

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

April 7, 2025

2:00 P.M.

Time and Place:

The LaPorte County Regional Sewer & Water District monthly board meeting was held on Monday, April 7, 2025, 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

A. Call to Order

Mitch Bishop called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

C. Roll Call

Roll call was taken. Those present included the following: Mitch Bishop, Marcella Kunstek, Jerry Jackson, and Amanda Lahners

D. Consideration of First Amendment to Amended and Restated Rate Ordinance – Public Hearing

Marcella Kunstek made a motion for consideration of the second reading of the First Amendment to the Amended and Restated Rate Ordinance and to conduct the public hearing. Seconded by Jerry Jackson. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

Barry McDonnell read by title only the second reading and public hearing of the LaPorte County Regional Sewer and Water District First Amendment to the Amended and Restated Sewer Rate Ordinance. An Ordinance Amending and Restated sewer rate Ordinance (2024-01) and establishing a schedule of rates and charges to be collected by the District from owners of property served or to be served by the District's Hudson & Saugany Lake Wastewater System – Phase I Project ("First Amendment"). T

Steve Carter stated that the Ordinance was introduced at the last meeting and set for public hearing had a base rate of \$120.00 per EDU. The Amended Ordinance has a revised EDU rate of \$115.00. The 6 different options from the bid package from the Engineers was analyzed. The cost were then divided by the number of users. The Financial Advisors' and the Engineers' recommendation for the most cost-effective

approach is to do all 5 alternates plus the base bid for a monthly charge of \$115.00 for 101 connections, taking out the exemptions that are on file.

Public Hearing

- Glen Nolte – 5782 E 800 N – I am fortunate to live on Saugany Lake, and I stand in favor of the sewer project. Would like a copy of the rate sheet.
- Mark Hewer – 5791 E Saugany Trail – With regards to the rates, what are the odds the other phases come through with funding or are we going to be stuck with just the first 100 people being connected and then for years and years be connected and we are stuck with something that is only for us and the majority of us are part-time residents. There are only 14 residents that are full-time on the lake out of the 49. It seems like a waste of money. With regards to the rates how often historically have rates changed as they will never go down, they will only go up. What are the odds of the new phases coming. You said the cost could vary by how the funding comes in from state and local. I think it would be drastically unfair for those in the first phase to pay anything more than what the other phases coming in will pay. He knows he missed the cut off the exemption, but he would like waiver. There are a lot of people on that lake that are on fixed income retirees don't have access to \$115 a month. You maybe forcing someone have to sell a property that they don't want to sell.

Amanda Lahners made a motion to suspend the Public Hearing. Seconded by Jerry Jackson. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Hearing closed at 9:19 AM.

Jerry Jackson made a motion to have a third reading of the Amended and Restated Bond Ordinance. Marcella Kunstek seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

Barry McDonnell read by title only the third and final reading of the LaPorte County Regional Sewer and Water District First Amendment to the Amended and Restated Sewer Rate Ordinance. An Ordinance Amending and the Amended and Restated sewer rate Ordinance (2024-01) and establishing a schedule of rates and charges to be collected by the District from owners of property served or to be served by the District's Hudson & Saugany Lake Wastewater System – Phase I Project ("First Amendment").

Jerry Jackson made a motion to approve the third reading of the Amended and Restated Bond Ordinance as read. Marcella Kunstek seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

E. Consideration of Amended and Restated Bond Ordinance.

Mitch Bishop read by title only the second reading of an Amended and Restated Ordinance Authorizing the acquisition, construction and installation of certain

improvements for the sewage works system of the LaPorte County Regional Sewer and Water District, the issuance of revenue bonds to provide the cost thereof, the collection, segregation and distribution of the revenues of such system, the safeguarding of the interests of the owners of such revenue bonds and other matters connected therewith, including the issuance of notes in anticipation of such bonds, and repealing Ordinances inconsistent herewith.

Randy Rompola, of Barnes and Thornburg, stated this is an Amendment and Restatement of the Ordinance. It authorizes Bonds up to \$35M and Forgivable BANS up to \$ 5M. This sets the financing for the first phase of the project. The need for the Restated Ordinance is due to the passage of time since it was adopted. Previously, the State, through the SRF has made changes to their form documents as to how they would like to see language in the Ordinance. The Ordinance presented conforms to the state's current requirements.

Jerry Jackson made a motion to have the third reading of the Amended and Restated Bond Ordinance. Marcella Kunstek seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mitch Bishop read by title only the third reading of an Amended and Restated Ordinance Authorizing the acquisition, construction and installation of certain improvements for the sewage works system of the LaPorte County Regional Sewer and Water District, the issuance of revenue bonds to provide the cost thereof, the collection, segregation and distribution of the revenues of such system, the safeguarding of the interests of the owners of such revenue bonds and other matters connected therewith, including the issuance of notes in anticipation of such bonds, and repealing Ordinances inconsistent herewith.

Jerry Jackson made a motion to approve the third reading of the Amended and Restated Bond Ordinance. Amanda Lahner seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. Adjournment

Jerry Jackson made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Marcella Kunstek. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 A.M.