GREEN LAKE SANITARY DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Green Lake Sanitary District was called to order by Commissioner Bates on Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at 8:02 AM at the Green Lake Sanitary District Office N5295 County Road TT, Princeton WI 54968 and via zoom.

Present: Ken Bates, Justin Ellis, and Mike Streit

Others Present: Lisa Reas, Administrator, Paulette Z Janssen & Katie Mehn Administrative Assistants, Dallas Lewallen and Stu Marks, Plant Operators, Hannah Niewoehner, Watershed Coordinator, Thad Majkowski and Matt Dorow representatives from Cedar Corp, Rick Manthe representative for Stafford. 4 people signed in.

Written notice of this meeting was given to the Green Lake Reporter. The News Release was posted at Fortifi Bank, the Green Lake Post Office, the GLSD Office and the GLSD website.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - ***M/S (Bates/Ellis)*** approved the minutes of August 22, 2026, regular meeting. Motion Carried 3-0.

TREASURERS REPORT - ***M/S (Bates/Streit)*** approve August 2026 Treasurers Report. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Streit-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

Plant Operator's Report - The plant operator's report was discussed (see attached).

Discussion Area 9 Sewer Extension Update Area 9 – Reas updated the board that the project is in its end phase. All sewer construction and landscape repair are complete, except for Hickory Road. The sewer main and lateral stub construction began on September 15th. Residents have been communicating with the District to ensure they have access through the area as needed during the week and Egbert's has ensured that the roadway will remain passable each weekend. The project is on track to have construction completed around. October 1st with paving to be completed the week of October 5th.

Discussion/Possible Action: Approve Change Order

M/S (Bates/Streit) **to** approve Change Order No. 2 for Egbert Excavating in an amount not to exceed $11,358.00. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Streit-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Discussion/Possible Action: Approve Pay Request #3 for Egbert Excavating

M/S (Bates/Ellis) **to** approve Pay request #3 for Egbert Excavating in an amount not to exceed $335,873.74. Contingent on lien waivers. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Streit-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Discussion/Possible Action: Area 9 Project Restoration – The project is looking great. The overall landscape restoration has been very successful due to the timely rainfall we've had over the past month.

WPDES New Permit Project Work / Land Application Update - Stu and Dallas continue to spray irrigate on the parcels, though with many of the lake residents having left for the season, our daily flows have dropped. We are only irrigating the parcels a couple times per week, weather depending.

Discussion/Possible Action: Approve Pay Request #13 for August Winter - Reas reported that the 13th pay request from August Winter has been submitted (see attached).

M/S (Bates/Streit) to approve Pay request #13 for August Winter in an amount not to exceed $17,475.20. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Streit-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Discussion/Possible Action: Approve Change Order

***M/S (Streit/Bates)* to** approve Change Order No. 6 for August Winter for reduction in cost to the project of -$97,140.97. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Streit-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

NON-POINT

Discussion: Watershed Coordinator Report – Hannah Niewoehner - Niewoehner provided the board with an overview of her watershed coordinator report (see attached).

Properties Update – Reas provided a rundown of what was being accomplished on the Conservancy properties. Scott Neuman's report is attached. Scott continues to be very busy with property mowing and trail & brush work.

Discussion/Possible Action: Conservancy Properties Amenities –

Reas explained she has been working with Melissa Curron on grant opportunities for Norwegian Bay frontage need bioengineering or additional stabilization as well as funding for conservation easements for Winnebago Trail, Assembly Creek, Wick Preserve. Phragmites, reed canary grass and buckthorn eradication at Wick, North Bay, and Assembly Creek.

Reas gave the board an overview of the issue of amenities on the properties, providing a background of how the topic of benches at Tichora arose. She explained how back in 2024, the GLSD began discussing benches including plastic vs. wooden benches. She explained how she suggested the current proposed style based on the board direction to use wood vs. plastic. She provided a photo of the first bench made for Tichora. She explained how she verified with the Knowles Nelson grant folks that benches were acceptable for use on the Tichora property, and that she and Marc Dosogne from the GLC walked through the property to determine locations where a bench would be warranted. Eight spots were identified. As this plan for benches became known, several District residents reached out with concerns. As this issue became more widely known, additional residents reached out in support of adding benches.

Appearance by Jerry Specht and Bur Zeratsky –

Bur Zeratsky spoke on behalf of the Green Lake Conservancy stating that they are in favor of putting some benches in Tichora. He said the joint partnership between the GLC and the GLSD currently has dedicated/memorial benches at other conservancy properties. He explained more about the bench style & materials as well as the concept of their donation as memorials to specific people or groups.

Ken Bates spoke on behalf of Jerry Specht as he wasn't able to attend the meeting. He stated Jerry's belief that some benches are okay, but that they should be simple in style. Discussion was had by the board including questions regarding the use of the revenue created by the memorials provided for the benches, which was not finalized as yet by the GLC.

