

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

October 25, 2022

9:00 a.m.

Time and Place:

The LaPorte County Regional Sewer & Water District monthly board meeting was held on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Central Time, by Zoom Meeting only. Login: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86214549057?pwd=a0djRmlLZ1dtbjBnalp0YXZ0eU94UT09> Meeting ID: 862 1454 9057 Password: 215476

Attendees:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by John Carr, roll call was taken. Those present included the following: John Carr, Mitch Bishop, Jerry Jackson, Dalia Zygus, and Amanda Lahners.

Not present: Marcella Kunstek and Mark Danielson.

Approval of Minutes:

None to approve this month.

Public Comments:

Tim Grieves – 5589 E Wawasee Trail – Saugany Lake – Built new house in 2017 – purchased additional property to put in a septic – now hears there is a sewer coming in – hears he can get an exemption that is good for 10-20 years, but will he have to pay more in 10-20 years?

If workers are going to be out there in yards, then they need to announce themselves. He was working for a sub-contractor and should have had an id.

Jennifer Ransbottom updated the board on her conversation with Mr. Greives prior to the meeting and discussed the information for the sewer exemption she will get to him.

Georgette Joyce – 7299 E Hudson Point – Neighbor got door tag – she didn't get one. Thinks someone is pumping septic into the lake. Called DNR – it was on a Sunday. Didn't have proof on it. Also had a question of how people on the Island

Amanda said that next time it happens they need to contact the Health Dept – on the Monday morning when they are open if it is on a weekend. Use a cell phone and take pictures.

Good question on how they dump their septic from the Island. No one knows and google seems to think it could be by boat.

Barry McDonnell also reminded everyone that the septic system also reminded everyone that is not a District Board matter but a Health Dept issue.

Public Comments were closed.

Reports - Finance Staff:

Steve Carter, the Board's accountant, presented the board with the following reports:
Financial Report

- 1.) Toll Road
 - A.) Beginning balance \$202,642.78 as of September 1, 2022.
 1. Deposits: \$26,960.00
 2. Interest Paid: \$1.75
 3. Disbursements: \$54,778.87
 - B.) Account Ending balance as of September 30, 2022, is \$174,825.66.
- 2.) Rolling Prairie Service Area
 - A.) Horizon Bank Checking-Rolling Prairie Account - had a beginning balance of \$5,780.73 as of September 1, 2022.
 1. Deposits: \$16,343.83
 2. Interest Paid \$3.26
 3. Disbursements: \$4,135.64
 4. Loan Principal County: \$1,830.00
 5. Reimbursement: \$0.00
 6. Transfers Bond & Int Acct: \$1,416.67.
 7. Transfers Debt Serv Reserve Acct: \$141.67. Ending Balance of \$1,841.69.
 - B.) Horizon Bank Checking had an ending balance of \$14,181.06 as of September 30, 2022.
- 3.) Hoosier Fund:
 - A.) Beginning balance \$252,501.25 as of September 1, 2022.
 1. Interest Paid: \$420.77
 - B.) Hoosier Fund ending balance as of September 30, 2022, is \$252,586.39.
- 4.) Claims
Steve Carter presented claims for consideration in the amount of \$35,578.18.

Mitch Bishop made the motion to approve the claims in the amount of \$35,578.18. Seconded by Jerry Jackson. Motion approved unanimously.

Reports:
Astbury

- No report received in time for board packets. Chris Vogler reported that there are no issues at the Water Plant or WWTP.
- Chris Vogler reported that he does have a meeting set up with Larson Danielson tomorrow afternoon set up to look at the roof.

Phase II Billing Update – Jennifer Ransbottom

Jennifer Ransbottom, from JPR gave an update on Phase II -

- Billing: Nothing new other than what is in the report.
- Aged Trial Balance Report – Big account balances will be getting liens placed on them at the end of this year or early next year.

- Barry forwarded an email to me from an attorney representing a property owner in Rolling Prairie. I am working on gathering all the letters and communications we mailed to RP customers regarding Phase II and the Reimbursement program, etc. so he can provide it all to his client and explain the connection information and process, etc.

Phase II Update –

- Connections for property owners continue.
- Asset Management Plan Update – Steve Carter indicated that he had made significant progress – he spoke with Josh Wyman and Steve will get a draft to JPR by the end of this week.
- PER – Hudson/Saugany – Timeline – Term Sheet –
- Randy Rompola – gave a brief description of the Bond Ordinance & BAN Information & Approval steps and process.
- Bond Ordinance needs to be adopted in order to be able to issue a Bond Anticipation Note – (BAN) – The Bond Ordinance will have a not to exceed amount of \$35 Million and the BAN is at \$4 Million. The numbers are rounded up.
- Term of the BAN would be 5 years and the term of the Bonds would be 35 years when issued.
- Officers will sign a financial assistance agreement with SRF which is mentioned in the Bond Ordinance.
- BAN will be payable from the Bonds when they are issued.
- SRF funds may be in forgivable loans, or with 0% rate or at a current interest rate.
- Randy mentioned that there is a typo on page 4 which should be changed from \$5 Million to \$35 Million. If the board decides to make a Motion tonight to adopt the Bond Ordinance, it will need to be made with this amendment.
- Steve Carter then indicated that there was some initial interest from Horizon Bank and that he will need to get them additional information.
- Discussions with the board regarding funding and forgivable loans and SRF’s placing the Hudson/Saugany project as #1 on its Project Priority List was held.
- Discussion on the process of suspending the normal process of 1st & 2nd reading was held.
- Board members discussed if it was necessary to wait to review the Bond Ordinance or to move forward with the adoption now.

Dalia Zygus made a Motion to Suspend the Rules and do the 1st and 2nd reading of the Bond Ordinance 2022-01. Seconded by Amanda Lahners.

Roll call taken and results were as follows: John Carr-yes, Jerry Jackson-yes, Dalia Zygus-yes, Mitch Bishop-yes and Amanda Lahners- yes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Amanda Layners made a Motion to Approve the Bond Ordinance 2022-01 with the Amendment on page 4 changing \$5 Million to \$35 Million. Seconded by Dalia Zygus.

Roll call taken and results were as follows: John Carr-yes, Jerry Jackson-yes, Dalia Zygus-yes, Mitch Bishop-yes and Amanda Lahners- yes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Executive Committee:

- None

Engineering Committee:

- None

New Business:

- Next Meeting, November 22, 2022
- Pre-Agenda meeting to be held November 15th – John, Marcella, Steve H. Barry, Steve C. Randy, Jennifer

2022 Meetings:

- Next meeting, September 27, 2022, in person and zoom.

Old Business:

- Mitch Bishop discussed having a written agreement regarding the easements for Michigan City and giving them the rights.
- Discussions regarding what the board wants to do and waiving the easement fees.

Adjournment:

Mitch Bishop made the motion to adjourn at 9:52 a.m. Seconded by Jerry Jackson.
Motion approved unanimously.