

GREEN LAKE SANITARY DISTRICT
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 August 27, 2024, at 8:00 am at the Green Lake Sanitary District Office N5295 County Road TT, Princeton WI 54968 and via zoom.

Present: Ken Bates and Justin Ellis. Nick Vandervelde.

Others Present: Lisa Reas, Administrator, Paulette Z Janssen Administrative Assistant, Dallas Lewallen, Plant Operator, and Hannah Niewoehner, Watershed Coordinator, Thad Majkowski, Matt Dorow, representatives for Cedar Corp. 5 people signed in.

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT

M/S (Bates/Ellis) to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2024, regular meeting. Motion Carried 3-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

M/S (Bates/Vandervelde) to approve the August Treasurers Reports. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT – no Public Comment
WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

Plant Operator's Report

The plant operator's report was discussed (see attached).

WPDES New Permit Project Work / Land Application

Discussion/Possible Action: Purchase of a Skid Loader

Reas explained that a large portion of the clearing at the County Rd T property has been done by Scott renting or borrowing equipment. There is still cleanup work to be done on this property after Mashuda completes their work on the site, especially on the fields not included in that bid work. It has become apparent the District needs a skid loader to finish the work needed on the site. The equipment would also be used on our conservancy properties, specifically to help with all the restoration work planned for the next 12 months at the new Spaulding Hill Wetlands property.

M/S (Bates/Vandervelde) to approve the purchase of a skid loader and trailer in an amount not to exceed \$95000.00 and to explore financing availability. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Discussion/Possible Action: US Fish & Wildlife Contract for Prairie Seed for County T Parcels

Reas stated that the GLSD has worked with Brendan Woodall of USFWS on the prairie restoration planned for portions of the new wastewater parcels off County Rd T. The USFWS agreement ties the GLSD into a 10-year agreement to maintain the seedings. The USFWS is providing the native seed, worth approximately \$10,000. The GLSD provides all the site preparation, seeding labor/equipment rental, and annual mowing while project is established. The GLSD will be augmenting the USFWS seed mix with wetland/mesic species in preparation for the water that will be irrigated onto the vegetation over time.

M/S (Vandervelde/Bates) to approve agreement with USFWS for prairie seeding at the County T parcels. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Potential Sewering in Areas, 2, 4 and 9 and Associated Timelines

Reas explained that residents, septic installers, and home builders have called the District over the past few months to ask the GLSD's plans for future sewerage of McAfee Rd, Lill/Radtke/Wildwood, and Sewer Service Area 9 (the Hickories). She reminded the board that in the sewer study that was accepted by the board in June, we stated that sewerage was not planned for certain areas including Sunnyside (Area 8), Sandstone/Woodbine/western Spring Grove Rd (Area 6), parcels on County Rd K (portion of Area 4), the Terrace (portion of Area 3), and Bay/Sugar Loaf Roads (portion of Area 2). We did leave on the table for sewerage the completion of the sewer on McAfee Rd, the waterfront parcels on Lill/Radtke/Wildwood, as well as the waterfront parcels in Area 9 as well as all of Forest Ave, Old Oak Lane, Camelot Trace, and Belle Mapps Ct. She stated the District needs to provide short and long-term plans for these areas to provide residents with a tentative timeline for when their property might be sewerage.

McAfee Rd (Area 4) – Currently there is GLSD sewer service provided to roughly ½ of McAfee Road. The remaining section was not completed. This project has 4 parcels that would be impacted by a project. We currently have a landowner on this road that has an aged system and is interested in having sewer service available. Additionally, GLSD staff were just made aware of the plans by the undeveloped parcel to build within the next few years.

M/S (Bates/Ellis) to move forward with Design Costs from Cedar for McAfee Rd sewer extension. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Reas was directed to work with our Attorney on finalizing the needed ordinance revision allowing landowners with new POWTS an extended connection period into the new service provided by the GLSD.

Area 9 (Hickories) – This project has roughly 74 parcels and extends from the GL Conference Center to the GLSD border with the City of Green Lake. Reas stated that while a few landowners have reached out in opposition or with concerns, the District has had numerous requests for sewerage in this area due to rock depth and limited parcel sizes in some areas. Due to the limited need for expandability on the east side, the GLSD was able to evaluate a low-pressure system along the middle and east side of the project area with gravity sewer on the west side for potential expansion in the future to the Ledgeview area. There is the potential for reducing lateral costs to many landowners along Irving Park Road by bringing the sewer system closer to the homes via easements.

M/S (Bates/Ellis) to move forward with Cedar Corp move into the Design Phase for Area 9 (the Hickories) sewer extension. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Lill/Radtke/Wildwood (Area 2) – This project encompasses roughly 30 lakefront parcels. In the past 2 years, there have been 3 new systems that have/are being installed. The area is underlain by porous sands and home and parcel sizes are generally quite large. There is a mix of septic system ages in that area ranging from 0 to 52 years with the average age at 22 years. The District was advised that there are no plans for additional development of the off-water parcels, so a hybrid gravity/low pressure system was evaluated.

Reas explained that contractors have contacted the GLSD about future sewerage in this area as they look to plan home building projects in the next 5 years. The reduced average age of the systems in this area as well as the limited support for extending sewer service currently suggests a lower priority for sewerage in this area. Reas recommended that we wait on to do a project in Area 2.

M/S (Vandervelde/Ellis) to review this area in 6 years unless future testing for the septic plumes shows that POWTS waste is going into the lake showing an immediate need. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

The board directed Reas to investigate septic plume testing.

