

# MINUTES

## HEART OF THE VALLEY METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING HELD ON **May 12, 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  
Tim De Groot - Commissioner

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Brian Helminger - District Director HOVMSD  
Dustin Jerabek - Director of Operations & Maintenance HOVMSD  
Chad Giackino - Regulatory Compliance Manager HOVMSD  
Tammy Noonan – Office Manager HOVMSD  
Scott Schramm – Strategic Municipal Services  
Chad Juedes – Employee HOVMSD

### **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 April 14, 2026 Regular Meeting, April 27, 2026 Special Meeting, and April 28, 2026 Community Meeting**

The minutes of the April 14, 2026 Regular Meeting, April 27, 2026 Special Meeting and the April 28, 2026 Community Meeting were presented to the Commission. A motion was made by Commissioner Coffey and seconded by Commissioner Siebers 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 were two emails sent this month. One was a simple Commission update on operations and the upcoming meeting and the second was a draft letter to be discussed in Item 5B at the meeting.

### **5. General Discussion Items**

## **A. Interceptor Rehab Project – Scott Schramm Strategic Municipal Services - Monthly Activity Report**

Scott Schramm of Strategic Municipal Services provided the commission with an update on the interceptor rehabilitation project schedule and budget status. Phase 5 completion is currently targeted for the second week of June, with Great Lakes expected to complete the remaining structures. Epoxy lining work has not started yet in 2026 due to cold night time temperatures.

The Interceptor was bid as a unit-price contract rather than lump sum, with approximately \$17.19 million paid to date from the original \$18.15 million contract amount. Scott reported that approximately \$770,000 in “work not performed” offsets much of the contractor's requested Change Order #2. Completion of the remaining phase 5 work is expected to cost approximately \$450,000. Change Order #3 will be required by DNR and will reconcile any changes to work in phase 5 and finally will facilitate Clean Water Fund loan closure.

Change order 2 includes cost for additional grouting at leaking structures, including manholes 7 and 10A, to prevent epoxy failure. Cost savings were achieved at the canal structure by modifying the liner installation approach and avoiding a larger epoxy coating scope. Staff noted that if Great Lakes remains onsite, remaining work could be completed within approximately one month; otherwise, completion may extend toward Labor Day.

Scott also updated the commission on information related to odors in Little Chute, noting that findings and monitoring information will be converted into a formal letter-style report and sent Little Chute.

## **B. DNR Correspondence Permit**

Commissioners reviewed the draft correspondence to DNR regarding permit concerns. Commissioners requested clarification of the term “Lower Fox”. There were concerns expressed regarding limited DNR response following prior discussions and changing interpretations of permit-related limits. Discussion included possible escalation of communications through supervisory levels within DNR, including potentially the DNR Secretary if necessary. Direction was provided to have legal counsel review the draft letter prior to finalization and distribution. The District will complete and transmit the letter prior to submission of this month's DMR.

## **C. District owned property report**

Staff reported ongoing efforts to compile and document all District-owned properties and easement records into a comprehensive reference report to assist both current and future Commissioners and staff.

A brief discussion on the current ARTS property about its care and upkeep now that it no longer provides anything toward permit compliance. The property will be maintained to collective expectations with District staff providing a practical O&M recommendation.

## **D. FOG Program - Monthly Activity Report**

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 April 2026 invoice. All FOG related activities were typical for April.

**6. Plant Reports for April 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 April 2026. Revenue received from the WPS-Fox Energy Center for effluent purchased in April was \$6,613.86. WPS-Fox Energy purchased 9% of the effluent produced in April. Revenue received to date for 2026 = \$55,234.02

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

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Monthly Average</i>	<i>Permit Limit</i>
BOD-Biochemical Oxygen Demand	4.3 mg/L	30 mg/L
Suspended Solids	4.8 mg/L	30 mg/L
Suspended Solids	264 lbs.	801 lbs.
Phosphorus	.20 mg/L	1.0 mg/L
Ammonia	.32 mg/L	10 mg/L
Chlorides	752 mg/L	n/a

**All permit values were met for April 2026.**

**B. Operations & Maintenance Report**

Plant operations and treatment performance remained stable throughout April despite receiving approximately 6.75–7.5 inches of rainfall across the service area, resulting in the highest monthly influent flow recorded at the plant. Four blending events occurred during the month totaling approximately 11.06 million gallons diverted around full treatment. Staff worked extended hours during the first two weeks of April to maintain operations and responded well to the challenging high-flow conditions.

Several equipment issues were encountered during the wet weather events. Peak Flow Pump #5 failed after prolonged operation and a replacement rotating assembly has been ordered. The peak flow bar screen also experienced automatic control issues, requiring operators to manually operate the system until LW Allen restored normal automatic function. Staff additionally identified debris buildup in the BioStyr backwash tank wet well that affected level controls during high backwash periods. Speedy Clean assisted with cleaning the system at a cost of \$2,268, restoring normal operation.

Actiflo Makeup Air Unit - A failing supply fan motor caused overload trips on the large makeup air unit serving Actiflo. The motor was replaced at a cost of \$2,438.

Bisulfite Flow Meter - A new Krohne bisulfite flow meter and converter were installed prior to disinfection season at a cost of \$5,015 to replace the aging meter that had been reading inaccurately.

Meter Station #3 Laser Flow Sensor -The repaired laser flow sensor for Meter Station #3 was returned from Teledyne Isco at a repair cost of \$440.

Tunnel B Junction Box Replacement - Sargent Electric completed the Tunnel B Junction Box Replacement project, significantly improving the condition and reliability of the installation.

## **7. Financials**

### **A. May 2026 Accounts Payable; Action for Approval**

After a review of the bills payable, a motion was made by Commissioner Siebers and seconded by Commissioner Hennessey to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$464,275.49. A roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Siebers, yes; Commissioner Sundelius, yes; Commissioner Coffey, yes; and Commissioner Hennessey, yes and Commissioner De Groot; yes; Motion carried unanimously. The Commission signed the check voucher register which includes general, pre-paid.

### **B. Budget Comparison Report**

The Commission received a Budget Comparison Report, along with a verbal explanation of exceedances.

## **8. General Old or New Business**

The District has a virtual meeting scheduled with Donohue, this is a 60% design meeting for the headworks/screening project. Potential code requirements necessitate separation of electrical and SCADA spaces through partitioning or a separate entrance. The meeting will work through details of design and the construction sequence


NWTC's environmental engineering program will be dropped as a major due to low overall students and student count specific to the program. This will effect the District's future internship students and staffing for future vacancies. Final graduates are expected in May 2027.

Staff reported annual PFAS sampling results of 32.2 µg/kg, placing biosolids management within DNR Tier 2 recommendations. DNR guidance on land application include reduced application rates, notification and tracking cumulative PFAS loading by field. The District will begin studying and developing a PFAS source reduction plan in order to prepare for future PFAS-related permit conditions.

## **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: 6:27 PM)

SIGNED & APPROVED BY:

  
Patrick E. Hennessey, Secretary