

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER AND WATER DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

February 24, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Time and Place:

The LaPorte County Regional Sewer & Water District monthly board meeting was held on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, 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

John Carr called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

C. Roll Call

Roll call was taken.

Present: John Carr, Mitch Bishop, Corey Campbell, Mark Danielson, Jerry Jackson, Marcella Kunstek and Amanda Lahners

Absent: Mitch Bishop

Also Present: Daniel Byam, Jones Petrie Rafinski
Steve Carter, O.W. Krohn & Associates
Barry McDonnell, Esq
Jennifer Ransbottom, Jones Petrie Rafinski
Chris Vogeler, Astbury (via zoom)

D. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the January 27, 2026, Monthly Board meeting were presented. Amanda Lahners made a motion to approve the January 27 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mark Danielson. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Public Comments:

No public comment

F. Reports

1. Steve Carter – Claims and Finance

Steve Carter provided the financial report for the year ending January 31, 2026

- a. Rolling Prairie
 - i. Receipts for the month: \$38,512.02
 - ii. Operating Disbursements: \$6,319.87
 - iii. Interest Income: \$340.28
 - iv. Loan Payment to the County: \$1,830.00
 - v. Total Positive Cash Flow: \$30,702.43
 - vi. Total Ending Balance: \$445,638.96
 - vii. Monthly Analysis of Fund Balances
 - a. Operation & Maintenance (Horizon): \$419,946.50
 - b. Debt Service Reserve (BONY): \$16,190.50
 - c. Bond & Interest (BONY): \$9,501.96
- b. Hudson Saugany Service Area
 - i. Receipts for the month: \$5,840.38
 - ii. Operating Disbursements: \$510.00
 - iii. Interest Income: \$4,877.99
 - iv. Total Negative Cash Flow: \$111,502.81
 - v. Monthly Analysis of Fund Balances
 - a. Operation & Maintenance (Horizon Checking): \$85,623.85
 - b. Debt Service Reserve (BONY): \$12,285.42
 - c. Bond & Interest Account (BONY): \$7,016.28
 - d. Construction Fund (Hoosier Fund): \$990,881.49
 - e. Construction Fund (BONY): \$357,926.32
- c. Toll Road – Horizon Account.
 - i. Receipts for the month: \$34,357.71
 - ii. Operating Disbursements: \$18,115.87
 - iii. Interest Income: \$507.12
 - iv. Total Positive Cash Flow: \$16,748.96
 - v. Total Ending Balance: \$245,159.45
 - vi. Monthly Analysis of Fund Balances
 - a. Operation & Maintenance (Horizon): \$120,577.02
 - b. Improvement Fund (Hoosier Fund): \$124,582.43
- d. Claims totaling
Steve Carter indicated claims for approval in the amount of \$74,659.27.

Mark Danielson made a motion to accept the financial report as presented and claims in the amount of \$74,659.27 as submitted. Corey Campbell seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

Steve Carter reported that the annual report for 2025 has been prepared and was sent to Marcella Kunstek and John Carr for review. He indicated the report is to be submitted by the end of the month.

2. Astbury Water Technologies

a. Operations

Chris Vogeler indicated there were issues at the waste treatment plant. A transformer went down and lost a portion of electricity to the panels. H&G was called and replaced with approval from several Board members and the District Administrator. Another electrical issue was with some of the compressors that had electrical connections shake loose, so those were replaced. The major issue is a leak in the water system, which is losing 40,000-50,000 gallons of water a day. The Toll Road is conducting its second dig, and the problem area has yet to be identified. Jerry Jackson inquired if there is one pipe that crosses the highway? Chris Vogeler indicated there are 2 pipes that cross the highway, as it was a looped system. Eight years ago, there was a leak that could not be found. At that time, the Toll Road shut the north and south side valves off, and the leak stopped; nothing further was done. This issue continues to be monitored.

Barry McDonnell inquired about the Astbury service agreement, which is technically out of contract as of last October. He stated Tom Astbury suggested waiting in order to so some revised contract that might include the additional phases for Hudson and Saugany. Barry McDonnell indicated he would like to get a new contract for this phase and does not want to incorporate any additional work and negotiate those separately as the phases go along. He will follow up with Tom Astbury regarding this.

b. Billings

Jennifer Ransbottom indicated the report was included in the Board packet.

