

October 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: The October 6th Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Mr. Rook.

Roll Call: Tom Rook of Orangeville, Roger VanVolkinburg of Wayland, & Rob Heethuis of Yankee Springs were present. Glenn Leep of Martin was absent with notice.

Employees present: Director Larry Knowles, Office Manager Tara Palandri, and Maintenance Supervisor Todd Kline were present.

Linda Ribble of Orangeville was present.

Mike Maring was present.

Hear Those Present: Mrs. Ribble requested that the Board add a comment she believes Mr. Knowles made in response to her statement which can be found in the September minutes. The Board asked where the comment should be added specifically as they did not recall Mr. Knowles making said comment. After some discussion, Mr. Heethuis made a motion to add Mr. Knowles' comment to Mrs. Ribble's statement in the September minutes. The motion was not supported, motion failed.

Mr. Maring stated that he was fired today after his first disciplinary write up. He believes he was fired for voicing concerns at previous board meetings. He would like the decision overturned and would like to work at GLASA again. He recommended to the Board that they fire Mr. Knowles and Ms. Palandri due to what he believes are unlawful acts. He claims he found it to be a hostile work environment, specifically referring to what he believes are numerous OSHA violations and his belief of a camera (or cameras) in the women's restroom.

Ms. Palandri stated that Mr. Maring has been written up previously, not just today. She mentioned that Mr. Maring used to express that he enjoyed his time here at GLASA and she felt they had a good working relationship until the employee issues began throughout the last several months. She mentioned in an employee meeting Mr. Maring made a comment directed at her which she found to be derogatory and belittling. She stated his attitude and behavior towards her is part of the reason she feels she was in a hostile work environment. She went on to tell the Board about how the camera rumors were brought to her attention by Mr. Kline after he had been employed there for only a week. When she found out that other employees were evidently aware of this camera rumor, she stated she is perplexed as to why no other employees thought to bring this matter to the attention of the Board, herself, or most of all the police.

Review Minutes: Mr. VanVolkinburg motioned to accept the September Board Meeting minutes and Mr. Heethuis supported; the motion passed 3-0.

New Business:

- a. One sewer permit and no water permits were issued in September.

Director's Report:

- **Laboratory Technician**
 - The September Lab Report was reviewed.
- **YST Water**
 - The MOR and reports were sent to EGLE.
 - The Advisory Board meeting was held Tuesday (10/4/22).

- The September Water Report was reviewed.
- **Miss Dig**
 - 133 Miss Digs were performed in September.
- **Water Laboratory**
 - Effective October 1st, we raised our rates:
 - Pick up from Health Dept Bacti from \$20.00 to \$22.00
 - Pick up from Health Dept Nitrate from \$22.00 to \$24.00
 - Dropped off at GLASA Bacti from \$17.00 to \$18.00
 - Dropped off at GLASA Nitrate – no change - \$20.00
 - In September, we tested 297 samples.
- **Sewage Spill into Gun Lake**
 - On September 6th, a seawall contractor damaged the sewer and gas mains that run under the channel at Vista Point.
 - GLASA determined that the sewer main had been damaged on September 7th.
 - The gas main was replaced on September 8th and the sewer main on September 9th.
 - The invoice for the cost of replacing the sewer main was sent to the seawall contractor.
- **CDLs**
 - Mr. Knowles updated the Board as to the status of employees' CDLs.
- **Blower**
 - The startup is scheduled for next week (supplier should be on site).

Financial Statements: September payroll totaled \$45,747.75 and operation expenses (checks #15916-15954) totaled \$147,150.65. Total September expenses came to \$102,889.75. A motion to pay the September bills was made by Mr. VanVolkinburg and supported by Mr. Heethuis; the motion passed 3-0.

Discussion: None.

Adjournment: Mr. VanVolkinburg motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:27PM, Mr. Heethuis supported; the motion passed 3-0.

The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2022 at 7:00PM