

Grand Isle Consolidated Water District

Minutes of Regular Meeting February 14, 2018

Present at meeting: Commissioners Michael Inners, Janine Banks, Lynda Morgan-Gardiner, Judith Reposa and Andy Pyphers, SOS Operator Warren Steadman and members David Banks and Diana Dubuque . Commissioners David Borthwick-Leslie and Shannon Bundy were not present (both sent emails warning of his absence).

Michael Inners opened the meeting at 7:00PM. It was held at the Ed Weed Fish Hatchery in Grand Isle, VT.

Additions to the Agenda

None

Review of Meeting Minutes

- 1) Judi motioned to approve the January 10, 2018 meeting minutes and Andy seconded the motion. All Commissioners were in favor and the motion passed.

Questions from User's

- 1) Pepin – Apartment Dispute. We feel she was clear in her email (attached to these minutes) that family is now living in their apartment so we will keep them at 1 base rate and one debit service charge. Michael will get back to her to let her know.
Warren suggested sending a letter annually to all apartment owners who have a relative living in their apartment asking them to confirm the relative is still living there. The Commissioners agreed and Warren will compose and send as soon as possible to cover 2018.
- 2) New Connection agreement. 122 Allen Rd. It is a routine residential, single family, 3 bedroom home, however, (refer to map) Warren recommends we approve it with conditions. There are service line issues in the immediate area and he suggests we correct one at this time. He suggests they pay for boring under the road (which they will have to do no matter how we proceed) and we'll cover the partial replacement of the old service line going to the house next door so both the new connection and the line going to the next house can be up to our standards. Warren will make sure no other homes are involved with this connection line. Janine made a motion to approve the connection with these conditions. Andy seconded the motion. All Commissioners were in favor and the motion passed.
- 3) 125 East Shore South – He was supposed to pay \$50 per month till the back balance was paid off. No payments made until recently when he paid \$250, which covers his back due payments. He has asked us again to negate the carryover balance from before he owned the property however the board felt it is his responsibility to get the bank to cover it as they are the ones that were not paying the bill. We are sending him a letter reminding him of the payment plan he agreed to and thanking him for his payment.
- 2) Dubuque (their email is attached to these minutes along with Michael Inner's reply) – they have an unused connection and another high-usage connection for which they are paying an extra debt & base. We have not heard back from them after our email to them, so everything remains the same.

Operator's Report

SOS's full report is attached to these minutes, discussion ensued on a few items.

- 1) Customer in trailer park is \$500 in arrears. Debt service is paid by the trailer park. We are constantly having to post disconnect notices and they always call and make a payment plan and then they do not pay. She called Crystal and said she will get a Dr.'s statement that it would be harmful for us to shut off the water. The note must be within 7 days of the disconnect notice and it is good for 30 days, and it can be renewed once (a second note may be obtained within the year but is non-renewable). If note is not received by Tuesday, we can shut it off. Warren will call and tell her know we can legally shut it off but we want to offer her to get on a payment plan and SOS will go to her and get the money. Suggesting collecting \$50 per month as it will cover the ongoing bills and

the past bill (eventually). Consensus was that this sounds like a good way to enable the homeowner to get back on track.

- 2) The issue of the BFDs dropping out has been solved.
- 3) #2 on report. The screen on the analyzer failed. HACH felt they could not repair the screen so it had to be replaced at a \$3000 cost. No choice.

Engineer's Report

- 1) GME is waiting for instructions from us on the capacity report.

Treasurer's Report

- 1) Met w/Melissa yesterday. The two accounts look to be in proper position. Used 2017 budget money for the recent emergency expenses.
- 2) Working with Michael in Capital plan.
- 3) Andy noted he will be moving, probably by end of 2018, and will need to resign.
- 4) Janine asked to have Melissa do a backup on the external hard drive.

Old Business

- 1) Capacity Study. Michael gave an overview. Approve going forward with the permit application with the increased capacity. Andy made a motion to move forward with the permit application requesting the increased capacity. Lynda seconded the motion. All Commissioners were in favor and the motion passed..
- 2) Capital Plan. Michael circulated the very early stages of a draft capitol plan. Warren is collecting items for consideration for the plan. Quarterly progress reports forthcoming. Andy will be chair and responsible for this.

