

*"For Cleaner Lakes and Rivers"*

**GRAND HAVEN-SPRING LAKE SEWER AUTHORITY**

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
1525 WASHINGTON AVENUE  
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN 49417  
PHONE: (616) 847-3486

The regular meeting of the Grand Haven-Spring Lake Sewer Authority will be held online at 8:30 A.M. on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 using the zoom meeting platform.

*According to the Attorney General, interrupting a public meeting in Michigan with hate speech or profanity could result in criminal charges under several State statutes relating to Fraudulent Access to a Computer or Network (MCL 752.797) and/or Malicious Use of Electronics Communication (MCL 750.540). According to the US Attorney for Eastern Michigan, Federal charges may include disrupting a public meeting, computer intrusion, using a computer to commit a crime, hate crimes, fraud, or transmitting threatening communications. Public meetings are being monitored and violations of statutes will be prosecuted.*

**AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING**

**Wednesday May 19, 2021**

**8:30 A.M.**

- 1. Meeting called to order. 8:31 a.m.**
- 2. Roll Call:** Gallagher, McGinnis, Cargo, Tepastte, Bessinger, Van Opynen, Staskiewicz, Namenye, Burns.  
Namenye Absent, all others present  
Also present Marv Hinga and Matt Van Hoef
- 3. Call to the Audience**
  - i. Those addressing the Grand Haven Spring Lake Sewer Authority Board are to provide their name and address and will be limited to three minutes of speaking time. Grand Haven Spring Lake Sewer Authority Board members will hear all comments for future consideration but will not have a response at this time. Either type in your comment on the Facebook Live feed or call (616)847-3486. Let the phone ring until it is answered. If you get a busy signal, please wait, watch and call back. We will take all callers for today's meeting.*
- 4. Approval of the minutes of the February 17, 2021 Sewer Authority Board meeting.**  
Motion to approve – Gallagher  
Second – Tepastte  
All support – Minutes carries

## **5. Financial Report.**

We are quite a bit lower than expected on expenditures for recent projects.  
We have a pretty significant liquid haul bill coming for land application from the past two months of hauling.

Mr. Gallagher asked do we have a target number for plant modification fund?

Ideally keep a balance of \$250,000 in case anything comes up that needs immediate attention.

Current funding is at \$200,000/year, and appears to be a healthy rate.

Gallagher suggests to continue using the asset management program to review capital improvement plan

Motion to approve financial report – McGinnis

Support – Gallagher

Roll call - All in support (carg, no response) – Financial report approved

## **6. Superintendent's Report**

Precipitation has been very minimal, therefore revenue has been down

Sludge storage was above 80% but we were able to land apply and now have about 5% full

Covid Study with GVSU - the data correlated with the confirmed covid cases in the area  
We will be continuing our study with them

Monthly compliance for April – no violations

New NPDES permit is being finalized and will go up for public notice shortly

New Biosolids requirements have been put in place by EGLE for PFAs analysis

Recently participated in a watershed awareness day to educate elementary students on the importance of Wastewater treatment

Ordered two new energy efficient mixers for our aeration system

We will be opening bids for control building roofing replacement next week.

Electrical improvements for thickeners is underway currently and should be complete by the end of this fiscal year

## **7. General Business.**

### **A. Contingency Projects**

Plant staff has provided the Sewer Authority Board a prioritized list of improvements that contingency money from the 2018 bonds projects can be utilized for.

Asphalt improvements – Current drives are so damaged that repairs are not adequate

Tuck-point/reseal old headworks building – received multiple bids

Excessive water damage on drives is starting to become a safety concern

Replace plant effluent pump – Currently evaluating necessary size of pump (P&N)

Burns - Effluent pump is already in budget for 2021-22, if the old headworks building is a safety concern should we tackle that issue first?

Pat Staskiewicz- we do have 2 million in grant funds that we have at our disposal as well as plant modification fund

McGinnis – Plant parking lot to be added to agenda for next meeting.

Possible improving/expand parking lot

Cargo – Offered up an easement, and would support SA paying their share for resurfacing existing parking lot if the City of GH wanted to expand parking lot, as long as there was contingency of when the space is needed for plant process expansion it is available.