NON-POINT

Big Green Lake Management Plan/Grants

Discussion: Watershed Coordinator Position – Hannah Niewoehner

The Watershed Coordinator's report was discussed (see attached).

Discussion/Possible Action: Funding Approval for BMPs On Going Repairs - no discussion.

Discussion/Possible Action: Approve Cost-share Agreement for Fiegel Fall Cover Crop

M/S (Ellis/Vandervelde) to approve cost-share agreement for Fiegel Fall Cover Crop in an amount not to exceed \$1000.00. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Discussion/Possible Action: Approve Cost-share Agreement for Fiegel No-Till

M/S (Ellis/Vandervelde) to approve cost-share agreement for Fiegel No till in an amount not to exceed \$2900.00. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Discussion/Possible Action: Approve Cost-share Agreement for Machkovich Fall Cover Crop

M/S (Bates/Ellis) to approve cost-share agreement for S Machkovich for Fall Cover Crop in an amount not to exceed \$11000.00. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Discussion/Possible Action: Approve Cost-share Agreement for Wilke Farms Cover Crop

M/S (Bates/Ellis) to approve cost-share agreement for Wilke Farms Summer Harvest Cover Crop in an amount not to exceed \$800.00. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Discussion/Possible Action: Approve Cost-share Agreement for K Affeldt Fall Cover Crop

M/S (Bates/Ellis) to approve cost-share agreement for K Affeldt Fall Cover Crop in an amount not to exceed \$1800.00. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

Discussion/Possible Action: GLSD Cost-sharing US Fish & Wildlife Prairie Projects in Watershed

Reas explained that District staff have worked with Brendan Woodall of US Fish and Wildlife regarding some critical points for potential GLSD cost sharing of prairie plantings in the watershed. To safeguard our annual contributions to this program, ensure the funds are going to help reduce phosphorus & enhance habitat, as well as be enticing to landowners in the watershed, Reas recommended the GLSD adopt the following program guidelines

GLSD USFWS Projects Funding Program Guidelines

<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Years in Contract</u>	<u>Cost Share Rate</u>	<u>Maximum GLSD Contribution per</u>
	10 Years	50%	\$5,000
	15 Years	75%	\$7,500
	20 Years	100%	\$10,000

- 1) Funding awarded on a first come, first serve basis. The GLSD reserves the right to limit project funding for early signups to allow for later signups in that calendar year.
- 2) GLSD cost share provides funds only toward site preparation herbicide application(s) and seeding costs but may consider other site prep costs on a case-by-case basis.
- 3) Projects must be maintained throughout the contract period. If projects are not maintained as determined by USFWS, a prorated refund of GLSD cost match is required.
- 4) Funding is prioritized for project areas that have been recently cropped or where erosion is likely.

- 5) GLSD cost share per project is limited by the annual funds allocated in the GLSD budget.
*\$10,000 will be budgeted annually
*Remaining annual funds from the BMP Maintenance program may be used for cost share if projects are deemed critical for funding

M/S (Bates/Ellis) to approve USFWS guidelines and finalized policy for prairie projects in the watershed and to add \$10000.00 to the 2025 budget for these projects. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

County K Marsh

Discussion/Possible Action: County K Marsh Carp Barrier Design Bid Selection and/or Budget Adjustment

Reas explained that District staff have completed several meetings with Cedar Corp. and Carp Solutions on the options for the replacement structure at the County K bridge. It has become apparent due to safety, liability, and O&M costs that an electrified barrier is not practical for us. Additionally, costs have shown that having an automated/electrified removal system is also not cost effective for the District. Przemek Bajer of Carp Solutions advised the District to keep a focus on carp removal via the commercial harvester. He felt the numbers of carp removed for the cost paid, is a good strategy. Additionally, Reas explained she submitted an initial application for an NRDA grant to further help fund the barrier replacement.

CONSERVANCY

Discussion/Possible Action: US Fish & Wildlife Contract for Prairie at Spaulding Hill Wetlands Conservancy Property

Reas reported that the USFWS agreement ties the GLSD into a 10-year agreement to maintain the planting. The USFWS is providing the native seed, worth approximately \$10,000. The GLSD provides all the site preparation, seeding labor/equipment rental, and annual mowing while project is established. The agreement also lists a potential wetland scrape (USFWS contribution of \$2,500), which the GLSD is working towards, but not fully obligated to complete should funding or permitting be an issue.

M/S (Bates/Ellis) to approve agreement with USFWS for prairie seeding at the Spaulding Hill Wetland property. Roll call vote: Ellis-yes, Bates-yes, Vandervelde-yes. Motion Carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

GLA Appearance – no discussion

Discussion: GLSD Roll Regarding Lake and Land Use Complaints

Reas explained that we have had several calls regarding property owners violating DNR and local land use regulations. Previously, GLSD staff would direct landowners to the appropriate authority. Reas asked the board how they would like District staff to handle this in the future. The board directed Reas to find out the regulations and how they are enforced and to pass the complaints directly to the appropriate authority. She was also directed to provide this information

in the GLSD fall newsletter so residents are aware of the regulations/ordinances they may be violating.

Adjourn 10:20 am

Respectfully submitted:

Nick Vandervelde
Secretary of the Commission

Approved 09/17/2024

Prepared by Paulette Z Janssen
Green Lake Sanitary District Administrative Assistant