

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER AND WATER DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

July 28, 2026

9:00 a.m.

Time and Place:

The LaPorte County Regional Sewer & Water District monthly board meeting was held on Tuesday, July 28, 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

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

C. Roll Call

Roll call was taken.

Present: John Carr, Mitch Bishop, Corey Campbell, Marcella Kunstek,nd Amanda Lahners

Absent: Mark Danielson and Jerry Jackson

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 of June 23, 2026, Monthly Board meeting were presented.

Corey Campbell made a motion to approve the June 23, 2026, meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Amanda Lahners. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Public Comments:

Robert Smith, 5777 E Saugana Trail - Mr. Smith distributed pictures of what JPR did to an 80-year-old neighbor of his who comes out about 30 days a year. Costs him about \$50 a poop; that's it, and they put his grinder pump in the middle of a drive where he parks cars. Tried to talk to Jenny at JPR, and that took us nowhere. She did nothing. He then got hold of Dan, who was supposed to come out and see him to get it moved, but then he called him- yes, Ron Main. Mr. Main cannot come to the meeting, which is why Mr. Smith is representing him. What JPR did is totally wrong. These pictures will show you what they did. That week, they did 3 grinder pumps out there, 2 of them, one that is at our cottage, which they didn't put a stub out. We are tearing the building down because it needs to be torn down. It hasn't produced any sewage in about 7 years, and that is why we were trying to get you guys to get us off the hook, because we are not building anything on there right now. Mr. Smith took the pictures up to the Board members and showed them where Mr. Main's grinder pump was placed and where Mr. Main wanted the grinder pump placed. Marcella Kunstek inquired if this was Mr. Main's secondary or primary driveway. Mr. Smith indicated it is Mr. Main's primary drive. Mr. Smith stated Josh, who works for JPR, came out and told Mr. Main, if you had been here 2 hours ago, we would have moved it for you. Mr. Smith stated that is ridiculous. You moved the other 2 a farther distance from what his is going to be. I think it is terrible for an 80-some-year-old man that if he had been there 2 hours, he would have gone ahead and moved it for him. That is ridiculous, as he was at the sewer board meeting and I would have been here last month to bring this stuff, but I had jury selection duty in Michigan City, so I could not be here. They need to come back out and put another tap in, or I don't think we need to pay if they are not putting a tap in for us. John Carr stated he will get with the engineers after the meeting and go over this. Mr. Smith stated he would appreciate it.

Mr. Smith stated there were a couple of other things he wanted to say. He stated he knows Mitch and Mitch talked to you, John. We have a \$10M project; they have torn up the roads, they've cut our trees and shrubs, and torn up the lawn. They are kind of fixing it, but it's not fixed. The thing is, this is a \$10M project, and no one comes out to look at anything that is going on out there? Come on, guys, that is why I talked to Yakym's office, and he said that the commissioners were going to actually be over the board. Because you told me before that I was your boss. Obviously, if I was your boss, we wouldn't have put in a substandard system. We would have put in something better. You need checks and balances. Pointing to JPR staff, he said they say we need to change order for this and change order for that, no body checks anything. I was in business for years; there was no way I could go back to a customer and say I'm going to charge you another \$40-\$50,000 because we did not realize that these lines ran under your building. They should have known on the South Shore track. It is just terrible. Mr. Smith stated he would have fired John Carr if he were his boss because he has not been out there. John Carr stated your in correct sir; I have been out there several times.

Gary McCloud, 7601 Huron – Last time I was here, I asked about the location of a box that was put in front of my house. I had asked if it could be put on a pole across the street. I reached out to Dave about relocating it, who indicated he would take a look at it. They have not run into anything as of yet, but at this point it looks like they have. I don't know if there is a process to follow up on the status or who to reach out to. There was no concern as to where the box was placed, and when I specifically said I don't want it in front of my house, the response received was we don't think you'd care where it was because other people did not care if it would be in front of their house. I do care. If I am looking out of the house and see a box that is my height sticking up, and the response is that I would have to pay to get it moved. I am frustrated. The person who did the grinders was completely out of line of sight of everything. They took the time to walk to reach out to every single resident that signed their waiver or easement right, and he worked with everyone meticulously. When I asked Dave about the placement of the boxes he said he was told where to put them in.

F. Reports

1. Steve Carter – Claims and Finance

Steve Carter reported the following financials for the month of June.

a. Rolling Prairie

- i. Receipts for the month: \$13,362.62
- ii. Operating Disbursements: \$15,114.00
- iii. Interest Income: \$317.90
- iv. Loan Payment to the County: \$1,830
- v. Net negative cash flow for the month: \$3,263.48
- vi. Total ending balance: \$410,615.20

Monthly Analysis of Fund Balances

- a. Operation & Maintenance (Horizon): \$385,447.99
- b. Debt Service Reserve (BONY): \$16,190.50
- c. Bond & Interest (BONY): \$8,976.71

b. Hudson Saugany Service Area

- i. Receipts for the month: \$5,169.85
- ii. Operating Disbursements: \$668.39
- iii. Interest Income: \$3,263.00
- vi. Ending Cash Balance: \$846,107.71

Monthly Analysis of Fund Balances

- a. Operation & Maintenance (Horizon Checking): \$27,205.04
- b. Debt Service Reserve (BONY): \$20,232.38
- c. Bond & Interest Account (BONY): \$44,820.87
- d. Construction Fund (Hoosier Fund): \$753,849.42

c. Toll Road – Horizon Account.

