

**MINUTES OF THE
GRANT COUNTY SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT
FEBRUARY 2023 MEETING**

The February 2023 Meeting of the Grant County Sanitary Sewer District was called to order on February 23, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. at the District Headquarters, One Farrell Drive, Crittenden, Kentucky. Present at the meeting were the following: Chairman Charles Givin, Vice-Chairman Robert Worthington, and Commissioners, Rodger Bingham, Michael Duley and Greg Powell. Also present were HR Director Ashley Dyer, Dianne Cook, Counsel Thomas R. Nienaber, Mr. Benton Hanson of HMB Professional Engineers, Inc., and Superintendent Paul Harp.

The first order of business was the introduction of the District's new Commissioner, Michael Duley. Chairman Givin introduced Michael Duley to all who were present. Mr. Duley was sworn into office as a Commissioner prior to the meeting.

The next order of business was a presentation by Mr. Greg Livingood, Councilperson for the City of Crittenden. Mr. Livingood asked about the District's decision to terminate billing services of Republic trash collection for Crittenden City residents. Mr. Livingood stated since the District is no longer providing that service, the City is in a bad situation in terms of collecting solid waste fees for Crittenden residents. Chairman Givin gave a detailed history of the District's providing billing services for the City and its decision to terminate that service at this time. Chairman Givin reported that during the current rate increase process pending before the Public Service Commission, it was learned by District representatives that many Crittenden residents who were paying their solid waste bill to Republic in conjunction with their sanitary sewer bill were under the impression that trash collection was "free" and the entire bill being invoiced by the District was for sewer services only. Chairman Givin expressed grave concerns over this perception in that Republic has recently increased its monthly charge to City residents from \$10.82 per month to \$13.86 per month. This rate increase, coupled with the pending rate increase which the District filed with the Public Service Commission could create even more confusion and concern by District customers. Chairman Givin also explained to Mr. Livingood that the \$1.00 per month charge per bill which the District is currently invoicing the City is woefully inadequate. The problems/customer service/troubleshooting which District employees engage during a typical month are simply creating an issue for the District. Mr. Livingood inquired as to whether or not the District could extend the termination of billing services to give the City more time to handle and deal with the billing process. Mr. Livingood specifically asked if the District could wait until June 1, 2023. Chairman Givin stated that the District would consider that request.

The next order of business was a review of the regular District meeting of January 19, 2023. After discussion, upon motion of Robert Worthington and second by Greg Powell, it was unanimously,

"RESOLVED: that the January 19, 2023 Minutes be approved as attached."

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The next order of business was a review of the Special Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2023. After discussion, upon motion of Rodger Bingham and second by Robert Worthington, it was unanimously,

“RESOLVED: that the February 9, 2023 Minutes be approved as attached.”

The next order of business was a review of the January 2023 Profit and Loss Statement and Warrants as attached. After discussion, upon motion of Robert Worthington and second by Michael Duley, it was unanimously,

“RESOLVED: that the January 2023 Profit and Loss Statement and Warrants be and the same are hereby approved as attached.”

The next order of business was a report by Counsel Thomas R. Nienaber as follows:

1. Mr. Nienaber noted that with the departure of Leo Saylor (serving Secretary), the District would need to appoint a new District Secretary. Thereupon, Chairman Givin opened the floor for nominations. Michael Duley nominated Greg Powell to serve as Secretary. There being no further nominations, Chairman Givin called for a vote. Thereupon, Greg Powell was unanimously elected to serve as Secretary for the District.
2. Mr. Nienaber gave a report on the status of the Public Service Commission Rate Increase Application. Mr. Nienaber reported that the Public Service Commission has submitted a Second Request for Information. Generally speaking, the additional information requested by the PSC is not significant. It generally requests a clarification for previously submitted information. Mr. Nienaber stated that the District also received a Second Request for Information from the City of Crittenden. Mr. Nienaber reported that some of the information being requested is irrelevant, immaterial, and overly burdensome. Moreover, Mr. Nienaber reported that he and Chairman Givin have made attempts to obtain from Crittenden the official authority from City Council authorizing Crittenden’s intervention into the rate increase proceeding. Apparently, Crittenden City Council never approved the intervention. With that in mind, Mr. Nienaber is going to object to all of the information requested by Crittenden in its second request. Mr. Nienaber will also make various other objections to the requested information. Notwithstanding those objections, Mr. Nienaber will generally provide the information requested where the information requested is relevant and is not overly burdensome or problematic for the District to obtain.
3. Mr. Nienaber addressed the billing service issue between the District and Crittenden. Commissioner Bingham suggested that the District extend billing services for Crittenden

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through May, 2023. A considerable discussion followed. Thereupon, upon motion of Rodger Bingham, and second by Robert Worthington, it was unanimously,

“RESOLVED: that the District continue providing solid waste trash billing services for the City of Crittenden through May 2023. The May 2023 billing will be the last time the District will mail Republic Solid Waste Trash bills to City of Crittenden residents.”

The next order of business was a report by HMB Professional Engineers, Inc., Mr. Benton Hanson as follows:

1. Mr. Hanson gave an update report on the Facilities Plan. He indicated that the Facilities Plan is nearing completion and should be ready for final action at the March 2023 regular meeting. Mr. Hanson stated that the District has still not been provided an identifier number which is a prerequisite for obtaining ARPA funds. Once the identifier number is obtained, the funds should be released to the District. Mr. Hanson stated that he will not invoice the District for the Facilities Plan until the identifier number is issued and the District receives ARPA funding. Mr. Hanson stated that ARPA funding should be available for payment of engineering fees for the Facilities Plan.

The next order of business was a report by Superintendent Paul Harp as follows:

1. Mr. Harp reviewed with the Commissioners his Superintendent’s Report as attached.
2. Mr. Harp stated that a number of pumps at various lift stations have been sent to EMT for repairs.
3. Mr. Harp reported that he received a letter from the Division of Water (“DOW”) outlining multiple violations. Mr. Harp contacted DOW representatives who confirmed that the 11 violations dealt with the WWTP. These violations began as early as 2018. The 11 violations relate to effluent violations and are considered minor. Mr. Harp is going to attend a conference with DOW to review the violations. Mr. Harp does not believe that DOW will issue a fine or other penalty. He simply wants the Board to be aware that the violations have been issued. Mr. Harp reported that two violations were issued in 2022; two or three violations issued in 2021; and the remaining seven relate back to before 2021. Mr. Harp is gathering information on the violations and will contact DOW to schedule a next meeting. Mr. Harp will report to the Commissioners at the next regular meeting.

The next order of business was a report by Dianne Cook as follows:

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1. The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2023.

There being no further business to conduct, upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned.

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BY: 
CHARLES GIVIN, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:


GREG POWELL, SECRETARY