G. JPR District Administrator

1. Variance Invoices for Property Owners

Jennifer Ransbottom indicated there is approximately \$37,000 in variance payments that has been received.

Jennifer Ransbottom reported that there is one property owner who has an exemption, but has another septic on their property that was found and not properly inspected. Further investigation will be conducted.

2. Toll Road – Emergency Repair and Water Leak Update

This issue was discussed under agenda item 2a.

H. JPR – District Engineer

Dan Byam referenced the Project Update Report, noting that pending change orders and pay applications currently reflect a 9.3% increase in the cost of Contract A and a 5.3% decrease in Contract B. The net change to all contracts is 2.1%. Approaching 50% completion on both contracts. Quantities install TGB Unlimited has installed about 7,300 feet of pipe, which is about 42% complete, and Selge has installed about 7,400 feet of pipe, which is about 46% complete. Selge has installed 4 of the 78 grinders on the project, but they will be moving into the phase of installing more grinders.

1. Hudson/Saugany Project Construction Update

a. Contract A – TGB Pay App #7

Dan Byam presented Contract A - TGB's Pay App #7 for \$319,133.31 for continuation of drilling and purchase of pump station equipment. He indicated JPR reviewed all quantities and recommended Board approval for payment.

Mark Danielson made a motion to approve Contract A - TGB's Pay App #7 for \$319,133.31. Corey Campbell seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Contract B - Selge Pay App #5

Dan Byam presented Contract B - Selge's Pay App #5 for \$74,625.15 for installation of a few grinders and pipe being installed. He indicated JPR reviewed all quantities and recommended Board approval for payment.

Mark Danielson made a motion to approve Contract B - Selge's Pay App #5 for \$74,625.15. Corey Campbell seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

c. Contract B – Selge Change Order #6

Dan Byam presented Contract B – Selge's Change Order #6. This change order is a net increase of \$8,556.50 includes grinder station changes due to property owners and to meet gravity lateral slope requirements. JPR recommends issuance of Change Order #5.

Corey Campbell made a motion to approve Contract B, Change Order #6. Mark Danielson seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. 350 E Lift Station Pump Follow-Up

Dan Byam indicated on February 12, Jerry Jackson indicated that the lift station at 350 E serving Rolling Prairie had failed. The pump was pulled from service and replaced with one of the District's spare pumps. BL Anderson, the Xylem Flygt pump

repair company, will be making the repairs on the failed pump in order to put it back into service.

3. Hudson Saugany – Phase II Plan

Dan Byam indicated JPR continues to work on making the next phase most cost-effective for the District. JPR is working to finalize a recommended scope for the Phase 2 project. Currently looking at a pressure sewer system to serve the areas closest to Hudson Lake's lakefront instead of the entire Hudson Lake service area. Also looking to construct pump station 8 and the force main to convey it to pump station 7 at Saugany Lake, and to reduce the scope of expansion at the travel plaza wastewater plant. Dan Byam indicated the expansion of the wastewater plant from its current capacity of 0.080 MGD up to 0.160 MGD and would not require the construction of any new processing tankage at the plant site. This will allow for the connection of the initial phase of the Hudson Lake customer, as well as up to 475 EDUs of future expansion.

I. Executive Committee

1. Executive Committee meeting to be scheduled before the next meeting.
2. Finance Committee meeting to be scheduled before the next meeting.

J. Engineering Committee

No meeting held.

L. New Business

1. Pre-Agenda Meeting & Attendees – John Carr, Marcella Kunstek, Corey Campbell, Barry McDonnell, Dan Byam, and Jennifer Ransbottom, March 17, 2026, at 9:00 AM Central (10:00 AM Eastern).
2. Next Meeting – March 24, 2026, in person and Zoom/Teams links.

L. Old Business

IFA Regional Planning meeting: The Northwest Region is scheduled for February 25 in Schererville Town Hall, 10 East Joliet Street, at 1:00 – 2:30 PM CST. – Jerry Jackson and Mitch Bishop will be attendees.

M. Adjournment

Mark Danielson made a motion to adjourn. Second by Corey Campbell. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 AM.