Reas recommended a compromise with the benches. Mike Streit mentioned that he would like to go back to the GLC for a better definition of what are acceptable for memorial plagues and fix the wording of the letter that is going out to the public. After the discussion was held, the board directed Reas to work with the Green Lake Conservancy to place five benches and also develop a maintenance plan on the Tichora property.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: Aqweed Harvesting Equipment
Reas explained that the GLSD currently operates two aquatic plant harvesters during our DNR-allowed harvesting season of June 1st through August 31st, and that the District operated just one harvester prior to 2012. The second harvester allowed us to meet the needs of the lake, as well as Silver Creek and the City millpond. She acknowledge that our first harvester is at least 35 years old and that, while Stu Marks

has done a great job of keeping it operational, the District needs to start planning for acquiring a new one. She explained that over the past few years, she and Stu have added additional equipment costs to the annual Aqweed budget in preparation for higher costs for repair or towards the eventual replacement of the harvester. A new harvester and trailer are likely to cost the district around $320,000. There is potential for the GLSD to get a DNR grant to fund roughly half of this cost though the grant program is not currently funded by the State. There is belief that funding will be in place for the program by next summer. She further explained that the funds accumulating in the Aqweed program, will provide more than $50,000 available to use toward the purchase of a new harvester. She stated that the District is in the position of having over $100,000 in unrestricted revenues in our Lake & Watershed fund that could also be used toward a new harvester purchase. With this framework in place, she explained that with the DNR grant, the GLSD can afford to make a purchase. However, if the grant is not awarded, we may have to do a short-term borrowing.

She explained that staff hope to keep the old harvester operational for many years to come; however, if it would require significant downtime to repair during the harvesting season, rental of a temporary harvester could cost the District upwards of $70,000 for one season. Reas recommended to the board that we apply for the grant in spring of 2027. She explained there is potential for Aquarius to allow GLSD to rent the harvester and then purchase it once the grant comes in. Mike Streit would like Lisa to move forward with getting a new harvester considering the resources available to fund the purchase.

Justin Ellis left the meeting at 10:18 AM.

Discussion: Boating Ordinance and Lake Issues – Reas explained that she and Dallas met with GLA staff to discuss enhanced duckweed harvesting in Silver Creek as well as the need for the GLSD to update their Boating Ordinance to facilitate the harvesting as well as the GLA's mesocosm project in the CKM. Lisa will be working with Stafford Rosenbaum on getting the ordinance updated and the GLA has agreed to partner with the GLSD in our future addresses to the City of Green Lake and the Towns of Green Lake, Princeton, and Brooklyn as we look to get their approval of the amended ordinance.

Discussion/Possible Action: Watershed & Lake Management Plan – Board Update & Review – Reas explained that the final modules are being reviewed and working toward Committee approval. She stated that with the reviews underway and further discussion of costs associated with the Plan yet to be had, she believes we are about 60 days from the completion of the Draft Plan. There was discussion among the board about the breadth of information being included in the plan. Concerns were expressed about the level of policy being included in what is supposed to be a management plan.

Discussion: 2027 Budget – Reas explained that Paulie & Katie have done a great job of plugging numbers into the 2027 budget for anticipated costs including wages & benefits, general operation costs, and contracted services. She explained that she, Katie, and Paulie, began working on the budget just after Labor Day and have put significant time in to get it completed. In its draft form, the GLSD's minimum commitments to various projects and other general operational cost increases will require a roughly 5% levy increase over 2026.

Closed Session

M/S (Bates/Streit) The Board of Commissioners may Convene in Closed Session Pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c), WIS STATS. – to discuss Employee Compensation and considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Roll call vote: Bates-yes, Streit-yes. Ellis – Absent Motion Carried 2-0-1 absent.

Open Session

M/S (Bates/Streit) to reconvene in Open Session. Roll call vote: Bates-yes, Streit-yes. Ellis – Absent Motion Carried 2-0.

M/S (Bates/Streit) to approve the 2026 and 2027 employee compensation as presented by Reas and directed by the Board. Roll call vote: Bates-yes, Streit-yes. Ellis – Absent Motion Carried 2-0.

Closed Session

M/S (Bates/Streit) The Board of Commissioners may convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, relating to potential investment in conservation property, on the grounds that competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Roll call vote: Bates-yes, Streit-yes. Ellis – Absent Motion Carried 2-0-1 absent.

Open Session

M/S (Bates/Streit) to reconvene in Open Session. Roll call vote: Bates-yes, Streit-yes. Ellis – Absent. Motion Carried 2-0-1.

No action was taken.

Adjourned at 1:00 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Mike Streit
Secretary of the Commission

Approved October 13, 2026

Prepared by Paulette Z Janssen/Katie Mehn
Green Lake Sanitary District Administrative Assistant