

South County Sewer & Water Authority

(Serving the Townships of Brady, Pavilion & Schoolcraft)

7510 East "Q" Ave., Scotts, MI 49088 Ph (269) 321-8925 Fax (269) 321-8943

Email: office@scswa.org

Website: scswa.org

DRAFT: submitted for approval on: 10/22/24

Authority Regular Meeting Minutes of Tues. Sep. 24, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

Regular Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Board Chair John Speeter. In attendance were Vice Chair Tracy Locey (Brady Township Supervisor), Secretary/Treasurer Don Ulsh (Schoolcraft Township Supervisor) and Randy Smith (Brady Township Trustee). Also in attendance were SCSWA Executive Director Frank LaPierre and Attorney Rob Thall.

Review and Set Agenda-

Today's meeting agenda was presented for review. Motioned by Ulsh, seconded by Locey to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried.**

Review of Minutes

The draft minutes of the Aug. 27, 2024 regular meeting were presented for review. Motioned by Locey, seconded by Ulsh to approve the draft minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Hear those present – John Gisler reported that the new Pratt Justice Center is operational. The 2025 Kal. County budget is forecasted at between \$350M - \$400M.

General Correspondence- N/A

Active Project Status-

- Village of Schoolcraft Update- LaPierre updated that the Lockport engineering team, Jones Rafinski, presented a very complete and comprehensive presentation of the water project feasibility study results to the Village of Schoolcraft's Council on 9/3/24. Ulsh agreed that the presentation was very complete. LaPierre questioned Rachael Grover on the results of the City of Kalamazoo brainstorming session at the Kal. County Board of Public Works to investigate providing infrastructure to The Village and Township of Schoolcraft areas. It was general with no specific next steps.
- LaPierre provided an update that the 2023/24 Annual Audit is going well and that he and Amy are on-time and current on providing report and other data requests from Lauterbach and Amen. LaPierre noted that our auditor, Jamie Wilkey is very knowledgeable. LaPierre noted that he submitted an extension request on Sunday 9/22/24. Also, Jamie is scheduling to present the SCSWA audit at our October Board meeting and she will provide observations on our past audit processes and recommendations for improved process in the future.

New Business

- Andy Campbell of Bendzinski presented his Bond Funding Proposal. Campbell explained the open market process and why SRF and USDA funding options were not available due to the scoring system and the high HH net incomes in the SCSWA areas. He described the broker style process and next steps. Motioned by Locey, supported by Speeter to approve the initial services for Bendzinski services but, table the approval of the Bond amount and process until October pending a request for a financial presentation by LaPierre and Campbell to the Brady Board. **Motioned Carried.**
- Andrew Rudd, PE of Wightman presented a revised proposal for Engineering Services with reduced costs to his original proposal. LaPierre and Rudd explained that the costs were reduced following a meeting to clarify the scope among LaPierre, Rudd and John Crumb, Executive Director of GLSWA. Motioned by Locey, supported by Ulsh to table the approval of Wightman services until October pending a request for a financial presentation by LaPierre and Campbell to The Brady Board. **Motioned Carried.**
- Rob Thall presented his comments and recommendations for revisions to the updated, standardized, GLSWA Interlocal Agreement. Thall identified and explained his concerns for the language in sections 6 and 15. GLSWA will forward the Word DRAFT of the Agreement for Rob to make recommended changes for review with GLSWA legal counsel. Motioned by Locey, supported by Speeter to table the approval of the GLSWA Interlocal Agreement until October pending a review of an agreement DRAFT with the revisions recommended by Thall. **Motion Carried.**

Old Business-

- Maintenance Update- The August GLSWA 2024 O/M reports were included for Board review. John Crumb presented an overview, created by Aaron Grogg, of the GLSWA conditions, activities and processes to respond to the recent, heavy rains and flooding event from 7/16/24-7/18/24.

Financial Review- The General Operating Expenses/Payroll Expenses/Financial reports- General Operating and Payroll Expenses were presented as of Sep. 13th, 2024. The SCSWA financial reports for August 2024 were presented. Motioned by Locey, seconded by Speeter to approve the operating and payroll expenses and accept the financials as presented. **Motion carried.**

Closing Comments: Don Ulsh reported that representatives from SW Michigan First and the State of Michigan MEDC meet with him in a meeting to review their activity to search for large, available land for a confidential, targeted economic development project, along 131.

Meeting Adjourned- The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m. Motioned by Locey, seconded by Ulsh to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 22nd, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at Pavilion Township.

Submitted for approval on: 10-27- 2024 Approved by: Don Ulsh
Don Ulsh / Secretary