Gallagher – supports all of the projects including looking into parking lot expansion

Gallagher – motion to approve old headworks building brick veneer and replace with 4” split face block to match new headworks building, and new effluent pump using existing contingency bond funds first followed by plant mod fund

Support – Cargo

Roll Call – All in Support – Motion Carries

#### **B. Debt Rate Discussion – 2013 Bond and 2018 Bonds**

Pat Staskiewicz from Ottawa County Road Commission has provided a MEMO to the board with recommendations for FY 2021-2022 debt rates

Annually look at projected usage/costs in order to properly adjust rates

There is a lag period between billing and payments which results in budgeting issues

Pat Staskiewicz suggest “getting ahead of the lag?” using grant funds, which would cause a temporary decrease in projected rates

Cargo – motion to move forward with Pat Staskewicz approach and recommended debt rates

Support – Tepastte

Roll call - All in support – motion carries

#### **C. Solids Handling Improvements**

Plant staff provided a report about current solids handling process and disposal, along with future plans AND recommends to move forward with the report’s outlined approach

In 2019 we had a significant increase in hauling costs due to limited providers available

With new biosolids regulations of PFAs we need to start looking at other avenues for future disposal of biosolids

The higher percentage of solids we can achieve in our biosolids the less costs we have for hauling due to decreased volume

Our current thickeners have limitations as to percent solids achievable and are in need of costly repairs. Do we continue making repairs to current thickeners, or do we start looking into options that can achieve higher percentage solids? (Which would also give us additional options for sludge disposal)

Donahue report – It is feasible for alternative disposal routes and increased solids production. An option proposed previously called Lystek was determined not a viable option, due to the large cost associated with the “all-in approach”. We feel the better option would be a phase-approach. Start with mechanical thickening which would improve our current percentage of sludge solids, helping us in the near future. Down the road possibly incorporate a digester, which would further improve our biosolids as well as lead to a sludge that is adequate for the upcoming regional facility.

Looking for recommendation to hire a consulting firm to confirm the Donahue report and start weighing our options as to our necessary improvements.

Pat McGinnis – comfortable with us looking into a consulting firm

Ryan – High confidence with P&N due to their knowledge of our plant and our past experience/projects with them

Cargo – Agrees that quality is more important than cost at this point

Bessinger – Motion to move forward with the reports recommendation and using Prein and Newhof as the engineering firm

Van Opynen – Support

Roll Call – All in Support – Motion Carries

#### **D. Budget Amendments**

Budgeted expenditures for 2020-2021 are not increasing, money is being shuffled around in the budget to be sure our expenditure accounts show healthy balances.

Cargo – Motion to approve as presented

McGinnis – Support

Roll call - All in favor – Motion carries

#### **E. Crockery Township – Presenting Contracts**

- i. Included is a MEMO from Sewer Authority Legal Counsel Matt VanHoef

Matt VanHoef has prepared a Memo to make sure all bases are covered.

McGinnis – motion to approve wastewater agreement

Cargo – Support

All in support – Motion carries

McGinnis – Motion to approve the 9<sup>th</sup> amendment

Gallagher – Support

Roll call - All in support – Motion carries

Additional contract was added in order to give the Sewer Authority the ability to enforce all sewer rules and regulations

**8. Board Member Comments.**

**9. Announcement of next Sewer Authority Meeting:** August 18, 2021

**10. Adjournment. 10:14 a.m.**

Motion - McGinnis

**Sewer Authority Members:**

Craig Bessinger, Treasurer  
Patrick McGinnis, Vice-Chair  
Steve Namenye  
Gordon Gallagher  
Christine Burns, Chairperson  
Patrick Staskiewicz  
Bill Cargo  
Joel Tepastte  
Roger Van Opynen

**Alternate Members:**

Matt Schindlbeck  
  
John Nash  
  
Joe Wallace

**Consultants:**

Matt VanHoef

**Others:**

Grand Haven Tribune  
Bob Monetza  
Linda L. Browand

GENERAL MEMBERS: IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR ALTERNATE SO THAT HE/SHE MAY