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## Gun Lake Area Sewer Authority Public Hearing

**Location:** Yankee Springs Township Hall 284 N Briggs Rd Middleville, MI 49333

**Date:** Thursday, August 29, 2024

**Call to Order:** The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00PM by Mr. Leep.

**Roll Call:** Glenn Leep of Martin, Tom Rook of Orangeville, Roger VanVolkinburg of Wayland, and Rob Heethuis of Yankee Springs were present. Employees present: Director Larry Knowles and Office Manager Tara Palandri.

**Attendees:** Matt Lumbert and Joe VanDommelen of the Michigan Rural Water Association were in attendance to present the Michigan Rural Water Association (MRWA) findings.

**Rate Study Presentation:** Mr. Leep informed the audience that the GLASA Board approved a rate increase with a new rate of \$140.00/quarter per REU (residential equivalent unit). Mr. Leep then gave the floor to Mr. VanDommelen to review the rate study findings with the public.

### **Presentation Highlights:**

- Current sewer rates are \$99.00 per quarter per REU. The MRWA rate study determined that the rates should be \$139.86/quarter per REU.
- You cannot compare one community to another because each community has a myriad differences and variables (e.g. numbers of lift stations, population, treatment processes, etc.).
- Future budgets need to account for replacement of aging equipment around the system and at the plant, as well as replacing outdated plant processes as mandated by EGLE.

**Open Public Hearing:** After the presentation, Mr. VanDommelen opened the floor for public comment at 6:14PM.

John Carter inquired about how often the Board plans to conduct this rate study. The Board stated they plan to discuss having one performed annually and/or incorporating a percentage or COLA based annual increase to keep up inflation, in the near future.

Ann Nolan asked some questions about State Park sewer bills and the Misak Landfill.

**Close Public Hearing:** After no further questions or comments, Mr. Heethuis motioned to close public comment at 6:33PM. Mr. Rook supported the motion; after a roll call vote, the motion passed 4-0.

**Discussion:** None.

**Adjournment:** Mr. VanVolkinburg made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:31pm. Mr. Heethuis supported the motion; the motion passed 4-0.