# ERIE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2 (ECSD 2) BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025 DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Ray Ashton, Mayor Vincent George, Angela Horton and Anna

Knack

OTHERS PRESENT: Christopher Baldwin, Joseph Fiegl, and Carl Horne, and Lynn Penfold

## ITEM NO. 1 – CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Ms. Knack called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

#### ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 10, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by Ms. Horton, seconded by Mayor George, the Board voted to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2024 meeting. The motion carried 4-0.

# ITEM NO. 3 – ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Lynn Penfold, owner of 910 Sturgeon Point Rd, Evans, was present to ask questions about his tax bill. He built a new house and wanted an explanation on the charges. Mr. Fiegl explained the charges and gave him the tax group number downtown.

# a. 1732 Schoellkopf Rd – Resident Letter – Private Septage Disposal (Handout)

Ms. Horton reviewed with the Board the letter received from Mr. Edward Krypel, from 1732 Schoellkopf Rd, Lakeview, and distributed a map for the Board showing the home in relation to the sewer and explained the logistics behind connecting. The letter requested a continuation of using a private sewage disposal system and not connecting to the public sanitary sewer at this time. Mr. Baldwin explained to the Board that the house was built in 2001 and the sewer installed in 2002. The Board members discussed allowing this to continue as long as a follow up letter is sent to Mr. Krypel stating they need to tap into the public sanitary sewer once the septic is in need of replacement. In addition, Ms. Horton will reach out to the Erie County Department of Health to have a note placed in the file for this property that public sewer is available. Ms. Knack made a motion a approve allowing 1732 Schoellkopf Rd, Lakeview to remain on the private sewage disposal system, seconded by Ms. Horton. The motion carried 4-0.

Supervisor Ashton stated that a property owner in Evans had reached out to his office about extending a public sewer through his property for purposes of developing. Mr. Fiegl advised that he would need to contact Mr. Matt Salah in the downtown office for more information.

# ITEM NO. 4 – OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business at this time.

## ITEM NO. 5 – NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business at this time.

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# ITEM NO. 6 – MISCELLANEOUS & INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

# a. Operational Report

Mr. Baldwin provided the Board with an update on ECSD 2 activities since the last meeting. The collection system work consisted of flushing 16,865 feet and televising 573 feet of sewerline, inspecting 359 manholes in the focus areas and on the trunklines, and completing 40 manhole repairs. There were a total of 40 complaints responded to including 14 for pumping stations (PS), 5 for grinders, 18 sewerline related, and 3 referred to others.

At the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF): staff installed the plant water pump #2; repairs were completed on the several backflow preventers; the check valve on influent pump #3 was repaired; the annual flowmatcher PM's were completed by Siewert for the last time as they were replaced by variable frequency drives (VFD's); the Administrative Building's boiler circulating pump was repaired; the return and waste activated sludge sensors project was completed; mercury switches were replaced with programmable logic controllers (PLCs); hydraulic cylinders and bulbs were replaced on the UV system; the ORF effluent meter replacement was completed; various pump motors and check valves had maintenance, repairs and seal replacements; and work was completed to address a failure of the solids basement sump pump discharge.

At the PSs: staff cleaned and vacuumed out wet wells utilizing the Vactor; sump pump repairs and float replacements were completed at various PSs; the muffin monster was replaced at the Sweetland PS; the VFD and pump #1 was replaced at the 18 Mile PS with the old pump being sent out to be rebuilt; the Lotus Bay PS pump #1 was rebuilt and reinstalled; Omni site remote telemetry was installed at the North Creek PS, North Evans PS, and Lotus Bay PS; the emergency generator at the North Creek PS failed in November and a portable generator is temporarily wired in for a backup, with the Viridi backup battery system tested in January proposed to be the long-term solution once bid; additionally at the North Creek PS the old generator has been removed and soft starts installed on the pumps.

## b. Construction Report

Ms. Horton reviewed the construction updates which included:

Kelley Brothers completed the installation of new doors on the Blower Building last week.

Contract 95 cured in place pipe lining (CIPPL) term contract with Kenyon Pipeline Inc (KPI) completed 7,677 linear feet (LF) of 8 inch through 12 inch diameter asbestos cement pipe (ACP) and vitrified clay tile pipe (VTP) in the Town of Evans, including Lakeside Rd, Roanoke Ave, Jamestown St, Walnut Ave, Wood Ave, and Poplar Ave.

