

# LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT MEETING

Zoom Meeting

**February 18th, 2021**

**9:00 a.m.**

## **Time and Place:**

The February 2021 LaPorte County Regional Sewer & Water District meeting was held on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 by Zoom meeting.

## **Attendees:**

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mitch Bishop. Those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call was taken, and the following were in attendance Tony Mancuso in person, those in attendance by Zoom were John Carr, Marcella Kunstek, Mark Danielson, Dalia Zygas, and Jerry Jackson.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

Marcella Kunstek made the motion to accept the minutes from the January 21, 2021. Mark Danielson seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

## **Public Comments:**

Mitch Bishop opened the public comments. He also made a statement to state your name, address and that you have a time limit of 3 minutes.

Kevin Flaherty – 7845 East Point Road, New Carlisle, IN.

Came before the board for the second month in a row to discuss getting the Hudson/Saugauny Lake project moving and what needs to be done.

It was discussed that Mr. Flaherty needs to get his group together and come before the board and make his request an agenda item. Mr. Flaherty was reminded that there were a lot of individuals that showed up to previous meetings in opposition to the project – even when the Hudson/Saugauny Lake project was not on the agenda to discuss.

Michael Streiter - 4848 North 425 E, Rolling Prairie, IN

He was around during Phase I and he thought that the project was not going down 425 for Phase II. Jerry indicated that there was a dispute on a location of property owners septic, and they were going approximately 4-5 lots on the east side. Dan Byam confirmed Jerry's comment after reviewing the plans. Homes on both sides of the road would be served in that area. Jennifer indicated she would send the plan sheets to Mr. Streiter so he could review the information after the meeting.

Public comments were closed.

## **Reports - Finance Staff:**

- 1.) Financial Report

- A.) Horizon Bank Checking-Rolling Prairie Account - had a beginning balance of \$90,452.41 as of January 1, 2021.
  1. Deposits 3,816.56 (\$57,128.10 disbursed back to the Toll Road account)
  2. Interest Paid \$1.26
  3. Disbursements: \$4,641.31 in Operation Expenses
- B.) Horizon Bank Checking had an ending balance of \$31,924.11 as of January 31, 2021.
- 2.) Toll Road
  - A.) Beginning balance \$69,911.80 as of January 1, 2021.
    1. Deposits \$57,128.10
    2. Interest Paid: \$1.32
    3. Disbursements: \$27,717.39
  - B.) Account Ending balance as of January 31, 2021 is \$74,359.70.
- 3.) Hoosier Fund:
  - A.) Beginning balance \$250,210.40 as of January 1, 2021.
    1. Interest Paid: \$63.81
  - B.) Hoosier Fund ending balance as of January 31, 2021 is \$250,274.21.
- 4.) Claims

Steve Carter, the Board's accountant, presented claims in the amount of \$20,896.26.

Mark Danielson made the motion to approve the report from Steve Carter and the claims in the amount of \$20,896.26 as presented. Marcella Kunstek seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

### **Reports:**

#### **Astbury:**

Chris Vogeler indicated no new reports since last meeting.

- Peerless – no changes. Chris has not received any information from Peerless.
- DA Dodd – still waiting on the quote from them to replace the back backflow preventer. Chris will follow-up.
- Heaters only 1 of 4 were working. Maple City Mechanical came out and cleaned them and 2 of the 3 started working. They had to order parts for the 4<sup>th</sup> heater. No quotes have been received so far.
- Snow plowing was done this week – which was the 2<sup>nd</sup> time this year.

#### **JPR - Billing/Collections/Lien**

- Liens were not filed due to issues with Recorder's Office rejecting them twice – they were mailed back a 3<sup>rd</sup> time and hopefully will be recorded as indicated by new Recorder.

#### **Phase II Update:**

Dan Byam, Engineer from JPR, attended to give an update on Phase II -

- Due to the snow Woodruff & Sons has not started construction. They are currently still on schedule.

- Starting on Ludlow Street then small section on Michigan Street then to Oakdale and East Rolling Drive section.
- Starting there because they do not have to disturb the roadway to make these improvements.
- Staking of service laterals will start ahead of construction – to show property owners connections where be located.
- Josh Thomas, the inspector for the project will be given his information to property owners if there are issues with the location of the connection.
- Jerry Jackson wanted to know how JPR would keep track of information of property owners who have complaints on location connection issues.
- Daily inspection forms are kept, and information is written in there of any property owners who may be unhappy.
- It was also confirmed that besides the property owner packets a flyer will be handed out to property owners when staking is done.

### **New Business:**

Next Meeting will be March 18, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m.

- Indiana 811 – Locate Tickets – Received one quote which the board reviewed. They would like Jennifer to continue looking for additional quotes and get a few more.
- Interim Rate – Phase I customers that did not connect are available to connect at any time. Notice to Connect could go out to property owners now that did not connect in Phase I. Rates were set on all property owners connecting in Phase I and Phase II.
- Notice to Connect – Phase I – The property owners who did not connect in Phase I can receive a letter now to connect in Phase II. They do not need to wait until the completion of the Phase II project. There was 1 property owner who applied and was granted the approval for the sewer exemption.
- Sewer Exemption – heeds to be certified inspection. 5 years first time, 10 years and then 5 years for a total of 20 years. Then property must connect to system.
- Tap Fees – were waived in Phase I – need to decide if waiving in Phase II.
- Generator Quote – Annual Maintenance Renewal – It was determined to get additional quotes from other companies. Mitch indicated he knew some additional companies to get quotes from.
- Property Owner Packets – Packets were mailed. Various property owners have called asking questions. One property owner was happy because he was going to be able to add onto his house for his children.
- WWTP – Clean Up – Mitch and Jennifer went to the WWTP to look and see if it was possible to start having the District Meetings on site. There are desks that need to be removed and cleaning done. No internet activity – My-Fi free availability was discussed. The committee will plan on meeting there to look at the building and equipment next week.
- Board Member Compensation – Discussion regarding board compensation for members was discussed. Various Districts get paid \$100/meeting to \$1,000/year. It was also discussed that County employees would not be able to get paid or would have to forfeit their compensation if meetings were held during regular work hours.

**Old Business:**

- Solar Panel: - Midwest Wind & Solar - Tabled.
- Gary Radtke: - Radtke Engineering & Surveying – Barry indicated that Gary sent emails and he is making progress with the Agreement and it is moving in the right direction.
- Website Update – Nothing new.
- Generator Repair- H&T will be out February 22<sup>nd</sup> to do the repairs.

Marcella ended the meeting by thanking Tony Mancuso for all his hard work and years of commitment to the District Board. Tony is officially retiring from his position at the Health Department, and this is his last meeting. Tony was on the board for approximately 17 years and several board members thanked him for his dedication and hard work.

**Adjournment:** Motion to Adjourn at 10:12 a.m. was made by Marcella Kunstek, seconded by Mark Danielson, all in favor.