

**MINUTES OF THE
GRANT COUNTY SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT
REGIONAL FACILITY PLAN
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**

The Grant County Sanitary Sewer District Regional Facility Plan Public Hearing was called to order on July 24, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the meeting hall of the Crittenden Baptist Church, 310 Russell Street, Crittenden, KY, 41030. The Public Hearing was called to order after all proper notices and advertisements have been given. Present on behalf of the Grant County Sanitary Sewer District (“District”) were: Chairman Charles Givin, Commissioner Rodger Bingham, Superintendent Paul Harp, Manager Dianne Cook, Mr. Ernie Ryan, Sewer Plant Manager, and Counsel Thomas R. Nienaber. Present on behalf of HMB Professional Engineers, Inc. (“HMB”), were Mr. P. Benton Hanson, P.E., and Mr. Nick Pilcher, P.E. There were attendees from the public-at-large as evidenced by the attached sign-in sheet.

Mr. Hanson began the Public Hearing by introducing all representatives of the District and HMB. Mr. Hanson explained the background for the preparation of a Regional Facilities Plan (“RFP”). He explained that under current laws and regulations, the District is required to accept public comment regarding the Regional Facilities Plan. Mr. Hanson explained that the public-at-large may make written comments to the RFP through July 27, 2023. Any and all comments should be addressed to:

Grant County Sanitary Sewer District
Attention: Mr. Paul Harp, Superintendent
One Farrell Drive
Crittenden, KY 41030

Mr. Hanson explained that the Public Hearing would consist of a presentation based upon the attached outline consisting of 24 pages. A Power Point Presentation was made of the attached outline. Copies were also made available.

Mr. Hanson explained that it is the obligation of the District to have a proactive infrastructure plan to protect public health and stream water quality. The purpose of the RFP is to project future needs and demands placed upon the District to provide quality and safe sanitary sewer treatment. The Planning Area for the RFP was described and highlighted at page 5 of the outline.¹ Mr. Hanson explained that the Planning Area is the same as the Planning Area identified by the City of Crittenden in their 1989 outline of the sanitary sewer service area. Mr. Hanson explained that the RFP is designed to enhance existing stream water quality by addressing future capacity needs of the District in order to prevent unpermitted discharges into streams. The RFP attempts to identify current and future collection and treatment system capacities and to provide a proactive plan for wastewater infrastructure into the future. The RFP

¹ All page references are to the corresponding page number of the Outline (attached) presented by Mr. Benton Hanson during the Public Hearing.

is also designed to provide alternative means of achieving this goal while complying with all regulatory requirements.

Mr. Hanson identified the existing District collection system (P7). Mr. Hanson identified the current District Wastewater Treatment Plant (“WWTP”) (P8). Mr. Hanson identified estimated flow projections which the District will incur over the next 20 years (P9). Mr. Hanson explained that these projections are estimates and subject to change depending upon unanticipated growth or capacity needs from future residential, commercial, industrial, and/or business development not now anticipated.

After discussing the District capacity projections, Mr. Hanson addressed various collection and treatment system alternative scenarios which the District may be required to make in order to meet future sanitary sewer treatment needs. Mr. Hanson identified two key components as follows: KY 491 Pump Station Improvements (PP10-11) and WWTP Improvements (PP12-15). Mr. Hanson reviewed three alternative improvements that could be made with respect to the KY 491 Pump Station (P10). He explained that the most appropriate project would be to upgrade the KY 491 Pump Station. This would provide sufficient capacities for at least the next 10 years. If exceptional growth which is not now anticipated is realized during that 10-year period, then Option 2 could also be implemented to supplement Option 3. The cost of upgrading the KY 491 Pump Station would be \$606,400.00 (P11).

Mr. Hanson next explained various alternative improvement scenarios for the WWTP (P12). Mr. Hanson explained that the most viable and efficient plan would be Option 5 as outlined at PP12-13. Mr. Hanson gave a brief history of the current WWTP. It was moved to its current site in 1989 when the City of Crittenden operated the sewer system. Since then, two additional treatment tanks have been added. He explained that under current conditions, the WWTP needs significant improvement. The projected cost of Option 5 would be \$6,139,000.00 (P13). The total combined cost for the KY 491 Pump Station and WWTP Improvement Project would be approximately \$6,700,000.00.

Next, Mr. Hanson explained a possible project timetable (P15). He emphasized that this projected timetable is an estimate and based upon everything moving forward without any issues. Mr. Hanson explained that this timetable could change depending on availability of funding and other issues.

Mr. Hanson explained that under current laws and regulations, the District would have to involve other Federal and State Agencies for their input and contribution to these projects. The United States Fish and Wildlife Department, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Department, Kentucky Heritage Council, United States Corps of Engineers, and USDA National Resource Conservation Service have been contacted and responses obtained. Mr. Hanson explained that since the KY 491 Pump Station and WWTP Improvement Projects are located on sites that are currently used for that purpose, significant Federal and State inter-agency involvement would not be likely.

Mr. Hanson explained that there would be various funding options available through KIA and/or Rural Development (PP18-20). Based upon the projected Project costs, Mr. Hanson proposed

future estimated rate increases that would be necessary in meeting the District's revenue requirements to satisfy all debt obligations and to meet day-to-day maintenance and operating expenses. Mr. Hanson explained that the cost of both projects would need to be financed through mortgage loans and perhaps grants from Federal and State sources. The District and HMB will aggressively pursue grants which may be available for these projects.

Finally, Mr. Hanson reviewed briefly Kentucky Administrative Regulations (P21) which will need to be followed. Mr. Hanson noted that anyone can file written comments regarding the RFP until 4:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, on July 27, 2023.

Mr. Hanson then opened the floor for questions and comments. Thereupon, one attendee inquired as to whether or not the District has any plans to expand service to areas which are currently served by septic systems. Mr. Hanson explained that sanitary sewer line extension projects are very expensive and are generally limited to those areas where more dense residential populations are located (e.g., subdivisions) and/or commercial businesses. Those types of future developments are in large part determined upon planning and zoning laws and regulations.

There being no further business to conduct before the Public Hearing, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:50 p.m.

GRANT COUNTY SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT

BY: 

CHARLES GIVIN, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:



ROBERT WORTHINGTON, VICE-CHAIRMAN