



VALPARAISO LAKES AREA CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES

January 15, 2025

BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

Chairman
Christian Anderson

Vice-Chairman
Kyle Hauber

Members

Connie Hughes

Walt Breitinger

Michael Cantieri

Richard Tegt

Chad Kuehl

CONSULTANTS

General Manager
Alicia Barber

Financial Secretary
Dale Brewer

Attorney
David Hollenbeck

The Board of Directors of the Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District met in the Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District Board Room at 1805 Burlington Beach Road, Valparaiso, Indiana on January 15, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Board members present included Christian Anderson, Kyle Hauber, Connie Hughes, Walt Breitinger, Michael Cantieri, Richard Tegt and Chad Kuehl. Consultants present included Alicia Barber, Dale Brewer, and David Hollenbeck

Chairman Christian Anderson called the board meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

- Kyle made a motion to approve minutes from December 18, 2024. Michael seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Approval of Claims

- Connie made a motion to approve claims. Kyle seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Reimbursement for school MS4 Compliance & Enforcement Certified Inspector \$179

- Kyle made a motion to approve the reimbursement. Richard seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Stormwater- Walt Breitinger-

- Walt spoke about Woodland Savanna Land Conservancy and the Hollenbeck Nature Greenway. They are requesting to come to a board meeting to discuss acquiring the greenway.
- Walt discussed the interurban trolley display at the Porter County Museum which showcases the trolley that wound around our lakes. Walt mentioned VLACD might have the opportunity to house some of the displays at the museum showing the trolley and lakes.
- Walt mentioned there were concerns from city citizens of a chemical odor in the air recently. Alicia explained there was no odor outside the office, and it may have been the chemicals used by the city to salt the roads.
- Walt requested to update the current Phosphorus Free Fertilizer flyer.

Listing of warrants over two years old

- The outstanding check list filed with the board

Reports from Standing Committees

- Personnel-Kyle Hauber – Nothing to report
- Insurance- Michael Cantieri - Nothing to report
- Public Liaison- Connie Hughes – Nothing to report
- Strategic Planning- Connie Hughes – Nothing to report

- Engineering- Richard Tegt – Richard stated that utilities were at a \$7600 deficit last month. Christian mentioned that is largely due to a recent repair expense and the new billing rates will improve the deficit.
- Ethics- Chad Kuehl, Connie Hughes, & Michael Cantieri- Chad informed that a rough draft document has been produced and given to Dave for review. Chad will be calling an ethics committee meeting soon.


General Managers Report

- On January 9th Alicia and Christian attended the Indiana Underground Utility workshop
- IDEM annual report due in February has been completed
- New rates have been billed for our sewer only customers and will bring in an additional \$3000 compared to last months billing. The next billing cycle is drinking water/sewer customers on the 21st and is projected to also bring in more than last months billing.
- Alicia asked for a correction to the election legal notice, the newspaper announcement date needed to be changed from January 20, 2025 to January 21, 2025 due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- Alicia mentioned the office is ready to receive any inquiries about the rate change and any accounts created under previous billing clerks have been corrected and may account for some of the differences in charges due.

Attorneys Report

- Dave and Chad met to review the draft from the Ethics committee
- Dave mentioned in previous years how the eligible voter list for elections was provided but that this year it was easy to get the certified list from the county auditor at zero cost. Dave had the list emailed to Alicia.
- Dave suggested having a meeting with the two candidates for the election, to go over processes.
- Dave gave the status of the Kingsridge pond conveyance. Dave is collecting interested property owners deeds so that the portion of the pond is added to that deed. Kyle asked about completing this task in the 90-day time frame. Dave expects to be completed in 30 days.
- Dave suggested measuring the conduct inside and outside of meetings in regard to the ethics committee meeting. Dave mentions the conservancy is created by the circuit court so following those rules may apply best. Dave recommended creating a mission statement to hold the board members conduct accountable.

Next Meeting: February 19, 2025



Attested by Alicia Barber, General Manager