

# **Grand Isle Consolidated Water District**

## **March 18, 2026 Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Meeting opened at 6:33pm.

Present at water plant: Water Commissioners David Banks, Matthew Brooks, Michael Inners, Rick Koller and Janine Banks, SOS Operators Joe Danis and Warren Steadman, Jason Booth from Aldrich & Elliott Engineering and guest Mitch McGrath. Online was Michael (last name unknown) who did not speak.

### **Additions to the Agenda**

Rick's GICWD email is all set so use that  
Cyber Security-add to IT report  
Cyanobacteria monitoring-Operator's Report

### **Review of previous meeting minutes**

Motion to accept the February 18, 2026 meeting minutes made by D. Banks, seconded by M. Inners and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Questions from Members**

None

### **Operator's Report**

Request for Bids for plowing and mowing – Received 1. Post again on FPF. Ap 15<sup>th</sup> is deadline.

Cyanobacteria monitoring-Yes Joe will be doing this again this year.

M Molette is coming to install computer programs.

Had an emergency callout for Airbnb at 11:45pm. No water. Frozen. Waiting for it to thaw. SOS will be billing us for OT.

Calgon coming to change carbon. Date TBD. Has been 6.5 years since last changeout.

Discussion ensued and we again decided to stay with the planned schedule of changing one tank every 4 years.

Champlain Estates property w/Lein closed and we should be being paid. \$6,000 roughly.

Need to check with Listers office to get closing attny. Closed on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. Joe to do this.

### **Engineer's Report**

Easements – Discussion. Currently only need 2, assuming the Church is indeed all set now and willing to sign with an expiration date added. Janine to follow up with L. Baker again.

Step III application – Submitted. Capacity Evaluation needed and Janine will work on it and pass to Michael for completion.

Certificate of Posting – Done and Bond Opinion letter received and submitted with Step III Application.

Bid schedule coming next week for us to review, and we plan to go out to bid in two weeks.

Bid opening will be remote, at the A&E office. We will get post bid evaluation in 2 weeks and recommendations.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Discussion about paying invoices received via email. Always use address we have on hand, not from the invoice. Fake invoices have been found by other municipal entities in Champlain Valley so extra caution is needed.

The 2024 audit is almost complete, and the 2025 audit will follow immediately. Looks like we will get an unqualified audit report for 2024.

IRS contacted us a while ago saying our 2015 and 2016 W2s were not submitted as required and we have a \$5000 fine. We contested it and have searched but cannot find proof that they were submitted. Michael scheduled a call with IRS 4/5 and will negotiate a lower fine if possible.

Budget on track. Propane bills will be high this year. Tiny leak found but it is the extended cold that is raising the bill. Audit will also come in above budget as it was very thorough.

Joe asked about what we had as an excess from the 2025 budget. \$75,000 has been added to the Reserve Fund. The Reserve Fund may be used for the Pipeline Replacement Project, if needed.

## **IT Committee Report**

Cyber security is at the forefront now with increased attacks from Iran. Matthew to check with Tech Group and make sure we are in a good place with our systems.

## **Old Business**

We still have two open Water Commissioner positions as we lost Court. Glad Rick stepped up, but we need to continue to work on filling these positions.

Policy to charge members for water emergencies when negligence is evident. Table till April. Joe will investigate what other systems do.

Hallam sent someone from NH who did not know why he was there or what to do and accomplished nothing. Joe will review the bill as he feels we should not pay for his travel time nor the 3 hours he was there.

## **New Business**

Donation to GI Rescue/Food Shelf- Michael noted there is a great need this year for the Food Shelf and made a motion to donate \$150 in Court's name to the Champlain Islands Food Shelf in Grand Isle. D. Banks seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Janien will email Janet and ask her to make the donation.

M. Brooks motioned to end the meeting at 7:40pm, J. Banks seconded and the meeting ended.

## **SOS Monthly Report:**

GRAND ISLE CONSOLIDATED WATER DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT  
March 2026

## ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

1. Two samples were taken for coliform testing. Both samples were "absent". Monthly backwash data was taken and the monthly report sent to the Watershed Management Division. The monthly Water Operations report was sent to the Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division.
2. Bladez was reminded to plow more often at Lovers Lane. It was not plowed until 2 weeks after the storm.
3. Jeff Sikora sent over plans for a 3 lot subdivision on West Shore in South Hero.
4. Mark Mallette is scheduled for the end of March to install PLC software that was purchased last year. He is also installing the last new chemical feed pump.
5. The generator fuel tank was refilled.
6. Chuck from Hallam started work on the HMI computer. He could not complete the project. We have not scheduled a return date.
7. An emergency was called in at 11:45 pm on 2/27. The air bnb had no water. There was no water coming into the house. The homeowner was advised it was most likely frozen. SOS located the curbstop the next day in the event it needed to be shut down. The homeowners decided to wait for a thaw as steaming the line was expensive.
8. Calgon was contacted to start the process of a carbon change out. The quote came in at \$27,900, \$800 more than last year. We will try to schedule it for this spring.
9. 5 letters were written and mailed for large users explaining their increase in debt and base rates.
10. Witnessed a 1" tap for the new library.
11. 7 – 24hr notices were posted. All customers contacted Crystal for a payment.

## BILLINGS AND COLLECTIONS

1. As of March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026, accounts receivable is \$35,626.92.
2. No Lien was released, one lien is pending and no liens were filed.
3. The balance of the 4 outstanding liens is \$10831.05.
4. 14 customers used the ACH draft to pay their accounts.