

Burns Harbor Sanitary Board
Minutes of Wednesday, January 20, 2021

The Burns Harbor Sanitary Board met in its regular session Wednesday, January 20, 2021 virtually with Zoom. The meeting was called to order by President Toni Biancardi at 7:02 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

Toni Biancardi.....Present via Zoom
Dan Marsh.....Present via Zoom
Larry Fabina.....Present via Zoom
Wilbur Oudman.....Present via Zoom
Vacant Seat.....

A quorum was attained.

Also present via Zoom were Superintendent William Arney, Attorney Clay Patton of Patton Law, LLC, Engineer Jeanette Hicks of Global Engineering and Land Surveying, LLC, and Deputy Clerk Corinne Peffers.

The meeting was made available to the public in accordance with Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-04 Section 5 Public Meeting/Open Door Laws.

Nomination of Officers/Reorganization

Oudman made a motion to appoint Toni Biancardi as President of the Sanitary Board for 2021. Marsh seconded the motion. Larry Fabina – yes. Wilbur Oudman – yes. Dan Marsh – yes. Toni Biancardi – yes. **Motion passed.**

Marsh made a motion to appoint Wilbur Oudman as Vice President of the Sanitary Board for 2021. Oudman seconded the motion. Larry Fabina – yes. Wilbur Oudman – yes. Dan Marsh – yes. Toni Biancardi – yes. **Motion passed.**

Approval of Minutes

Oudman made a motion to approve the Minutes of December 16, 2020. Marsh seconded the motion. Larry Fabina – yes. Wilbur Oudman – yes. Dan Marsh – yes. Toni Biancardi – yes. **Motion passed.**

Correspondence

Refund request

A refund request form was received from Kim Kapsos of 227 Fairchild Drive. Kapsos sold her home to a new owner on December 30, 2020 and upon notification to the utility of the sale, she had a credit balance on her sewer account of \$40.75.

Marsh made a motion to approve a refund in the amount of \$40.75 to Kim Kapsos for overpayment of sanitary sewer service at 227 Fairchild Drive. Oudman seconded the motion. Larry Fabina – yes. Wilbur Oudman – yes. Dan Marsh – yes. Toni Biancardi – yes. **Motion passed.**

Sanitary Report

The board reviewed the report. There were no questions.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Report

Fabina said there was nothing to report.

Engineer Report

Hicks reported that she and Bill had a conversation about a new business possibly coming to town. The unnamed business was originally looking at a parcel in the vicinity of the 200 block of Melton Road. The business is now looking elsewhere in town but it brought up the question of sewer service to that area. If the parcels in that area are ever developed, the town may need to look into extending the sewer system down Old Porter Road similar to when it was extended to service the area of Curly's Custom Cycles at 328 Melton Road. Hicks said there is sufficient coverage to extend the gravity line.

Old Business

Lift Station Flow Reporting Upgrades

Arney said he's been working with three companies on obtaining proposals for updating flow monitoring. The least expensive option is from Gasvoda because it will use equipment that is

already in place. Gasvoda provided a rough proposal to phase in all the lift stations. He reminded the board that we have flow monitoring on Lift Station #1, #2, #5 (which has been out for several months now) and Norfolk Southern lift station. He stated so, to keep it short, because I'm still working on it, but do have some rough numbers. Basically, we're looking to upgrade each lift station, and including that we would have to negotiate and talk with Norfolk Southern for that one station there, it shouldn't be our responsibility because their responsibility is to report to us. So, in order for our systems to work together they would have to upgrade that as well because we would be getting rid of this radio system that we have and it makes it where it's a lot more user friendly for me, that's for sure and I'm not stuck in that office no more. I can view it from this desktop or wherever I need to view it from. I think that's one of the things that we talked about Toni was versatility. So, to break it down simply for all six of our lift stations including that one, to upgrade it with the telemetry and as well as the systems that will allow us to use variable speed pumps later in the future if we decide to, this doesn't include the pumps just so we understand that, but it does include the radios, it does include two-year cellular service, which basically that we're trading our phone service for our cellular. It includes that with the system and it always goes through Scadata. So, with the telemetry, the cell service and everything we're looking at about \$6,600 per lift station, so \$38,850 right around there was rough numbers. So, in the grand scheme of things, call it \$40,000 by the time we're done and that will upgrade all of our lift stations.