New Business

- 1) Depositing monies into CDs. Andy will investigate the CD rates, etc.
- 2) Janine noted she did a backup on the plant computer, but the external hard drive was not there so the backup is on the recovery disc drive of the computer. She also moved 2015 files to back room to make room for 2018 files. She noted how clean and orderly the plant seemed.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:10PM by Janine and seconded by Lynda. All Commissioners were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janine Banks _____ Date: _____
GICWD Clerk

-----Original Message-----

From: Island Marine [mailto:islandmarine@comcast.net]

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 12:35 PM

To: mi10@sover.net; dborthw349@surfglobal.net; dbanks@together.net; snbundy1973@yahoo.com; aphpers53@gmail.com; reposa.judi@gmail.com; lbullynda@aol.com

Subject: pepin water bill

To The water Board.

I am following up after leaving two messages yesterday. To start with Im completely creeped out with the whole sending me a copy of my own ad. That is nothing short of stalking me. Julie my sister who was on your board said she has never seen anything like that before!! That leads me to believe you are singling me out, and second you are assuming people won't be honest! Complete stalking behavior.

A phone call would be proper to the person, not an assumption that you all know what is going on in my home by seeing an ad. So let me detail this out for all of you so you don't need to stalk us.

First off, we placed an ad saying March 1 we placed that ad in January. Unsure of our actual time line with the house my kids are looking to buy. The house has an issue so there for the whole deal is on hold to see if they can fix it. But since you all jumped the gun and I put it on my Facebook page how angry I was about you jumping the gun and creepy it was that you send me a copy of my own ad! Chad and I got a phone call.

So here is the plan for our apartment , as if its any of your business, that call we got was from Wisconsin where our beloved Aunt and Uncle live. Chad and I are the only family they have, in fact we are in charge of their health, and if anything happens to one we are the only people to care for them. They are retired and were looking to move closer to us, incase anything happened to the other. They will be moving into the apartment in June, because that is how long it could take my kids to find another house or fix the one they found. Patricia Pepin Soulia and Harry Soulia will reside at 26 Pear St until the day they die!!!!!! Which should be at least 20 years.

So no need to stalk us any longer, you have all the info needed. If you don't believe me feel free to reach out to Julie she was here when the call came. Also may I suggest in the future you act as though adults are honest good people, and not send a letter like you did to me. Try a phone call saying would you keep us informed that makes for better relations with neighbors of the same town.

Cynthia Pepin

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jocelyn Dubuque** <dreamwalkerfarm@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Feb 7, 2018 at 6:09 AM

Subject: GICWD

To: mi10@sovet.net

Hello Michael,

Hope this finds you well. We wanted to reach out on a couple of items and our children have sporting events on Wednesdays so attending the meetings may not be a possibility depending on the time.

Our first concern is regarding the hook up located on 109 Allen Road. We have never drawn water off that stop since we've owned it in 2014 nor did the previous owners. When will Debt retirement be paid up so there will no longer be a fee associated with that hook up? What options do we have? It is located 20' off our property line as well on the state property.

Second, it appears we pay \$205.14 for debt retirement, double the 109 property, for our home and farm across the road at 108 Allen Road. Is there anything we can do to bring the price down? I'm not sure when we started paying double the debt retirement, but the cost of water is very high and we need to seek alternatives. We wanted to see what we can do to reduce costs first.

Thank you for your time.

Best,
Jocelyn Dubuque & Pete Johnson

To: Jocelyn Dubuque <dreamwalkerfarm@gmail.com>
From: Michael Inners <mi10@sover.net>
Subject: Re: Fwd: GICWD

Jocelyn,

I checked the history of your account and here is what I found.

The 109 Allen Rd connection dates back to the initial system build-out. You can disconnect from the system and we would stop billing debt service. At that point, the property would not be marketable as having existing water service, and a new connection would need to be established (assuming capacity is available, which is quite likely at that location) to receive service in the future. We would cease any responsibility for maintenance of the distribution line running to the curb stop valve. If leaks develop, we would just disconnect it from the water main. If you decide to reconnect while still owning the property, you can restore the connection either by making up the missed payments or by paying the connection fee current at that time, whichever is less. New owners would need to establish a new connection.

Our current debt service is \$319,613 per year. This is bit over half of the total system budget, \$606,733.72. Debt retirement begins in 2024, with about half of the debt service eliminated after that year. The other major payoff date is 2037, with two minor project bonds paid in between those dates. Much of the original construction was funded with very long-term loans.

The first complete payoff will be in 2024, which will reduce debt service by \$154,800.

The next payoff will be in 2032, which will reduce debt service by \$16,064.

The next payoff will be in 2034, which will reduce debt service by \$6,593.

The final two bonds are both paid off in 2037: \$142,155. (\$92,510 from the early build-out phases, \$49,645 from the recent GAC filtration and backwash discharge treatment projects.)

The Board currently has a policy to avoid incurring additional debt. Debt service will reduce slightly each year as new customers connect to the system.

