Resource Renew

The brand of Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, June 22, 2026

5:00 PM

Board Members Present: Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Marcia Podratz, Ben Mathews, Robert Schilling, Carrie Schneider, and Nate Johnson (remote)

Board Members Absent: Laura Ness and Loren Lilly

Staff Present: Carrie Clement, Brandon Kohlts, AJ Axtell, Chuck Kimball, Cathy Remington, Mike Mazzio, Tim Lundell, Woody Robison, and Lauri Amundson

Legal Counsel Present: David Oberstar, Fryberger Law Office

Guest Present: Eric Johnson, Community Development, City of Hermantown, MN

Chair Schilling called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

1. Agenda Review

2. Old Business

3. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

3.1 **Regular Board Meeting Minutes- May 18 2026 -**

3.2 **Board Member Vouchers for May**

3.3 **Board Vouchers for May**

3.4 Approval of City of Duluth Sanitary Sewer Extension - Orchards of Morgan Park

Orchards of Morgan Park Sewer Extension Attachments

The Board moves to recommend approval of the Consent Agenda Items

Moved by: Jack Ezell; seconded by: Ben Mathews

Aye: Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

Absent: Laura Ness and Loren Lilly

Motion passed. 7-0

4. New Business Items for Discussion and Approval

Operations and Planning

4.1 Approval of City of Hermantown Comprehensive Plan Amendment

WLSSD Comp Plan Amendment Letter Amended Plan Sections

2026-55 Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Brandon Kohlts reviewed the key details of the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Hermantown. Eric Johnson from the City of

Hermantown was available for questions; there were none.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends that the Board approve the City of Hermantown 2026 Comprehensive Plan amendment as it pertains to wastewater management and utilities.

Moved by: Ben Mathews; seconded by: Marcia Podratz

Aye: Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

Absent: Laura Ness and Loren Lilly

Motion passed. 7-0

4.2 Approval of Resolution 26-10 to Adopt Amended Northeast Minnesota Regional Solid Waste Management SWMP Section 5 Amendment Resolution 26-10

Brandon Kohlts gave a presentation on the amendments to the Northeast Minnesota Regional Solid Waste Management Plan at the Public Hearing meeting held at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, June 22, 2026. There were no members of the public present, and no public comments were received.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends that the Board approve the amended Northeast Minnesota Regional Solid Waste Plan.

Moved by: Jack Ezell; seconded by: Jim Aird

Aye: Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

Absent: Laura Ness and Loren Lilly

Motion passed. 7-0

4.3 Approval of Bid #1514 and Construction Phase Professional Services for the Woodland Interceptor CIPP Project

Brandon Kohlts reviewed the bid for the construction phase professional services for the Woodland Interceptor CIPP Project.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends the Board approve awarding Bid #1514 to Insituform Technologies, LLC, in an amount not to exceed $2,264,876 and,

recommends the Board approve Construction Phase Professional Services to SEH, Inc., for the not to exceed amount of $185,214.

This will be funded from the approved 2026 Wastewater Capital Budget Woodland Interceptor CIPP Project (#101268).

Moved by: Carrie Schneider; seconded by: Jim Aird

Aye: Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

Absent: Laura Ness and Loren Lilly

Motion passed. 7-0

4.4 Approval of Bid #1516 – West Odorous Air Biofilter Cell Replacement

Brandon Kohlts reviewed Bid #1516 for the replacement of the west odorous air biofilter cell.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends that the Board approve awarding Bid #1516 for the West Odorous Air Biofilter Cell Replacement to Lakehead Constructors in the amount not to exceed $228,900.
This work will be funded from the approved 2026 Clean Water Production Operating Budget line item
40000-55860 (Contract Services – Other).

Moved by: Marcia Podratz; seconded by: Ben Mathews

Aye: Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

Absent: Laura Ness and Loren Lilly

Motion passed. 7-0

4.5 Approval of Dewatering System Improvements Professional Services - Amendment #2 Proposal Memo

Brandon Kohlts reviewed the professional services agreement amendment #2 proposed by Donohue & Associates to develop a Biosolids Master Plan.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends that the Board approve Amendment #2 to the Professional Services Agreement with Donohue & Associates to develop a Biosolids Master Plan as part of the Dewatering System Improvements Project, not to exceed $95,200.

This will be funded from the Dewatering System Improvements (Project #100568).

Moved by: Ben Mathews; seconded by: Carrie Schneider

Aye: Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

Absent: Laura Ness and Loren Lilly

Motion passed. 7-0

4.6 Approval of Resolution 26-11; Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources NR-208 Compliance Annual Report. 2025 CMAR Final Report

Tim Lundell discussed the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources NR-208 Compliance annual report.

The Operations and Planning Committee recommends that the Board approve Resolution 26-11 to facilitate fulfillment of the WI DNR's WPDES permit requirement to submit a CMAR for calendar year 2025.

Moved by: Jim Aird; seconded by: Jack Ezell

Aye: Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

Absent: Laura Ness and Loren Lilly

Motion passed. 7-0

Personnel

4.7 Approval of a Closed Session on July 22, 2026.

The Personnel Committee Chair, Jack Ezell, requested a closed session on July 22, 2026, immediately following the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting to discuss contract negotiations.

The Personnel Committee recommends that the Board approve a closed-session meeting immediately following the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting on July 22, 2026.

Moved by: Carrie Schneider; seconded by: Marcia Podratz

Aye: Jack Ezell, Jim Aird, Marcia Podratz, Rob Schilling, Carrie Schneider, Nathan Johnson, and Ben Mathews

Absent: Laura Ness and Loren Lilly

Motion passed. 7-0

5. Committee Reports

5.1 Committee of the Whole

5.2 Finance

5.3 Operations and Planning

5.4 Personnel

5.5 Legislative

5.6 Board Governance

5.7 Board Member Comments

6. Reporting

6.1 Communications

AJ reviewed and discussed the communications for June.

6.2 Monthly Financials

Financial Statement May 2026

Cathy Remington presented a report on the financial statements for May.

6.3 **NPDES**

Tim Lundell presented the report for May's NPDES, noting that there were no releases during this month.

6.4 Executive Director

Carrie Clement provided an update on the Board reappointments. The City has received applications, which the Mayor will review in early July. Clement also noted that on July 1st, the District will begin hauling to Virginia, MN.

Clement also introduced Mike Mazzio, Assistant Finance Director, to the Board members.

Lauri Amundson

Recording Secretary

Board Secretary, Loren Lilly

~~Board Chair, Rob Schilling~~

Ben mathews

Board member

The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.