

MINUTES

HEART OF THE VALLEY METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT SPECIAL COMMUNITY MEETING HELD ON **DECEMBER 5, 2024** AT THE VILLAGE OF LITTLE CHUTE

Members Present: Bruce Siebers - Vice President
Patrick Hennessey - Secretary
Kevin Coffey - Commissioner
John Sundelius - Commissioner

Absent: Dave Casper, excused

Also Present: Brian Helminger - District Director HOVMSD
Dustin Jerabek - Director of Operations & Maintenance HOVMSD
Dawn Bartel - Office Manager HOVMSD
Chad Giackino - Regulatory Compliance Manager HOVMSD
Scott Schramm - Strategic Municipal Services
Kent Taylor - Village of Little Chute
John McDonald - Village of Little Chute
John Neumeier - City of Kaukauna
Danielle Block - Village of Kimberly
George Schmidt - Darboy Sanitary District
Bruce Corning - Darboy Sanitary District
Chris Christenson - Kane Communications
Kaitlin Foley - Kane Communications
Don VanDeurzen - Village of Little Chute
Larry VanLankvelt - Village of Little Chute
Brian Roebke - Times Villager
John Stoeger - Stoeger & Associates
Alex Rossebo - Visu Sewer
Michael Srnec - Visu Sewer
Ryan Swick - Village of Combined Locks
Keith Weyenberg - Village of Combined Locks

1. 12:00 Noon. Call to Order – Roll Call

Acting President Siebers called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon.

2. Introduction – District Director Brian Helminger

District Director Helminger welcomed the group to the second District member community meeting for 2024.

The meeting presenters were introduced; Alex Rossebo of Visu Sewer, Scott Schramm of Strategic Municipal Services, John Stoeger of Stoeger & Associates, and Chris Christenson & Kaitlin Foley of Kane Communications. He reminded the audience that HOVMSD agendas, supporting materials, meeting minutes and current project updates are available on the District website at hvmsd.org.

3. HOVMSD Updates – District Director Brian Helminger

Helminger reviewed several power point slides that included 3rd quarter information on new connections, plant flows, and organic loadings. There were 145 new connections made thus far with the current pace to be in line with 180 connections per year average since 2007. Influent flows are up in 2024 with both BOD and ammonia loadings down for the year. The drop in ammonia was anticipated and District projections for 2025 were based upon the known load reduction in ammonia. This adjustment was implemented for 2025 sewer rates rather than waiting for the 3-year rolling average to adjust the ammonia load value. Once completed, the year end 2024 totals will be reviewed at the next community meeting.

Helminger went on to discuss projects and studies in place for 2025. The District's hauled waste acceptance and storage tank is being rehabilitated. The tank is decades old and was repurposed to its current use in the last major upgrade completed in 2007. The concrete is corroding and has deteriorated to the point where repairs are necessary along with protective coatings being applied to stop future corrosion.

The District will also complete two other studies that will guide decision making in the future. The first is an evaluation of new mechanical screens that remove debris, rags, and inorganics from the influent waste stream. The current screens are nearing 25 years old, have served us well, but are nearing the end of their service life. The intent is to identify the ideal replacement equipment that would fit and function well in our application. Procurement and installation of this equipment is anticipated for 2026.

A second study will analyze existing and future flow and loadings to give the District a look into the future and when the existing plant will no longer be able to serve the entire service area. This study will require participation from the member communities to estimate population growth and development within the service area. The finding should give the District something of a roadmap into the future as area continues to grow and develop.

4. FOG Update by John Stoeger of Stoeger & Associates LLC

John Stoeger informed the group that the FOG program is running well. He reminded community leaders the importance of keeping him informed when a new business comes into their municipality or a current business changes ownership.

5. Interceptor Rehab Project Update – Scott Schramm of Strategic Municipal Services

Schramm of Strategic Municipal Services updated the communities on the progress of the interceptor rehabilitation project and provided a slideshow presentation of Phase 1 and Phase 2 construction, bypass pumping, and marine work. Work will be wrapping up soon and starting again in March 2025, weather permitting.

6. Outreach & Communications – Chris Christenson & Kaitlin Foley of Kane Comm.

Kaitlin Foley and Chris Christenson gave an update on the community outreach & communications plan. Social media posts, trail signage, and website updates are continuing to be drafted and posted to keep residents and affected stakeholders up to date on project progress and potential trail closures.

7. Effluent Disc Filter Project Update

District Director Helminger discussed progress on the project along with next steps before the project closes out. A larger polymer aging tank and polymer emulsion pump have arrived on site but have yet to be installed. The need for this change came about as part of the initial startup and optimizing of the filtration equipment. The District is currently running the filtration system without chemical addition to evaluate if limits can be met either without chemical or if chemical will be needed year round. Veolia recently replaced a filter motor and gear box that had failed so all filters are again available. Once the project closes out the District is planning to host a public open house that would include invites to member community staff & leadership in the spring of 2025.

8. General Old or New Business

There was no Old or New Business for discussion.

9. Adjournment

With no further business before the Commission, a motion was made by Commissioner Sundelius and seconded by Commissioner Coffey to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. (Time: 1:12 PM)

SIGNED & APPROVED BY: _____
Patrick E. Hennessey, Secretary