He said Gasvoda broke it down into three different phases. The first is doing the ones that currently have our Scadata in them, which is Lift Station #1, #2 and #5 and that price is \$16,350.00. Phase two would be upgrading the other three lift stations we have, which would be an additional \$19,140.00 and the final would be adding the data and the phone to the system to read things such as pump cycles, time on and time off, the accessibility etc. for \$3,354.00. Grand total, provided we don't run into any hiccups, of \$38,844.00. When I talked to the other two companies, they were about \$120,000.00 and the other was \$96,000.00, and that was bringing in new cabinets and using some of the old breakers and material that we could do and then if we had to replace any of that, that's cost on top of that, and that also did not include the pumps. So again, I think I need probably another month to tidy up things and get with Andy of Gasvoda and tell him what we want and how we want to do it. I finally got it up today where I'm at least receiving email notifications when Lift Station #5 goes down, but I have no phone service there again.

Biancardi asked if Lift Stations #1, #2 and #5 were priority and if we can operate some stations on cellular and some on phone lines and Arney said as far as notifications, yes and as far as Scadata, no. I'd have two different systems to try and pull numbers from. We look forward in the future to all the lift stations grabbing data.

Marsh commented that it sounds like you are going after the software first and then later on we're going with the variable speed pumps and the hardware to accommodate what we are going to need in the future.

Arney said I am going for the software and the telemetry for notification. I am not right now going for, except for #3 and #5, that was the first one. Those will be reporting new data by cellular through Scadata. The Scadata that's currently in those three are working, all we're going to do is switch those to cellular versus through phone notification, or what we call radio. The other three stations right now if you guys decide to part that out, then the only thing I'd be receiving from there is notifications that the lift station is down.

Marsh said that sounds fine and I'm sure you also have some redundancy plans for the future too if something goes down and maybe they're already there, but it sounds like a good plan to me.

Arney said so you guys understand the only thing we have in place right now is the phone calls and, and we have the problem with that even though that runs lane of site through radio. We do get emails just on #2 and #5, but that radio is down right now. So that's why when I go cellular, now I have cellular plus that email. So, then I have redundancy.

Oudman commented that if we are going to be changing, it makes sense to upgrade the whole system at the same time.

Fabina said that sounds like a good proposal.

Biancardi said I think that we should move forward and I know, Bill, you said you need some more time with Andy. I don't disagree with Wilbur but I didn't know in between the next meeting if we were able to get moving on #1, #2 and #5 and doing the phase that Andy's proposing. Then we might like you said, if there's any glitches or anything, maybe that would be advantageous to do it that way, but at the same time I agree with Wilbur. I think that very soon we need to upgrade them all, but definitely #1, #2 and #5 are a priority.

Arney said right now #5 is down, so the faster we can move on that the better. I also agree with Wilbur, and it would make my job a lot easier to have it all done so I don't have to deal with two systems.

Biancardi asked what the timeline would be if we decide to move forward.

Arney said the project would be scheduled immediately upon approval of the proposal.

Biancardi said prior to signing it, we would need to make sure Attorney Patton reviews it.

Biancardi stated we can talk about this more in between but make sure five is the first one, and then please contact Norfolk Southern ASAP and let them know we're moving forward with upgrades and, you know, we need to get them on board. I don't know what kind of agreement we have in terms with them, like if it states that if we do this that they have to, you know, at their cost upgrade and, you know, to match our system, but please check on that.

Arney stated I know that when we did it, their responsibility was to be able to report to our Scadata system.

Oudman made a motion to upgrade flow monitoring as proposed by Gasvoda at a cost not to exceed \$42,000 and to allow Sanitary Board President Toni Biancardi to sign the contract. Marsh seconded the motion. Larry Fabina – yes. Wilbur Oudman – yes. Dan Marsh – yes. Toni Biancardi – yes. **Motion passed.**

Waive Late Penalties due to COVID-19

Attorney Patton said the public health emergency declared by Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb is through the end of January.

Marsh made a motion to waive late penalties on sanitary sewer accounts through the month of February, 2021. Oudman seconded the motion. Larry Fabina – yes. Wilbur Oudman – yes. Dan Marsh – yes. Toni Biancardi – yes. **Motion passed.**

New Business

Approval of Claims with three (3) or more signatures

Marsh made a motion to approve claims with three (3) or more signatures. Oudman seconded the motion. Larry Fabina – yes. Wilbur Oudman – yes. Dan Marsh – yes. Toni Biancardi – yes. **Motion passed.**

Spending Review

The board reviewed the report and there were no questions.

Delinquencies

The board reviewed the report and there were no questions.

Flow Report

The board reviewed the report and there were no questions.

Good of the Order of the Community & Any Other Business

None.

Announcements

The next meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 17, 2021.

Adjourn

Oudman made a motion to adjourn. Marsh seconded the motion. Larry Fabina – yes. Wilbur Oudman – yes. Dan Marsh – yes. Toni Biancardi – yes. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Submitted by: Corinne Peffers, Secretary

APPROVED February 17, 2021

Toni Biancardi, President

Corinne Peffers, Secretary