# Green Valley Sanitary District

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Rapid Valley Water Department Meeting Room
4611 Teak Drive Rapid City, SD 57703

# MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

February 14, 2024

The monthly meeting of the Green Valley Sanitary District was called to order at 19:02 by President Jason Reitz. Present at the meeting were board members Jason Reitz, Pres., Lorretta Jangula, Sec; VP/Treas., Scott Mohr, and several Green Valley residents.

Approval of Agenda: One item added to the agenda

\*\*Publication of Notice of Elections for VP and Treas,; Lorretta will have published in RC Journal. A motion by Lorretta, seconded by Scott to approve the February 2024 meeting agenda. No further discussion, motion passed.

Motion by Scott, seconded by Lorretta to approve the January 2024 minutes. No further discussion, motion passed.

# Treasurer's Report:

Scott passed out the bank statement from BHFCU and went over the account balances, and CD's. The board moved some of the monies from the various accounts into CDs which are yielding a much higher rate of interest than the regular savings accounts. This action was approved in last months treasurer's report. Additionally, there is one more trustee signature required on the renewal of the \$200,000. bank note, due to technical difficulties the loan officer was experiencing during the processing of the renewal. Steve Myers had questions concerning account balances and the interest rate on the renewal of the \$200,000 note which was 7%. Upon presentation, a motion was made by Lorretta to accept the treasurer's report and seconded by Scott; no further discussion, motion passed. There was also interjection at this point as to when the original vote was taken to pursue the sewer system for GVSD, and discussion followed with no resolve.

#### Approval of Bilis:

Scott presented one bill in the amount of \$75. from the attorney for general advice. A motion by Lorretta and seconded by Scott to approve the bill; no further discussion followed, motion passed.

#### Old Business:

Additional agenda item: Notice of Elections publication. The board experienced the resignation of Lucky Lee (Treas) on November 8, 2023, and the resignations of both Marlin Kelly and Steve Myers effective Dec 13, 2023. Based on the size of GVSD, a minimum of 3 Trustees is acceptable, and with no one stepping up to the plate, the board continued on with the minimum of 3 members. However; we were informed by legal counsel that an annual Public Notice of Elections is warranted. Therefore, the board is posting public notice twice in the RC Journal and officers will be voted on during the March 13, 2024 monthly meeting which normally would have been handled at the February 15, 2024 meeting.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (PDF), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.fov/complaint\_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, By fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov. complete the USDA Program form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, By fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

## Old Business Cont:

A public informational meeting was rescheduled for Feb 27, 2024 at 6:30 PM at the Rapid Valley Fire District Station, 3760 Reservoir Rd, Rapid City, SD 57703. This meeting presentation by Scott Swenson, representative for E-One Pressure Pumps and Blaine Eilts, representing USDA, Natural Rural Water System, Wastewater Community Assessment will explain the pressurized pump system versus the gravity fed system, and Blaine will talk about wastewater projects and possible optional funding resources for GVSD sewer project. This meeting will also suffice as one of the informational public meetings for residents of the district as required by Rural Development. There was considerable discussion on when the sewer project was voted on. Clayton remembers that water/sewer were voted on at the same time, but to get good water first, followed by the sewer project. No one could remember exactly so research will have to be done to make the determination on how the original vote went down.

## New Business

Jason visited at length with Mike Rounds recently during the Black Hills Stock Show and felt very positive about their conversation. Rounds made a point of ensuring that his staff would be reaching out to us. Jason received a call the following week and an appointment was scheduled for the two of them to have a conversation next week regarding the project. At this point in our GVSD meeting, there was extensive conversation in regards to funding sources, ARPA funds, the pressurized system, maintenance, etc which will all be covered at the Feb. 27 meeting.

Met with Rural Development and Zach Grapentine from Interstate Engineering. This is the review portion following the submission of the PER to them. Nothing extravagant with the findings. Will need to shore up some language with Rapid Valley Sanitary District.

Scott received a letter from DANR acknowledging their receipt of GVSD's application for Sanitary/Storm Sewer Facilities funding application for the Sanitary sewer Collection system. The application will be presented to the Board of Water and Natural Resources for funding consideration at its meeting scheduled for March 27 and 28, 2024. Agenda and meeting location information will be forwarded to us prior to the board meeting. Questions: Abbey Larson (605)394-5318

It is very important that GVSD board member(s) attend this meeting in Pierre to present our case. Since we are submitting a totally new application based on a pressurized vs. a gravity fed system, it may be possible that we can be considered for ARPA funding, and that needs to be pointed out and stressed before the board to make our case when they consider the new funding application. Scott will also visit with Rusty in regards to the possibility of getting ARPA funding based on the new application/project with the pressurized system.

At this juncture of the meeting, it was noted that the loan balance on the water project is at \$1,083,102.32 following the upcoming April 2024 payment. It should also be noted that it is very important that all early payoffs on special assessments by applied to only the principal amount of the loan, rather than the P/I balance. This must be followed up to determine how to handle.

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Public Comment: (Special request by Steve Myers to speak about bylaws and interim loan)
Steve Myers presented questions pertaining to the bylaws and the interim \$200,000. note to pay expenses. Jason prefaced Steve's taking the floor and went on record stating that he (Jason) is not perfect and prefers that questions/issues be brought to the board's attention in order that they may be handled properly in the event of an oversight or omission. Steve then proceeded and commented that the majority of his questions/issues were handled/explained during the meeting. He further stated that when he was appointed as the board Treasurer, he was handed a lot of paperwork from Lucky Lee, prior Treasurer, which was all scanned and digitalized by Steve. In his work on the project he could not locate a signed contract or copy of the contract between Interstate Engineering and GVSD, and had questions on the amount of the contract which supposedly was \$300,000. according to memory of those present. Steve: "I asked Lucky about a signed contract and Lucky said there wasn't one. When I asked Jason about a signed contract, he said there was one." This will be looked into and Zach, Interstate Engineering, who was on this meeting through WEBEX, requested that he be put on the agenda for the March 13, 2024 GVSD monthly meeting in regards to the matter.

Steve also questioned the legality of several GVSD special meetings beginning Feb. 2020 through Dec 2021, with no public meeting notice, and the fact that the minutes reflected an audit which did not materialize. The minutes further indicated that based on the estimated cost of the project, the project may not be feasible, so his question why the \$200,000 was borrowed. He commented that he could not find any motion relative to borrowing the \$200,000. Since these expenses had already accrued, and there was insufficient operating funds to pay them, the note was taken out at BHFCU and collateralized by the GVSD account held in escrow to make the final payment on the water loan. The \$200,000 note would be paid off upon RD loan commitment at which time the grant monies from DANR and the West River Water Board would be released.

The forum for the upcoming special meeting on 2/27/2024: Jason will create a speaker request form for the Feb 27 special meeting which must be completed by each speaker prior to the commencement of the meeting, allowing each speaker a 3 minute limit at the podium with their questions; this was agreeable with all present at the meeting. It was also advised by Clayton to have a sheriff/deputy sheriff present at the meeting in the event it got out of control.

Scott asked that residents be patient as the people on the board have full time jobs and families aside from their trustee positions and the board appreciates their consideration/leeway in responding to residents' requests for callbacks, emails, etc.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn by Scott, seconded by Lorretta, no further discussion and the meeting adjourned at 20:42.

Respectfully Submitted, Lorretta Janguia, Secretary

Sec. Lorretta M Jangida

lason Reitz

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