- i. Receipts for the month: \$34,357.42
- ii. Operating Disbursements: \$23,330.08
- iii. Interest Income: \$543.70
- iv. Total Positive Cash Flow: \$19,559.55
- v. Total Ending Balance: \$318,443.33

Monthly Analysis of Fund Balances

- a. Operation & Maintenance (Horizon): \$191,982.92
- b. Improvement Fund (Hoosier Fund): \$126,460.41

d. Claims

Steve Carter indicated there were additional claims from what was sent to the members. A claim from Lori Shipman for Hudson Saugany for \$2,591 and an Astbury bill for \$225.00. The modified total Claims for approval was \$68,972.94.

Marcella Kunstek made a motion to approve the Claims as presented. Mitch Bishop seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Astbury Water Technologies

a. Operations

Chris Vogeler indicated there were a couple of repairs made to the generators that have been on the schedule for some time and were completed in July. Ferric Chloride is to be delivered in August. The level sensor at the lift station was repaired.

Jennifer Ransbottom inquired if the flows are back down. Chris Vogeler indicated the flows are remaining the same. The flow went back to where it originally was. There was probably a pipe that broke during the winter when the increase started in February.

b. Billing

Jennifer Ransbottom stated that Astbury's billing information was included in the Board's packet.

G. JPR District Administrator

1. Variance Invoices for Property Owners

This information was included in the Board packet.

2. Toll Road – Emergency Repair and Water Leak Update

Repair of the outside spigot was completed.

3. Overflow Charges – May \$7,287.50

It does not appear that Toll Road has paid the additional invoice for the water leakage.

4. Customer Connection Process Update – Saugany Lake – Engineering meeting to be scheduled

5. Cyber Security Vulnerability Assessment – Engineering Committee Review

H. JPR – District Engineer

1. Hudson/Saugany Project Construction Update

Dan Byam reported the construction contract is about 97% complete. Contract A, TGB is 100% complete with drilling of the force main pipe, but still has the jack and bore. Selge has 97% of the grinders installed.

a. Contract A – TGB Pay App #12

Dan Byam presented Contract A - TGB's Pay App #12 for \$98,126.05. He indicated JPR reviewed all quantities and recommended Board approval for payment.

Mitch Bishop made a motion to approve Contract A - TGB's Pay App #12 for \$98,126.0. Corey Campbell seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Contract B – Selge Pay App #10

Dan Byam indicated that Pay App #10 for \$601,812.71. He indicated JPR reviewed all quantities and recommended Board approval for payment.

Mitch Bishop made a motion to approve Contract A - TGB's Pay App #10 for \$601,812.71. Amanda Lahners seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dan Byam indicated TGB continues to work, but Selge's work is mostly complete with Contract B with just a couple grinders to tie in, but their work is mainly restoration. The JPR Inspector has put together a pre-punch list and is working through the list.

Dan Byam indicated he included a letter received from TGB and was requested to be shared with the District Board. TGB is requesting a time extension per the 4.05C Delays in Contractor's Progress, due to the vandalism of the 12" HDPE. Substantial completion date is November 23. There was no time extension duration indicated in the letter, and Dan Byam had indicated to TGB to provide supporting data that indicates the circumstances that form the basis for the formally requested adjustment, the date upon which the disruption began, the date the disruption was resolved, and a request for the total number of days by which the contract time is increased. None of this information was provided in the letter. Dan Byam indicated that TGB identified 3 sections that are not able to hold pressure. Dan Byam felt the TGB letter was a heads-up, but recommended the Board respond to TGB. He recommended responding to TGB, citing the Article of the General Conditions indicating TGB needs to respond formally to the Board with the information listed in the Articles of Conditions section of the agreement.

Dan Byam will continue working on alternatives for future construction phases.

I. **Executive Committee - 2026 Budget Information - Ongoing**
No report

J. Finance Committee
No Meeting

K. Engineering Committee
Meeting to be scheduled.

L. New Business

1. Pre-Agenda Meeting & Attendees – John Carr, Marcella Kunstek, Corey Campbell, Barry McDonnell, Dan Byam, and Jennifer Ransbottom. Next meeting is August 18, 2026, at 9:00 AM Central (10:00 AM Eastern)
2. Next Meeting – August 25, 2026, in person and via Zoom/Teams links.

M. Old Business

1. Flow Meter Repair – 1083 E SR 2 – LaPorte Village Manufactured Home Community (Account #M014173-0)
No update at this time.

N. Adjournment

Corey Campbell made a motion to adjourn at 9:50 a.m. Seconded by Mitch Bishop. All were in favor. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 AM.

"J:\Projects\2019 Projects\2019-0071 Laporte\Administrative Tasks\Board Packets\2026\8-25-2026\D.1. 2026-07-28 Meeting Minutes.doc"