

Grand Isle Consolidated Water District

Minutes of Regular Meeting November 11, 2020, 6:30pm

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

Board Members Not Present:

SOS Members Present: Operators Joe Danis and Warren Steadman

Members present:

Janine Banks Called the meeting to order at 6:31

Additions to the Agenda:

Review of Meeting Minutes

- October Meeting Minutes
 - Judi voted to approve, Ken seconded. Lynda abstained All were in favor.

Questions from Members:

- Court mentioned a Front Porch Forum Post asking a question. Janine clarified that the member asking is from Fire District #4 and not GICW. Warren noted that this is a question that's asked frequently by new users
- Court mentioned another FPF Post that Joe Danis clarified was for South Hero

Operator's Report:

- Joe presented his report,
 - starting with the identification of a water leak from a valve box (had Santor dig the valve of 11/10, there were not stainless-steel bolts that were used). After the first attempt at repairing the leaking valve is was noted that it was still leaking. It was repaired again but will need to be eventually replaced. Joe said this will be a considerable project.
 - Michael asked if it could possibly be related to the recent culvert work by Marycrest. Joe said it was unrelated.
 - From the recent inspection by Aquastore the coating material within the tanks is deteriorating and needs to be recoated. This will be costly. SOS reached out to the Aquastore to determine urgency and have not gotten an answer yet.
 - Warren chimed in saying that "we're waiting for how many years before it needs to be done...if it's urgent or can wait 10 years".
 - Ken asked if this was related to previous conversation about ionic degradation. Joe said, with detail, that it's unrelated.
 - Court asked if both tanks need to be redone, or if they can be staggered.

- Warren clarified that SOS has asked in this manner.
- Ken raised concern about any risks of failure. Warren said that this is preventative maintenance, “it’s not something we need to worry about this minute”.
 - Joe said that worst-case is could leak, but there is dual layering to prevent this. Warren added that it’s not a near-term concern, but something that needs budgeting for.
- Warren asked if SOS should seek an estimate on the siding for the plant. Warren said that SOS has been very cautious and mindful of social distancing with contractors visiting the plant.
 - Michael suggested we get a quote for replacement siding. Janine supported this decision. Warren said he would get a few quotes.
 - Warren said that SOS has been investigating the Heppa filters that filter out Corona Virus. Asked if they could purchase a filter for the office. It costs roughly \$600..
 - Ken suggested that we approve this request.
 - Michael added that we could apply for a grant as it pertains to COVID.
 - Joe said he can shop around for different HEPPA filter units.
 - Ken made a motion to approve this purchase. Michael seconded. All were in favor.
 - Large Users: currently we have 817 Debts and 767 Bases from large Users. We’ve lost two debts and bases from terminated accounts (Adams School Rd. & another voluntary termination). Adding up the new debts and bases for the large users gives us a drop of 16 debts and bases.
 - Janine asked if this was factoring our plans to move to a 3-year average. Warren said no, three-year averaging will start next year.
 - A few of the large users went up in usage: Bullis Farm, the Round Bar, and another.
 - Michael noted that the rates are set in January, so this can be revisited then.

Engineer’s Report:

- The engineers were not present at the meeting but Court spoke with Alan.
 - The application has not been started yet, but there isn’t a deadline for it to be submitted by. Court proposed the idea of the Aquastore project could be added to the grant application. Some discussion ensued. Court to connect Alan and Warren to discuss this further.

Treasurer’s Report:

- Michael presented some key items from the report.
 - The budget is overall on track. Electric is over-budget. Building maintenance is also higher than projected. Considering this there aren’t any issues perceived for the close of the year.
 - We’re planning on working on a new budget. Michael hopes to have another member of the board participate in the budget planning, along with Warren.

- Ken nominated himself to assist with the budget planning. Court also offered to help.
- The audit is finalized for last year. All of SOS monies was previously under a category for Administrative Services. Michael changed this to be broken into two categories to better represent SOS' Administrative and other services.
- There are a few choices for managing capitol expenses. Michael detailed 3 options. Of the options Michael suggested to pay to have them maintain a schedule of what's depreciating, while allowing us to review/ edit it annually. This is the middle ground approach. Other options are to have them take it on entirely or us take it on entirely. Janine supported Michaels suggestion of the middle ground approach.
- Receivables (bills that are due) are down. There's a ratio of current to older bills that is of note. To be mentioned with the Arrearage Assistance Program topic (in New Business).

