

Grand Isle Consolidated Water District

Minutes of Regular Meeting February 10, 2021, 6:30pm

Board Members Present: Janine Banks, Michael Inners, Tim Olver, Judi Reposa, Court Perry, Ken Mirvis, Lynda Morgan-Gardiner

Board Members Not Present: N/A

SOS Members Present: Operators Joe Danis and Warren Steadman

Members present: Bill Stone

Janine Banks Called the meeting to order at 6:32

Additions to the Agenda:

- Use Account #s for Member Questions – to be added to New Business
- Question re: water shutoff on 01/2 – to be added to Questions from Members

Review of Meeting Minutes

- January 2021 Meeting Minutes
 - Judi voted to approve, Lynda seconded. All were in favor.

Questions from Members:

- Account # 4132. reimbursement
 - Janine pulled up the email from the owner/member while Warren explained the situation. The member had stated that he never used the water service but had been paying the debt rate. He is asking to be refunded for the lien that was on his property by the water district, for not paying his debt.
 - Michael made a few notes regarding GICWD's generous policy on disconnection as well as this member's situation that he had run his water line across someone else's property without their permission.
 - Warren explained that there are others that are members of GICWD without a history of using the water service and are paying debt and base. This member was never charged for usage..
 - Ken made a motion to deny the request, Judi seconded. All were in favor.
- Question re: water shutoff on 01/25
 - A Member with property on Champlain Blvd, account # 2004, mentioned a brief lapse in water and asked whether the district had done anything in the area.
 - Warren said they had not but there is the potential for service lines to freeze-up this time of year. In the future, members should contact SOS immediately if there are signs of freeze-ups as there can be a potential for greater damage to the service line or elsewhere.

Operator's Report:

- There have been two freeze-ups
 - One on Kayak Rd. The meter was damaged and SOS said to the member that a bill would be sent to replace the meter. The member was upset to hear this and claimed to be unaware of their responsibility to protect the meter. SOS then mailed the member with the information that's sent to new members about meter maintenance.
 - Another property had a damaged curb stop rod that the district will have to account for.
 - It was discussed to add the informational notice in the fall bill for customers' to be reminded about their responsibility for the meters. This was agreed upon by the board
 - The distinction of responsibility for the meter is whether it fails or if it is damaged. If it fails, due to age, it's the district's responsibility. If it is damaged, due to weather, freezing, etc., it's the homeowner's responsibility.
- Joe explained the situation regarding the filter medium that SOS uses and how they're running low on supply.
 - The company they had purchased this from in the past, Kinetico, has since gone out of business.
 - SOS has contacted several companies, including Clearwater, to pursue pricing and sampling. They're requested a sample from one of these new companies.
 - Joe's suggestion is that once the media is approved by the state, to purchase this in a large quantity as the shipping costs is considerable..
 - Ken asked how we can determine how the new products differ from the current one we're using. Joe explained their planned process to test this.
 - SOS said that they will be working with the State Chemist, Ray Solomon, to test the sample.
 - Ken asked whether we should ask the new vendor that SOS has requested a sample from, to give us a referral from other Water District customers who've come from a similar background to us.
 - Discussion ensued.
- Warren discussed the Aquastor and Bell Hill Tank situation.
 - Aquastor contacted GME regarding the tank.
 - Aquastor reviewed the video and other reports of the tank and said that no repair is required.
 - Summarizing the email, Warren said that nothing needs to be done to the Bell Hill Tank.
- Michael asked about the power usage issue that had previously been brought up in a past meeting. Joe said that Dwayne from DC Energy will be coming to inspect this, along with a few other tasks that they will be doing.

Engineer's Report:

- The engineers were not present at the meeting but emailed their report. Are continuing their work on the application.

Treasurer's Report:

- Budget:
 - We're overbudget on the computer software maintenance. This was mentioned during the January meeting as an anticipated cost.
 - Nothing else is out of line with the budget.
- The Loan for the Engineering Study for the piping project is progressing along. Nothing new to report.
- There has been a successful test with Crystal from SOS for the over-the-phone payments.
- Payment Options (e-payments, etc.)
 - Exploring Credit Card payments. This can be proceeded without issue or legal involvement, including the typical 3% surcharge that's passed along to the member.
 - Michael will provide some vendors during the next meeting.