Contract 102 Lake Shore Rd Sanitary Sewer Inspection with Kandey Company began this week. This project is to perform heavy cleaning and CCTV inspection of approximately 9,200 LF of sanitary sewerlines ranging from 8 inch to 30 inch diameter located on Lake Shore Rd in the Town of Evans, with anticipation of the upcoming Erie County Highways road rehabilitation project on this road.

The DSM had Ramboll evaluating 5 PS's and forcemains for improvements including Brant/Farnham, 18 Mile, North Creek, North Evans, and Sweetland facilities. A final report was recently received and is in review for distribution.

The DSM also has Ramboll evaluating the Wide Beach and Lotus Bay forcemains and PS's and a meeting with Ramboll is scheduled this month to review comments on the 90% draft engineering report/evaluation with rehabilitation and replacement options. It is anticipated that the report will be finalized this spring.

The DSM finalized drawings to eliminate 2 existing blind tee connections/road crossings on North Main St in the Town of Eden. Draft plans were sent to the NYSDOT and NYSDEC for review and approval in February. Review comments have been received by NYSDOT and a response is being prepared. Pending approvals, this is anticipated for 2025 or 2026 construction.

Following the secondary aeration blowers upgrades project completed in 2024, the need for a follow up project was identified. A design to replace the two blower intake hoods and filter media to prevent freezing during the winter months is underway. The project will also include other minor upgrades including interior and exterior air piping insulation, and installation of chain wheel valve operators to service two butterfly valves installed in the previous project. It is anticipated to be advertised for bid in May for late 2025 construction.

As noted previously, the North Creek PS generator failed in November 2024 and is planned to be replaced by a new technology and bid this summer. There was a demo of the Viridi battery backup system in January to evaluate power needs for this station, and this is the recommended technology.

A coating project is being put together for floatation thickener (FT) tank #2 & the ferric chloride tank/containment and planned to be bid late spring/early summer. The FT tank was welded in house and needs interior lining. The outside ferric chloride tank needs to be painted and the containment area coated with a chemical resistant product.

# c. Payments (Handout)

Ms. Horton conveyed to the Board that district payments were made to Wendel for the Big Sister Creek WRRF Blower System; to Quackenbush for the Big Sister Creek WRRF Secondary Aeration Blowers Replacement; to Kenyon Pipeline for CIPP Lining; to Frey Electric for the Big Sister Creek WRRF Secondary Aeration Blowers Replacement and IT Improvements; to Ramboll for the PS Operation & Emergency Power Generator Evaluations; and to Nussbaumer & Clarke for construction inspections.

# d. Septage Disposal within Erie County Sewer District – Outreach

Mr. Fiegl informed the Board that the DSM has a new webpage <u>erie.gov/ECSDseptic</u> as outreach to better inform taxpayers in an ECSD with a septic system of a benefit provided to them.

## i. Septage Disposal Letter to Permit Holders (Handout)

The Board was provided a copy of the informational letter dated 10/18/24, that provided all the wastehauler permit holders information on disposing of the septic waste at an ECSD site, so they may inform their customers that reside in an ECSD, but have a septic system.

#### ii. Septic Rebate Postcard to Residents (Handout)

The Board was provided a copy of the postcard mailed to properties within ECSD 2 that may be on septic. Mr. Fiegl stated that the DSM will repeat this every few years.

# iii. Septage Disposal Rebate Request (Handout)

Ms. Horton reviewed a request from Mr. Alguire from 1222 Church Rd that unfortunately could not be processed. The DSM sent a letter dated 3/11/25 explaining to the property owner that the company that emptied the septic tank did not dispose of it at an ECSD facility and was not eligible.

e. Revised NYSDEC Division of Water Technical & Operational Guidance (Handout)

Mr. Figgl reviewed with the Board the DSM's response letter to the NYSDEC presenting comments and concerns regarding the New/Revised Division of Water Technical and Operational Guidance Series Documents Related to the Control of Phosphorus in Ambient Freshwaters. This proposed change would be costly as it would cut the limit in half and could also cause operational issues. Ms. Knack asked if we got a response, to which Mr. Fiegl responded the DSM has not.

