Grand Isle Consolidated Water District
Monthly Meeting Minutes November 18, 2026, called to order at 6:30 PM

Present were Water Commissioners Janine Banks, David Banks and Matthew Brooks. Absent were Rick Kohler (excused), Michael Inners (excused) and Bill Ryan. SOS Operators Warren Steadman and Joe Danis were present, and guests Fred Palatino, Jim Ferro and Jessica Hill (joined at 6:38pm). There was not a quorum present.

Additions to the Agenda

None

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Approval of the October minutes was tabled till December as there was not a quorum.

Questions from Members

None

Operator's Report

Report is below.

Engineer's Report

1. Pipeline Replacement Project – April start.
2. State Copper Survey – Joe investigated and reached out to state with questions. Affected inactive accounts will need to upgrade their lines if they become active again so they have been removed from the survey. About 28 customers will get letters from us about their service lines. We need a replacement plan by end of 2027. 2037 is deadline for the upgrades, but who will be responsible for the cost is unknown at this point.

Treasurer's Report – received via email:

1. The only remaining lien for an active account was released on Nov 11. The single outstanding lien is the abandoned 25 Adams School Rd, where we terminated water service as of 11/13/2020. The final lien balance there is $5,444.03 and the account is no longer accruing charges. If that property ever sells we should be able to collect something.
2. The ACH process is being largely replaced by credit/debit card processing, either by phone or at our website. It will remain as an occasional option when someone does not have a suitable card. Only Visa, MasterCard, or Discover branded cards are accepted - not Amex. Google, Samsung, and Paze wallets also work, but not Apple, Paypal, Venmo, or Zelle. The first notice to customers went out on the September 2nd notices. Assuming everything continues to go well, the notice will also appear on the December bill.

Michael

IT Committee Report

NTR.

Old Business

1. Capital Plan – Joe sent Rick operator notes adding detail to Rick's meeting with Warren.
2. Open Commissioner position and Open Clerk position mentioned.
3. Large User Rate Setting review for 2027 (tabled till January meeting)

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New Business

1. Proposed Composting Facility 138 Ferry Rd. So. Hero: Janine gave an overview from attending the Nov 11th South Hero DRB meeting with Michael and Matthew and the GI Select Board meeting Nov. 16th. GICWD gave letter requesting party status (included below) and so we have the option to make future requests of the DRB regarding this proposed facility. It leaves our options open. Discussion ensued with consensus being that we need to do some research and wait until our January meeting to prepare for the January 27th SH DRB meeting. Joe shared a map of our Source Protection Area (SPA) and showed the area of the proposed project. It was noted that the drainage from the farm is very close to the border of our SPA and southerly water flows could bring leachate to the intakes.
   Guests Fred Palatino and Jim Ferro were both in attendance (both are from So. Hero) to see what our position is on this proposal from a drinking water standpoint. Both said they learned a lot from our meeting and are pleased we are monitoring this proposal closely. Fred noted: Ben Gauthier from the state said there are no others (composting facilities) close to lake. There is a culvert from the farm draining right into lake. Farms need to do proper composting and the state is encouraging this facility. Jim noted: He attended both meetings of the SH DRB. One 167 x 30' grassy area is the leachate field and its runoff goes directly into the lake.
2. Elections – Matthew and David are up for re-election at the Annual meeting, plus one Commissioner position is still vacant. Matthew and David will run again.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm with all in favor.

GRAND ISLE CONSOLIDATED WATER DISTRICT MONTHLY REPORT
November 2026

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. All seasonal meters have been removed.
3. A new quote from Bladez was received for plowing. It was agreed that he will continue again this year without going out to bid.
4. A final read was taken at 59 Town Line Road
5. 3 Radio MIU boxes were installed to houses on Pearl St.
6. A confirmation email was sent to Hach for our annual service agreement. We have lowered our maintenance to just the chlorine analyzer. Other pieces of equipment did not justify the cost compared to what we do in house.
7. The water was turned on for the new Library.
8. A final read was taken at 25A Faywood Rd.
9. SOS spoke with Jessica Hill. She pointed out her concerns about the number of connections already on the line. They are fed by a 1 ½" water line that connects to a 2" near the beginning of the first house. SOS cannot confirm that there would be adequate water pressure to handle more connections. Ultimately, it is up to the water lines owners to decide if they want to add more. There was also talk about connecting the 2 water lines that parallel each other, making a loop. No further discussion since then.
10. A new meter pit was purchased from TI Sales, who we get our meters from. It arrived within a week and was approx. $450 cheaper than EJ Prescott. The cost of this meter was invoiced to 253 Us Rt 2.
11. An email was sent to Slack chemicals to check on the status of our coagulant. Loren confirmed they had placed an order but couldn't tell me when the order would arrive.

12. Royal Group tested our fire alarm panel.
13. 3 Radio MIU boxes were installed to houses in Champlain Estates
14. SOS helped an owner locate his water line. He is required to move his driveway and didn't want to be near the line.
15. A customer called about low water pressure. Investigation showed that a leak detection valve was partially closed.
16. Milton Cat performed their annual maintenance on the generator.
17. The capital improvement plan was reviewed and emailed back to Rick
18. Irick excavating repaired 3 curbstop boxes on Star Road. He was also able to reset a valve box on Canoe Rd that moved due to frost.
19. P&P pumped Backwash tanks.
20. SOS met with Kingsbury Constriction to review the Bullis Tap. The tap is set for Wednesday.

BILLINGS AND COLLECTIONS

1. As of November 11th, 2026, accounts receivable is $50,261.56.
2. No lien was released, no lien is pending, and no lien was filed.
3. The balance of the 2 outstanding liens is $4,387.38.
4. 30 customers used the ACH draft to pay their accounts in October.

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Grand Isle Consolidated Water District
PO Box 9
Grand Isle, VT 05458

November 11, 2026

Development Review Board
Town of South Hero
333 US-Route 2
South Hero, VT 05486

Re: Conditional Use and Site Plan review for an Accessory On-Farm Use (Composting Facility) at 138 Ferry Rd. (27-26-FR138 – Mitchel Richardson)

The Grand Isle Consolidated Water District (GICWD) requests party status in the above matter.

The GICWD is an adjacent municipality which maintains a municipal water system intake in the immediate neighborhood of the subject property. Our physical address is 62 West Shore Rd in Grand Isle with intake offshore in Lake Champlain. Our service area extends south along Route 314 and West Shore

Rd as far as Eagle Camp and Eagle Camp Rd. It appears that the subject property drains into the GICWD Source Protection Area.

Thank you,

Janine Banks, Chair
GICWD Board of Water Commissioners

Attachment: Map of Source Protection Area

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