

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

March 26, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Time and Place:

The LaPorte County Regional Sewer & Water District monthly board meeting was held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. Central Time, at 809 State Street, Room #3, LaPorte, IN 46350 and by Zoom Meeting, Login:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82015295897?pwd=SjllK0FsYnFzM3B5TFZxNUsxQ0xvdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 1529 5897 Password: 060992

Attendees:

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by John Carr, roll call was taken. Those present included the following: John Carr, Mitch Bishop, Marcella Kunstek, Jerry Jackson, and Amanda Lahners. Not Present: Mark Danielson.

Approval of Minutes:

Marcella Kunstek made a Motion to approve the minutes from February 27, 2024. Seconded by Jerry Jackson. All in favor. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Comments:

Christina & Nickalas Soder – 212 W. Mechanic Street – appeared at the meeting to discuss the pump issue by their property which overflowed. They expressed their concerns regarding the spill and health of the family. They are requesting soil testing be done at their property. Jerry Jackson explained the soil information and testing. He also indicated that he sent an email to EPA and did not get a reply. Jerry Jackson will meet with them and get the property soil tested.

The board discussed having their soil tested and agreed this was the best way to go.

Marcella Kunstek made a Motion to Test the Soil where overflow happened – at 212 Mechanic Street. Seconded by Jerry Jackson. All in favor. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Comments was closed.

Reports - Finance Staff:

Steve Carter, the Board's accountant, presented the financial report to the board with the following reports and reported that Month End reports have been completed and reconciled to the bank accounts.

Financial Report

1.) Toll Road

A.) Beginning balance \$122,887.25 as of February 1, 2024.

1. Deposits: \$0.00
2. Interest Paid: \$201.99
3. Disbursements: \$20,057.24
4. Voided check \$0.00

B.) Account Ending balance as of February 1, 2024, is \$103,032.00.

2.) Rolling Prairie Service Area

A.) Horizon Bank Checking-Rolling Prairie Account - had a beginning balance of \$161,250.02 as of February 1, 2024.

1. Deposits: \$54,306.81 and interest Paid \$ - not showing on report.
2. SRF Deposit Reimbursements \$0.00.
3. Bond Proceeds: \$0.00.
4. Disbursements: 3,959.15.
5. Loan Principal County: \$1,830.00
6. Reimbursement: \$0.00
7. Transfers Debt Service, Bond & Int Acct: \$6,233.36
8. Loan Payment paid: \$0.00
9. Transfers Debt Serv Reserve Acct: Paid \$566.68, ending Balance \$6,233.46, Bond & Interest Acct: \$5,666.68, Ending Balance of \$32,313.82.

Toll Road deposit was inadvertently placed in the Rolling Prairie account. Steve will write a check to redeposit the Toll Road account.

B.) Horizon Bank Checking had an ending balance of \$203,534.32 as of February 1, 2024.

3.) Hoosier Fund:

A.) Beginning balance \$347,710.02, February 1, 2024.

1. Interest Paid: \$1,491.80.
2. Transfer Funds: \$0.00

B.) Hoosier Fund ending balance as of February 29, 2024, is \$349,201.82.

4.) Hudson/Saugany – Horizon Account.

A.) Beginning balance \$2,485,718.53 as of February 1, 2024.

1. Deposits: \$0
2. Interest Paid: \$10,020.14
3. Reimbursements: \$0.00
4. Disbursements: \$129,069.86
5. Bank Fees: \$0.00

C.) Account Ending balance as of February 29, 2024, is \$2,366,688.81.

5.) Claims

Steve Carter presented claims in the amount of \$78,296.87.

Jerry Jackson made a motion to approve the claims in the amount of \$78,296.87. Seconded by Marcella Kunstek. All in Favor. Motion approved unanimously.

Reports:

Astbury

- Chris Vogeler was not on Zoom this month as he was on vacation. Report was reviewed and all looks good.

JPR Billing/Collection:

- Jennifer Ransbottom reported there is nothing more than what is in the report.

Phase II Update –

- Dan Byam reported, and he is waiting on SRF’s response to PER Amendment #4 for the Rolling Prairie Phase II project.

Hudson/Saugany Update:

1. General

- a. Proposed Project Contracts
 - i. Phase I
 1. Contract A – Saugany Lake Pump Station and Force Main
 2. Contract B -Saugany Lake Wastewater Collection System
 - ii. Phase II
 1. Contract A – Travel Plaza #3 WWTP Expansion
 2. Contract B – Hudson Lake Pump Station and Force Main
 3. Contract C -Hudson Lake Collection System I
 - iii. Phase III
 1. Contract A -Hudson Lake Collection System II
 2. Contract B -Hudson Lake Collection System III
 3. Contract C -Hudson Lake Collection System IV

2. Wastewater Treatment Plant

- a. JPR is working on design of WWTP Improvements to be included in the Phase I Project, including the addition of a new manual screen box and EQ pumps in the existing surge tank.
- b. JPR coordinating w/ AeroMOD regarding the improvements needed regarding upsizing the air feed lines to the existing clarifier bridges to improve clarifier performance.
- c. Proposed WWTP Expansion for Phases II and III will be designed in late 2024.

3. Wastewater Collection System

- a. Preliminary Plan and profile alignment and drawings
 - i. Finalizing design of Saugany Lake pressure sewers and mainline force mains.
 1. Adjusting Pump Station No. 7 force main to run along county roads rather than through the existing Toll Road Easement.
 2. Pump Station No. 7 force main is being relocated to county roads due to potential issues with accessing force mains and ARV stations when maintenance is required.
 - a. Substantial portions of the Toll Road include steeply graded swales and guardrails, making access to the R/W difficult from the Toll Road without the construction of access drives.
 - ii. Saugany Lake Grinder Station Placements and labeling adjustments are continuing.
 - iii. Saugany Lake electrical distribution system layout complete.
 - iv. IDEM Construction Permit for Phase I project expected to be submitted in April 2024.

- v. Hudson Lake pressure sewer system plan and profile drawings to be continued to be worked on into 2024.

4. Land Acquisition

- a. Grinder Station Easements
 - i. JPR is continuing to meet with property owners to discuss grinder station placement.
- b. Mainline Easements
 - i. Right of way research is being continued to identify segments where mainline easements will be needed.
- c. Pump Station Sites
 - i. Will continue to work on finalizing purchase of property for Pump Station No. 8 (Hudson) into 2024.

Dan discussed with the board that JPR has a generator. He will also get cost to have all 4 sites installed with their own generators. Hudson-Saugany project already has generators figured into them.

Purchase Agreement was discussed for property owner at Saugany. The only change to the agreement is the property owner wanted his attorney fees of \$600 covered as well.

Marcella Kunstek made a motion to approve the Purchase Agreement with the included attorney fees as requested. Seconded by Jerry Jackson. All in Favor. Motion approved unanimously.

Income Study – Discussion regarding JPR is waiting on additional information from funding source prior to sending out and starting the Income Study.

Engineering Committee

- None.

New Business:

- Next Meeting, April 23, 2024.
- Steve Carter presented his Engagement Letter – it was not in the board packets. The board decided to table it until next meeting so they have time to review.

Old Business:

- Rate Ordinance – Barry still has for his review and will have it for next month.

Adjournment:

Mitch Bishop made the motion to adjourn at 9:42 a.m. Seconded by Marcella Kunstek. All in Favor. Motion approved unanimously.