Ms. Knack moved, seconded by Supervisor Ashton to receive and file the miscellaneous and informational items on the agenda. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Penfold asked about the capacity at the Big Sister Creek WRRF being almost at full capacity. Mr. Fiegl stated that the DSM is proactive with sewer rehabilitation and repair projects which has helped reduce capacity with issues during wet weather.

Mr. Penfold questioned the Board if there was a plan to expand the sanitary sewers into Eden more. Mr. Fiegl stated not at this time. Ms. Knack explained that Eden had reached out to residents in the past regarding expanding and overall it was not a favorable response.

#### ITEM NO. 7 – ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING

On a motion by Ms. Knack, seconded by Supervisor Ashton, the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 am. The motion carried 4-0.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 12 @ 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Horton, P.E., Secretary ECSD 2 Board of Managers

Approval of Minutes:

Motioned By:

Seconded By: \

Approved/Disapproved:

(0112/2024

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# ERIE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT (ECSD) NO. 2 BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2025 DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Ray Ashton, Mayor Vincent George (arrived at 9:17am prior to

Item 5), Angela Horton, and Anna Knack

OTHERS PRESENT: Christopher Baldwin, Joseph Fiegl, Carl Horne, Haley Larson, and

Barbara Piazza

## ITEM NO. 1 – CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Ms. Knack called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

# ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF APRIL 10, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by Ms. Horton, seconded by Ms. Knack, the Board voted to approve the minutes from the April 10, 2025 meeting. The motion carried 3-0.

# ITEM NO. 3 – ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ms. Barbara Piazza, the Chief Ethics Officer from the Erie County Board of Ethics provided the Board with a brief presentation on the County's Code of Ethics and how it relates to the Board of Managers.

# ITEM NO. 4 – OLD BUSINESS

a. 1732 Schoellkopf Rd – Approval Response Letter (Handout)

As a follow up to the Board's approval at the April 10, 2025 meeting, Ms. Horton reviewed with the Board the letter sent 6/2/2025 to Mr. Edward Krypel, from 1732 Schoellkopf Rd, Lakeview. The letter stated the owners will need to tap into the public sanitary sewer once the septic system is in need of replacement. In addition, Ms. Horton reached out to the Erie County Department of Health to have a note placed in the file for this property that public sewer is available.

# <u>ITEM NO. 5 – NEW BUSINESS</u>

- a. Presentation and Approval of the 2026 Budget
  - i. Proposed 2026 Budget (Handout)

Mr. Fiegl presented the proposed 2025 ECSD No. 2 budget to the Board.

As ECSD No. 2 is part of the Division of Sewerage Management (DSM), there are a number of "shared" items including equipment, vehicles, and personnel. For most shared items, ECSD No. 2 contributes approximately 9.1% based on the ratio of units served by ECSD No. 2 to the total units served by all Districts. For centralized laboratory expenses, ECSD No. 2 contributes 15.7% based on the volume of laboratory work, while for centralized vehicle maintenance the share is 18.3% based on the ratio of the number of vehicles serviced for ECSD No. 2 to the total number serviced Division-wide.

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Reviewing the detailed summary for ECSD No. 2, appropriations or expenses are budgeted in 2026 to increase approximately 5.2%. Increased equipment costs and capital reserve costs are the main factors influencing this increase. Under revenues, an increase in fund balance utilization of approximately \$464,000 partially offsets that increase in projected expenditures. As a result of the above, the estimated impact to the typical ratepayer (single family home) in ECSD No. 2 is an increase of approximately \$8-10 when compared to 2025. It is recommended for the 2025 Budget that the flat usage charge be increased to \$345.00 per unit and the footage charge in ECSD No. 2 remain at \$1.00 per foot.

Personnel costs are increasing this year, primarily due to contractual rises. Fringe benefits for employees are being conservatively calculated at 60% based on discussions with the County's Budget Department.

The 2026 equipment line items represent over \$985,000 of the ECSD No. 2 budget. The major items include several purchases related to treatment plant and pumping station equipment, a roof replacement, Division-wide "shared" items, one (1) vehicle replacement, and ECSD No. 2's standard unanticipated replacement items.