Old Business:

- VT-Alert: test run
 - Janine asked SOS if they have attempted to sign on. Joe said that they did not have a chance. Janine attempted the other day but could not login. If SOS is not able to login, Janine will reach back out to get this started.
- New Ordinance Signage: Janine has gotten all the Board Commissioners' signatures and will pass along to Tim to have posted on the web site.
- Recurring: return to in-person meetings or remain virtual?
 - Remain in virtual.
- Update on delinquent accounts: (Discussed in the Arrearage Assistance Program topic of New Business)

New Business:

- Annual Meeting – Elections and Budget:
 - The announcement of the meeting stated that it would be at the Fish Hatchery so we have to have at least one person physically there. Janine suggested
 - Ken and Judi are both up for reelection and intend to stay on the board.
 - Officers and Clerks are all up for election and Janine, Michael, and Tim will seek to keep their positions.
 - Tim to post the Meeting Link for a virtual/call-in option
- Fire Department Request – Faywood/Lover's Lane
 - There are currently two hydrants that the Fire Dept. can use. These hydrants pull from the water system. Warren detailed the process and policy around using the hydrant at this location. This included the requirement of setting up a "portable pond", the hydrant has a lock that the Fire Dept. has a key for, that SOS has to be present if the hydrant

- is used.
- The Fire Dept. asked if there were any additional sites that they could use for water. Warren said that blow offs could not be used, but if a blow off could be replaced with another device, that can be used by the Fire Dept. Warren and the Fire Dept. are to do some preliminary research. Discussion ensued.
 - Arrearage Assistance Program:
 - There are about 25 customers that are eligible for the Rate Payers Assistance Program. The requirement is that there should be economic hardship resulting from COVID19 (loss of income as an example). Crystal from SOS to review any applications. The window is narrow to have people apply for this assistance. Michael is holding past due notices to be able to include info about the program, to hopefully go out Friday, 11/13.
 - Warren asked about accounts that are eligible but don't apply for the assistance program. Michael said that there's nothing further we can do than what we're already doing. Court asked where the money goes to from the program and Michael said that it's delivered directly to GICWD. Michael said that we can tell people about the program but we cannot apply on their behalf. Janine asked if it's worth adding a post to Front Porch Forum. Michael said that it may create more work than what may help (since non-eligible applicants would still need to be reviewed).

Meeting Adjourned at 7:42 PM. Court moved to Accept, Judi seconded, all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted: Tim Olver _____ Date:
_____ GICWD Clerk



SIMON OPERATION SERVICES, INC.

November 11, 2020

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 October, 2020

- 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 1-888-SOS-1885.

Sincerely,

Joe Danis

Warren Steadman

Cc: Facility copy

143 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05676 1-802-244-7544

GRAND ISLE CONSOLIDATED WATER DISTRICT

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

OCTOBER 2020

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. Statewide Aquastore completed inspecting both storage tanks and replacing the Anodes in the Bell Hill Tank. We are waiting for the inspection report. SOS personnel cleaned the Bell Hill Tank then disinfected, filled it and placed it in service.

3. Landry Carpentry has replaced the windows in the filter building. He has not scheduled replacing the fascia yet, but the materials are on hand in the building.

4. Seasonal meters that we are responsible for have been removed.

5. Distribution lines have been flushed as part of annual maintenance.

6. Annual State mandated sampling for PFA's had been completed. We are waiting for results.

7. Drummac pumped the three backwash tanks as required by the wastewater permit.

B. ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS

1. Contacts are being made to get quotes on replacing the

Kinetico air system.

2, We are waiting for DC Energy to replace the main switch

box that is showing some corrosion.

3. Bolts that are showing corrosion in the filter building are

being replaced with SS bolts as time permits.

4. We have been reviewing with the Fire Department, the

limitations and procedure for fire department use of the two GICWD

hydrants.

C: ACTIVITIES PLANNED OR NEEDED

1. The replacement of the West Shore Master Meter will be

scheduled for next spring.

2. Bell Hill operating water levels will be adjusted for the

winter to prevent ice damage.

D: BILLINGS AND COLLECTIONS

1. Accounts receivable as of November 5, 2020 is \$43,030.38.

2. No new liens in October.

3. The balance of the outstanding liens is \$15,571.80.