The 108 Allen Road account is a high usage account. Looking at last year's usage, you used 53,000 gallons in the first quarter; 34,000 in the second quarter; 47,000 in the third quarter; 53,000 in the fourth quarter; and 171,000 total. This is almost five times the typical household usage (36,000 gallons/year) and over twice the max design usage (76,000 gallons/year). It is also our understanding that you have a commercial business in addition to your residence that draws water through this connection.

Both the "large user" (annual usage over 160,000 gallons) and "small business" (business use creating total annual usage over 160,000 -or- quarterly usage over 40,000) categories apply to your situation. As a result, you are charged as multiple connections based on your summer usage (3rd quarter usage divided by 20,000).

If you reduce your quarterly usage below 40,000 you would be eligible to drop back to a single connection rate. Looking at your usage, with one quarter at 47,000 and one quarter at 53,000 gallons, modest water conservation measures are likely to be effective.

Let me know if you need any more information. Our regular meeting is this Wednesday, 7:00 at the Fish Hatchery. If you want to disconnect 109 Allen Rd we would need a specific request to that effect and it could be approved at that meeting.

Michael Inners
Chair, Grand Isle Consolidated Water District Board of Commissioners



SIMON OPERATION SERVICES, INC.

February 14, 2018

Mr. Michael Inners
Grand Isle Consolidated Water District
Grand Isle, Vermont 05458

Dear Michael,

Enclosed please find the following reports and activities for the water treatment facility for the month of January 2018.

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

If you have any questions regarding this information please feel free to call me toll free at 1-888 SOS -1885.

Sincerely,

Mark

Mark Simon

cc: Facility copy

143 S. Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05676 1-888-767-18

**GRAND ISLE CONSOLIDATED WATER DISTRICT
MONTHLY ACTIVITIES REPORT
JANUARY 2018**

A: ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

1. Two samples were taken for coliform testing. Both samples were absent. Monthly backwash data was taken and the monthly report sent to the Watershed Management Division. The monthly Water Operations report was sent to the Water and Groundwater Protection Division.
2. After determining that the District line to 5 Star Road was frozen or damaged and that it was an old line not up to current standards, the Board voted to have the line replaced. Beaulac Construction completed replacing the line and water was restored to the homeowner with instructions not to use

the water for drinking, cooking etc. until we received the notice that the water was tested. The line was tested, disinfected and samples were taken and submitted. While digging the old line it was discovered that it was less than two feet deep in places.

3. The heater in the raw water pump house failed on a Sunday morning. Space heaters were used to maintain the temperature above freezing. DC Energy was called and after checking the electric heater it was determined that it should be replaced. DC Energy replaced the heater.
4. The water was shut off at 52 East Shore South while the owner repaired a leaking service line.
5. The meter was removed from 15 Canoe Road after the service line froze under the double wide home. The meter was installed a week later after the homeowner had the line thawed and a new heat tape installed to protect the meter.
6. The water was shut off at 253 US Route 2 while the owner repaired a leak. The water was shut off permantly after the home burned to the ground.
7. The water was turned off at 14 Robinson Point Road after the owner found the furnace had failed and had numerous frozen pipes. As this is a seasonal home the repairs will be made at a later date.
8. The water was shut off at 11 Star Road at the request of the owner. No one is living there at this time.
9. The meter installation at 8 Star Road was inspected and the water turned on.

B. ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS

1. LT-2 raw water samples are being submitted every two weeks. So far there have been no e-coli detected.
2. The Screen on the raw water and finished water analyzer has failed. A replacement screen has been ordered. This analyzer measures chlorine levels, ph and temperature for both raw water coming into the plant and finished water leaving the plant.
3. We have a connection agreement from the owners of recently purchased property at 122 Allen Road. They requested that they be allowed to hook on to an old District 3 line that runs under Allen road and currently feeds another home. We checked our plans and then called GME to get information on this old line. It has been determined that this line does not meet current District standards. This will be discussed at the February meeting.
4. The Source Protection Plan is being updated. It is due to be renewed by April.

C. ACTIVITIES PLANNED OR NEEDED.

1. The antenna for the Lover's Lane to Plant communication system is to be raised from the Bell Hill building to the power pole.
2. V-Trans has requested that we wait until next spring to continue with valve repairs. (Weather related)
3. Media levels in the Kinetico filters will be checked.
4. Seasonal meters that are kept in the plant will be checked for accuracy.

D. BILLINGS AND COLLECTIONS

1. Accounts receivable as of February 6, 2018 was \$35,923.20.
2. On February 6th, 110 second notices were sent to customers.