Before going into specific details of the budget line codes, Mr. Fiegl explained that the budgets are developed conservatively, with the understanding that monies left over at year end are transferred to fund balance and utilized as revenue to offset future rate impacts. Items listed in the budget as "DSM" are expenses for the Downtown office. As noted earlier, ECSD No. 2 contributes approximately 9.1% of the overall Downtown office expenses.

A review of the individual budget code was provided. Specific items highlighted included the budgeting for fuel, centralized vehicle maintenance and laboratory costs, various adjustments in maintenance and repair supplies, I&I repair, the ECSD No. 2 capital reserve allocation, updated debt service amounts, utility costs, and personnel costs.

Fund balance usage as an offsetting revenue is budgeted at 68% of available balance. The available district fund balance at 12/31/24 represents approximately 5.3 months of 2025 budgeted appropriations. As always, this will be monitored in future years and adjustments will be made as warranted.

There were several questions asked by the Board regarding retiree insurance, union contracts, fund balance requirements, and the tax structure. Once all questions were answered Supervisor Ashton moved, seconded by Mayor George, to approve the 2026 Budget as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

## ii. Resolution (Handout)

Mr. Fiegl presented the budget resolution to the board for review and approval. It was resolved that approximately 73% and 27% of the total sanitary sewer tax levy of \$4,159,671 shall be raised from the assessment value and footage charges, respectively for ECSD 2.

On a motion by Ms. Horton, seconded by Supervisor Ashton, the Board voted to approve the budget resolution with a flat usage charge of \$345.00 per unit and a footage charge at \$1.00 per foot. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Fiegl's final comments related to the 2% Tax Cap, as the sewer district levies are part of the County's overall tax cap calculation. If any major changes are necessary, the Board of Managers will be informed.

# b. Out of District Customer Request Versailles Rd - SBL 193.02-4-7 (Handout)

Ms. Horton reviewed with the Board the 5/15/2025 letter from Pitbull Contractors LLC requesting an Out of District Customer (ODC) request to connect to the ECSD 2 sanitary sewer for the property located between 6224 and 6206 Versailles with an SBL 193.02-4-7.

On a motion by Ms. Horton, seconded by Ms. Knack, the Board voted to approve the ODC request for SBL 193.02-4-7. The motion carried 4-0.

# c. Out of District Customer Request Versailles Rd - SBL 193.02-4-13.1 (Handout)

Ms. Horton reviewed with the Board the 5/19/2025 email from Christopher Saracina requesting an Out of District Customer (ODC) request to connect to the ECSD 2 sanitary sewer for the property located just north of 6125 Versailles with an SBL 193.02-4-13.1.

On a motion by Ms. Knack, seconded by Mayor George, the Board voted to approve the ODC request for SBL 193.02-4-13.1. The motion carried 4-0.

# ITEM NO. 6 – MISCELLANEOUS & INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

# a. Operational Report

Mr. Baldwin provided the Board with an update on ECSD 2 activities since the last meeting. The collection system work consisted of flushing 23,062 feet of sewerline, completing 189 house inspections, and repairing 25 manholes. There were a total of 21 complaints responded to including 9 for pumping stations (PS), 3 for grinders, 7 sewerline related, and 2 odor complaints.

At the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) staff installed a power washer at the filter press and plumbed in a waterline; maintenance on the waste activated sludge well was completed; staff built and installed a stilling well before installing a new transducer; a new hydro ranger for plant influent grit chamber was installed; wiring/programming work was completed on the overflow retention facility (ORF) effluent meter; and repairs were made to sluice gate #3 on ORF along with researching a future replacement.

At the PS's staff pulled pump #2 at the Wide Beach PS and replaced a flange gasket; they rebuilt the spare Lotus Bay/Wide Beach PS pump mounting flanges; they repaired the 25LV/Kellerman PS check valve #1; and staff also repaired plow damage to lawns, started lawn care, and replaced bulbs in and outside at various PS's.

## b. Construction Report

Ms. Horton reviewed with the Board, the construction updates which included several contracts and design and evaluation updates.

