

Marshall County Regional Sewer District Board Meeting Minutes

Marshall County Building – 112 W. Jefferson Street, Room 203, Plymouth, IN 46563

The Marshall County Regional Sewer District Board met in a regular session on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 9:00 AM at the Marshall County Building located at 112 W. Jefferson Street, Room 203, 2nd Floor, Plymouth, IN 46563.

MEETING ATTENDANCE: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Thomas McFadden.

1. ROLL CALL:

MCRSD Board: Thomas McFadden, Brenda Meyers, Diann Parsons, Debbie Palmer (via zoom), Jay Stone, Don Ecker, Jr. and Christopher Spier

Baker Tilly:

Carson, LLP: Andrew Boxberger, Esq.

JPR: Kenneth Jones, Jr., Alexandra Nahrwold, and Jennifer Ransbottom

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Statement: Anyone wishing to speak needs to state their Name and Address for the record and will have 3 minutes to speak. Your comments will be made as a part of the public meeting.

No public comments. Public Comments closed.

3. MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes of the January 8, 2025, Monthly Board meeting were presented and reviewed by the board members. Don Ecker, Jr., made a motion to approve the minutes of January 8, 2025. The motion was seconded by Brenda Meyers. Roll call vote was taken Christopher Spier – yes, Debbie Palmer – yes, Thomas McFadden – yes, Diann Parsons – yes, Jay Stone – yes, Don Ecker, Jr. – yes. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT and CLAIM APPROVALS:

a. Financials – January, 2025

Brenda Meyers reported the month ending January 31 interest income of \$8,919.53 was received and the end-of-month balance was \$2,479,987.22.

b. Claims – January 2025

Brenda Meyers reported claims received for the month from Baker Tilley, Carson LLP and Jones Petrie Rafinski total \$56,831.04.

Diann Parsons made a motion to approve Monthly Claims in the amount of \$56,831.04. The motion was seconded by Don Ecker, Jr. Roll call vote was taken Christopher Spier – yes, Debbie Palmer – yes, Thomas McFadden – yes, Diann Parsons – yes, Jay Stone – yes, Don Ecker, Jr. – yes. The motion was approved unanimously.

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- c. 100R
Brenda Meyers has submitted the 100R through Gateway which was due at the end of January
 - d. Annual Financial Report
Jennifer Ransbottom reported Baker Tilley is working on the Annual Financial Report that is due for submission through Gateway on February 28. Brenda Meyers indicated she would appreciate more advanced notice on these types of items.
5. LEGAL COUNSEL UPDATE:
- a.) Easement Packets
Christopher Nusbaum indicated this was left as an update. Jennifer Ransbottom reported each property owner will receive a sketch of their property in the packets. This sketch will help the property owner. The goal is to send the packets to the property owners by the end of the month.
6. INSURANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE
No update
7. ENGINEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE
No meeting was held.
8. ENGINEERING UPDATE
- a. Project Tracking Tool
Project Tracking tool distributed in Board packet for members review.
9. PRE-DESIGN
- a. General Update included in the Board packet.
 - b. City of Plymouth – Interlocal Agreement Update
Ken Jones stated a meeting was held with the City of Plymouth and are awaiting their response in writing. Will be drilling down to the three different rate options that were put together by Jeff Rowe, Baker Tilley to make a thorough comparison between the options. Don Ecker, Jr. reported the meeting with the Mayor, City Attorney, and City Engineer is scheduled for February 21. The target date for completion is before the end of March. Chris Nusbaum indicated when an inter-local agreement has been reached approval from the IDEM, and the Attorney General are required, but the SRF is notified that the agreement is pending approval.

Ken Jones reported engineering is pulling plan sheets and are about halfway through this process.

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10. FINANCIAL CONSULTANT UPDATE:

Kimberlee Savick, Baker Tilley presented the rate study. She stated 3 scenarios were put together; alternative 1 – inside user rates without grant monthly rate of \$226.08 with grant \$110.87; alternative 2 – outside user rates with no grant monthly rate of \$229.08 with grant \$113.87 a month and alternative 3 – no grant at wholesale monthly rates of \$221.04 and \$105.83 with a grant. This is based on a grant of \$15M.

Kimberlee Savick reviewed the Operation and Maintenance Costs Inside User Rates, Outside User Rates, and Wholesale Rates. The only item changing is the direct treatment cost based on Plymouth current user rate of \$3.33 per 1,000 gallons.

The estimated project costs the buy-in fee of \$17,150.00 is an amount that is still in discussion. Kimberlee reviewed the calculation of rates and charges with no grant and with a grant. Debbie raised the question if the project would proceed if no grant money was received. Christopher Nusbaum indicated problem would have to phase the project, but this would be a question for the Board to decide. Christopher Nusbaum stated that JPR is working on phasing the project as more contractors are willing to bid on smaller projects. Also, SRF prefers projects broken into more bidding cycles.

Debbie Palmer inquired if the grant money is tied to any of the funding being cut by Washington, DC. Chris Nusbaum indicated yes and no. The Indiana Alliance of Rural Water, a trade association, has been monitoring and initially was put on hold, but then received confirmation that water and wastewater projects would not be put on hold because it is infrastructure.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Brenda Meyers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jay Stone. Roll call vote was taken Christopher Spier – yes, Debbie Palmer – yes, Thomas McFadden – yes, Diann Parsons – yes, Jay Stone – yes, Don Ecker, Jr. – yes. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 AM.