Old Business:

- Newsletter Progress Report
 - Ken has been gathering information and stories from the SOS members.
 - He plans to have a draft by this Friday, 02/12.
- Letter to Raewyn Lane property owners sent
 -
- Approval of 2021 Rates
 - Michael asked to have a formal approval of the 2021 Rate. There was no change in the rates from last year. This is the 5th year in a row without a rate increase
 - Court made a motion to approve, Michael seconded. All were in favor.
- Revisit setup of GICWD Website (separate from town website)
 - Tim explained the renewed interest in using our domain for our own website separate from the town website.
 - Michael suggested we delay switching for a month.
 - District member Bill Stone asked what the intent or value is of having our own website.
 - Tim, Janine, and Michael outlined the reasons for this decision. A website would only cost us \$3-5 a month. There have historically been some issues with the town website that are out of control of GICWD to fix. There have historically been access issues which can prevent GICWD from posting information that has legal time requirements to be posted.
 - Some discussion ensued and it was agreed for Tim, Michael, and Joe Danis from SOS to schedule a time in March to purchase and setup the website.
- Update on Active Projects
 - VT-Alert:
 - Janine spent most of 02/10 reviewing the documentation sent to us by the service and discovered that we cannot add our own contact list (we can subtract a member but not add them with their contact info, or add in bulk).

- We would have to externally maintain our own contact list and periodically send it to VT-Alert for them to import into the system.
- The initial list was also imported incorrectly, affecting the Mobile Numbers in the system.
- Janine proposed a plan to maintain our external file and devise a cadence to send updates to VT-Alert.
- Some discussion ensued

New Business:

- Change from GoToMeeting to Zoom for future meetings
 - Tim to continue hosting the monthly meetings but will be switching to the Zoom Service.
- Use Account #s for Member Questions
 - Janine said that members may be sensitive to the minutes sharing address information in the Member Questions section.
 - It was agreed to use Account Numbers for reference to the questions from members section.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:42 PM. Janine moved to Accept, Lyndaseconded, all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted: Tim Olver _____ Date:
_____ GICWD Clerk



SIMON OPERATION SERVICES, INC.

February 10, 2021

Ms Janine Banks
Grand Isle Consolidated Water District
Grand Isle, Vermont 05458

Dear Janine,

Enclosed please find the following reports and activities for the water treatment facility for the month of January 2021.

1. Monthly Activities Report
2. Vermont Water System Operations Report

If you have any questions regarding this information please feel free to call us toll free at 1-802-244-7420.

Sincerely,

Joe Danis
Warren Steadman

Cc: Facility copy

143 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05676 1-802-244-7420

GRAND ISLE CONSOLIDATED WATER DISTRICT

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

JANUARY 2021

A: ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

1. Two samples were taken for coliform testing. Both samples were absent. Monthly backwash data was taken and the monthly report was sent to the Watershed Management Division. The monthly Water Operations report was sent to the Drinking Water and Ground Water Protection Division.
2. Samples were taking including TSS, TOC, TC and DBP. The results for the DBP testing indicated we are still below the MCL.
3. The tap at 8A Adams School Road (new account) was witnessed by SOS personnel. The home is still under construction and the water has not been turned on.
4. The wires to the meters were repaired at 245 East Shore North and 101 Allen Road.
5. Dewyea undated the HMI Computer to solve some system issues.
6. Landry Construction completed the facial repair project.
7. A frozen meter was replaced at 13 Kayak Road. The owner is being billed for the meter.

B. ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS

1. DC Energy is scheduling the work on our power panel. The work needs to be coordinated with VEC because they need to shut the power off to the building while the repairs are made. The work was scheduled but had to be delayed because of the snow storm.
2. DC Energy is also investigating the control signals from Lover's Lane and Bell Hill to the Filter Building. They are looking at alternative ways to provide the signal to the Filter Building.

C: ACTIVITIES PLANNED OR NEEDED

1. The replacement of the West Shore Master Meter will be scheduled for next spring.
2. Kinetico filter media levels will be checked in February.

D: BILLINGS AND COLLECTIONS

1. Accounts receivable as of February 4, 2021 is \$42,969.09
2. No new liens were issued in January.