• All Districts Contract 99 Sanitary Sewer Trunkline Inspection Service Contract - Bids were received through Purchasing on 5/16/25 for a service contract consisting of inspection of approximately 20,500 linear feet of 12-inch through 42-inch diameter trunkline sanitary sewers of various pipe types and across 4 separate locations in multiple sewer districts. The project sites are primarily backlots with challenging access, most of which is only by foot. The sewer inspections shall be accomplished with the

use of sonar, LIDAR, and closed-circuit television video (CCTV) inspection technologies to provide condition assessment while the pipeline is in service. In ECSD 2, the proposed trunkline for inspection is a 24-inch diameter ACP sewer, approximately 6,000 linear feet, that extends from Delamater Road to Church Street. The Purchasing department is in the process of awarding to Red Zone Robotics. Work is anticipated to take place later this year.

- Contract 99 Big Sister Creek WRRF Dissolved Aeration Floatation Thickener Tank 2 Interior Coating Bids were received through Purchasing on 6/6/25 for a contractor to clean and blast the newer DAF tank and apply an interior coating to make the tank watertight and put it back into service. 4 bids were received and the lowest apparent bidder was Camden Group for \$55,752.96 which was below the engineers estimate. The DSM will recommend award to Camden through purchasing and work is anticipated to be completed early fall.
- Contract 104 North Creek PS Backup Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) This project is currently being advertised to provide a 3 phase, 208V, 150 kWh BESS in place of the old generator that failed in November 2024. Included are all controls, communications, transfer switches, and related electrical connections and components. Bid opening is scheduled for 6/18/25 and an email poll is anticipated later this month to recommend award to allow for completion prior to 12/8/25 to allow for filling for incentives. A \$50,000 award of Climate Action Funds from the County's Core Green Team was awarded for this project in May.
- Contract 102 Lake Shore Road Sanitary Sewer Inspection, Kandey performed heavy cleaning, CCTV inspection, and condition assessment of approximately 9,200 LF of sanitary sewerlines ranging from 8-inch to 30-inch diameter located in the Town of Evans.
- Contract 103 Big Sister Creek WRRF Secondary Aeration Blower Intake Hoods Replacement A project was advertised to replace 2 blower intake hoods and filter media to prevent freezing during the winter months. The project also includes other minor improvements including interior and exterior air piping insulation, and installation of chain wheel valve operators to service 2 butterfly valves installed in the previous project. Bids are due on 6/10/25 and an email poll is anticipated later this month to recommend award to allow for construction prior to winter.
- Ramboll Final Report for Brant-Farnham, North Creek, North Evans, Sweetland, and 18 Mile PS's has been distributed. A meeting between the DSM engineering and ECSD 2 staff is scheduled for today to prioritize the recommendations.
- Ramboll is also performing an evaluation of the Wide Beach and Lotus Bay forcemains and PS's. A 90% draft engineering report/evaluation was received in May by the DSM and is under review.
- The DSM is awaiting review and approval from NYSDOT and NYSDEC for a project to eliminate 2 existing blind tee connections/ road crossings on North Main Street in the Town of Eden through a sanitary sewer replacement project. The DSM responded to the NYSDOT's comments and is awaiting approvals from both agencies. Pending approvals, this is anticipated for 2026 construction.

# c. Payments (Handout)

Ms. Horton conveyed to the Board that payments were made to Ramboll for the PS Evaluations; to Wendel for the Big Sister Creek WRRF Blower System; and to Kandey Company for the Lake Shore Road CCTV work.

# d. <u>Industrial Waste Survey (Handout)</u>

Ms. Horton reviewed with the Board the Industrial Waste Survey letter that was sent in May to 13 companies in ECSD 2. The survey's are due in July.

# e. 2024 Annual Collection System Report (Handout)

Ms. Horton conveyed to the Board that the ECSD 2 Annual Report was submitted to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in May.

# f. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Support Letter (Handout)

Mr. Fiegl reviewed with the Board the April letter that the DSM wrote in support of the Town of Evans regarding the Muddy Creek Flood Mitigation Study.

Ms. Knack moved, seconded by Ms. Horton to receive and file the miscellaneous and informational items on the agenda. The motion carried 4-0.

# ITEM NO. 7 - ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING

On a motion by Ms. Knack, seconded by Supervisor Ashton, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 09:59 am. The motion carried 4-0.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 9 @ 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Style NA

Angela M. Horton, P.E., Secretary ECSD 2 Board of Managers

Approval of Minutes:

Motioned By: A Horton

Seconded By: Mayor (Royare

Approved/Disapproved: 4/0

Signed: Signed: M. Horton

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