

MINUTES

HEART OF THE VALLEY METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING HELD ON **March 10, 2026** AT THE HEART OF THE VALLEY MSD MEETING ROOM

Members Present: Bruce Siebers - President
John Sundelius – Vice President
Patrick Hennessey - Secretary
Kevin Coffey – Commissioner -via teams
Timothy De Groot – Commissioner

Absent: None

Also Present: Brian Helminger - District Director HOVMSD
Tammy Tucker – Office Manager HOVMSD
Dustin Jerabek - Director of Operations & Maintenance HOVMSD
Chad Giackino - Regulatory Compliance Manager HOVMSD
Scott Schramm - Strategic Municipal Services
Anna Huber - Village of Kimberly

1. 5:00 p.m. Call to Order – Roll Call

President Siebers called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

2. Public Appearances

No appearances were made.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the February 10, 2026 Regular Meeting

The minutes of the February 10, 2026 Regular Meeting were presented to the Commission. A motion was made by Commissioner Coffey and seconded by Commissioner De Groot to approve the minutes as written and presented. Motion carried unanimously. The minutes were reviewed by District Director Helminger and Commission Secretary Hennessey prior to the meeting.

4. Correspondence

There was nothing to report.

5. General Discussion Items

A. Interceptor Rehab Project – Discussion with possible action

Scott Schramm of Strategic Municipal Services provided a written update to the Commission dated March 6, 2026 on Phase 5 of the Interceptor Project. Scott Schramm also presented a Phase 5 update and amended quote including bypass and coating work. A three-week bypass and the coatings work is estimated at ~\$455,000. The remaining coating work includes completion of the channels, benches, and barrels. These same structures were noted to have small raisin-sized bumps between the original coating and the internal concrete layer. This is abnormal and will be further investigated.

Commission discussed options to either approve the amended quote and adjust construction dates to allow the current contractor to complete the project or to rebid the remaining work as a separate project. Contractor schedules are already extremely tight for 2026 with coating companies already booked for the construction year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Siebers and seconded by Commissioner Hennessey to authorize completion of the phase 5 structures with Visu and Great Lakes TV Seal Incorporated (GLTS) for the estimated amount of \$453,276.

A roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Siebers, yes; Commissioner Sundelius, yes; Commissioner Coffey, yes; Commissioner De Groot, yes; and Commissioner Hennessey, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

B. HOVMSD Mission, Value and Core Statement

Commissioner Sundelius made a motion to update the Mission, Value and Core Statement as presented and was seconded by Commissioner De Groot. A roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Siebers, yes; Commissioner Sundelius, yes; Commissioner Coffey, yes; Commissioner De Groot, yes; and Commissioner Hennessey, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

C. 2025 NR 101 Fees – Effluent discharge and Filters Impact

District Director Helmingier discussed the NR 101 fees with the commission. Helmingier pointed out the drop in NR 101 fees beginning in 2024 that corresponds with the startup of tertiary filtration. The NR 101 fees are paid annually by the District to the DNR. We will be under budget this year, and the NR 101 fees calculated on a 5 year rolling average and will continue dropping slightly for the next three years.

D. Fog Program

John Stoeger of Stoeger & Associates provided a written fats, oil, and grease update by community, including a grease trap inspection report and site visit correspondence. The Commission also received an itemized copy of the February 2026 invoice.

6. Plant Reports for February 2026

A. Flows & Revenues Report

The Commission received a copy of the hydraulic & organic loadings data, along with flow & strength projections, which shows the year-to-date surplus/deficit in revenue for the month of February 2026. Revenue received from the WPS-Fox Energy Center for effluent purchased in February was \$30,813.25. WPS-Fox Energy purchased 44% of the effluent produced in February.

The average effluent concentrations for **February 2026** were as follows:

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Monthly Average</i>	<i>Permit Limit</i>
BOD-Biochemical Oxygen Demand	3.3 mg/L	30 mg/L
Suspended Solids	5.7 mg/L	30 mg/L
Suspended Solids	161 lbs.	801 lbs.
Phosphorus	.23 mg/L	1.0 mg/L
Ammonia	.33 mg/L	10 mg/L
Chlorides	890 mg/L	n/a

All permit values were met for February 2026.

1. Government Affairs Seminar – PFAS progress and update

Chad Giackino (Regulatory Compliance Manager) reported that as of January 1, the new HOVMSD permit requires the effluent be tested once every two months. The effluent PFAS data will be collected over a 2-year period at which time the DNR will analyze the results and determine if PFAS will remain a compound of concern for the District.

The single sample to date, indicates that PFAS may be a concern and that PFOA initially appears not to be a problem. The compliance target established for PFAS concentration below 8 ppt and any limit determination is subject to a statistical calculation called the P-99.

Staff noted that DNR uses the P-99 calculation for other regulatory compliance limits such as chlorides. While still very early, staff will continue to report on the PFAS issue as more data is generated and more information about PFAS becomes available. It was noted by DNR at a recent seminar, approximately 38 percent of wastewater treatment plants that are testing for PFAS are trending above the surface water standard of 8 ng/L.

Staff outlined the current sampling and laboratory workflow. Samples are collected and sent to Badger Labs and forwarded to a lab in Lower Michigan for effluent PFAS analysis. Staff noted that the 2026 budget covers just the permit required effluent sampling. If PFAS levels remain elevated, efforts to determine the source and how it may be reduced or eliminated will be required.

Those efforts will come with increased staff labor for additional sample collection and testing, screening of industrial users, monitoring of meter stations for PFAS sources, and public and industrial outreach efforts.

B. Operations & Maintenance Report

Dustin Jerabek provided a written O&M reporting adding 1 gpd Aquachem LB4000 to the DAF to reduce H2S concentrations in the day tank. A leaking Actiflo eductor required replacement at a cost of \$2,222.

Actiflo water champs maintenance, included replacing bushings and a shaft extension (\$4,670). Actiflo Water Champ #1 recently failed and was replaced with a spare. A new motor and power cable have been ordered at a cost of \$10,068.

The DAF Polymer Unit #2 mixer motor required replacement at a cost of \$1,715, and, two replacement polymer mixing chambers were purchased at a cost of \$348.

The Sodium Hypochlorite storage tank, was relined per Fiberglass Solutions at a total cost of \$24,771.

Jerabek also discussed the upcoming junction box replacement project, may require brief manual pump operation during electrical reconnections. Operational impact is expected to be minimal.

7. Financials

A. March 2026 Accounts Payable; Action for Approval

After review of the accounts payable, a motion was made by Commissioner Siebers and was seconded by Commissioner Hennessey to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$289,783.59.

A roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Siebers, yes; Commissioner Sundelius, yes; Commissioner Coffey, yes; Commissioner De Groot, yes; and Commissioner Hennessey, yes. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission signed the check voucher register which includes general and pre-paid invoices.

8. General Old or New Business

District Director Helminger mentioned that the Filter Equipment as-builts were received from Donohue and are saved on the District server. Donohue issued the final invoice for the project with the last draw from the Clean Water Fund in the next few weeks.

We have a potential UWSP student seeking an internship opportunity this summer. He will be coming on site for a plant tour and discussion on working here this summer the week of March 16th.

District staff are working to pull together a report on all District owned properties. This includes agricultural land and meter stations, which will be used to start discussions on management of the properties.

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: 5:53PM)

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