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**4. INFORMATION UPDATES**

**4.1 Superintendent's Report -**

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

**4.2 Construction Activities -**

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

**5. DISCUSSION**

Executive Director Hatcher stated that with grass cutting season approaching, an RFP has been advertised, for grass and tree cutting inside of South Gleason Park Golf Course.

Executive Director Hatcher stated that in regards Trash Cans, a notice has been included in the News Letters that there must be 3 feet of clearance around the trash cans, to ensure that the arm on the truck can pick up the trash can without damaging personal property located around the can.

Executive Director Hatcher stated that with this being rain season, the City would appreciate the assistance of the citizens and clean any debris from the drain that is located in the vicinity of their residence.

**6. REQUEST TO SPEAK**

- There were NO Requests to Speak

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7. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:36PM.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD DURING THE MEETING ON:

05/01/2026



**WILLIAM ALLEN, PRESIDENT**



**WILLIE COOK, SECRETARY**

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