

ERIE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT NO. 8 (ECSO NO. 8)  
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 10, 2026 at 9:30 A.M.  
VILLAGE OF EAST AURORA HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jessica Armbrust, Shane Kreiger, Mary Plesh, Raymond Wrazen

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeffrey Stoll

OTHERS PRESENT: Joseph Balcarczyk, Tammy Comerate, Joseph Fiegl, Carl Horne

ITEM NO. 1 – CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Mr. Fiegl called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

a. Welcome New Board Member

Jessica Armbrust, Councilmember from the Town of Aurora, was welcomed as a new Board Member.

b. Nomination of Board Officers

Nominations for Board Officers were presented as Shane Kreiger for Chair, Raymond Wrazen for Vice Chair, and Mary Plesh for Secretary. On a motion by Mr. Kreiger, seconded by Mr. Wrazen, the Board voted to confirm the Board member nominations. The motion carried 4-0.

ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 7, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Wrazen, seconded by Ms. Plesh, the Board voted to approve the minutes from the October 7, 2025 meeting. The motion carried 4-0.

ITEM NO. 3 – ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

ITEM NO. 4 – OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

ITEM NO. 5 – NEW BUSINESS

a. Confirmation of Email Poll – Construction Inspection Services East Aurora Electrical Upgrades Project (Handout)

Mr. Fiegl spoke on the procedure for email polls. Ms. Plesh presented the results of the email poll for construction inspection services for the East Aurora Electrical Upgrades Project, retaining the services of LaBella Associates. On a motion by Ms. Plesh, seconded by Mr. Kreiger, the Board voted to confirm the results of the email poll. The motion carried 4-0.

b. Award of East Aurora Effluent Filters Replacement Project Contract No. 23 & Change Order No. 1 - GHD Consulting Services

Ms. Plesh requested that this item be removed from the agenda and informed that Board action may be requested via email poll after the Erie County Local Law #2 (2021) 10-day waiting period expires for Contract No. 23.

ITEM NO. 6 – MISCELLANEOUS & INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. Operational Report

Mr. Horne reported on work completed at the East Aurora Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF). Reactor No. 1 inspection and repairs were completed, and the unit was returned to service. The Clarifier No. 1 motor on the drive unit and the wheel on the bridge were both replaced. ECSD No. 8 staff drained and cleaned both Chlorine Contact Tanks, made tank repairs and returned units to service. The sand filter wash water pump No. 1 and effluent sample pump were both replaced. Staff dealt with extreme cold issues including snow removal, frozen rags in chute, and frozen waste activated sludge lines.

Mr. Balcarczyk reported on work done in the Collection System. Closed circuit televising of ECSD No. 8 mini system No. 3 focus area continued. Prior to the paving project, Erie County Division of Sewerage Management (ECDSM) Staff inspected all our Main Street manholes. Staff identified four frames and covers damaged by plows and replacements were provided for the Department of Transportation (DOT) subcontractor. ECDSM staff replaced a frame and cover that was knocked off by a plow on Mill Street near our facility.

b. Construction Report

Ms. Plesh reported to the Board on the construction updates:

**Contract No. 23 East Aurora WRRF Effluent Filter Replacement** – The current sand filters are past their useful life and have frequently reoccurring problems. GHD designed a project to install new mini-disk filter systems for, and make improvements to, the current Filter Building structure. Bids were opened last Wednesday (on February 4th). Recommendation for award of this project, and cost changes to the engineering professional services agreement based on the final design, will be requested via email poll, if the project is to move forward.

**Contract No. 25 East Aurora WRRF Electrical Upgrades** – The systems are approaching, or have hit, the end of their useful life. Buried conduits have corroded with isolated failures to individual pieces of equipment. Replacement is necessary to update and provide reliable service for current and future needs. Under the Term Engineering Contract, design to upgrade all electrical systems at the facility, as well as replace the emergency generator, was completed by LaBella Associates and awarded last July. On-site construction for the building is expected to begin this spring. Most electrical upgrades will happen later this year. The completion date for the project is May 8, 2027, due to long lead times on electrical equipment.

**Contract 87(Multi-District) On – Call Sewer Repair Contract (CATCO)** - This contract for on-call/emergency sewer repairs expired in December 2025 and is in the process of closeout.

**Contract 101(Multi-District) On – Call Sewer Repair Contract (2026-2028)** –Bids were received through Purchasing on November 14, 2025 for this two-year multi-district on call/emergency repair contract. The project was awarded to the low bidder, Visone Construction and contracts are being executed. A pre-construction meeting is anticipated to be held in the coming weeks. Sewer repair work orders may be assigned under this contract on an as needed basis.

**Contract 96 (Multi-District) Sanitary Sewer Open Cut Repair Term Contract (Contractors – CATCO, Visone Construction)** - Work Order No. 4 was completed by Visone Construction in the fall and consisted of the replacement of approximately 263 linear feet of sanitary sewer on the East Aurora WRRF property and within the right of way of Mill Road. Another work order was issued to Visone Construction to replace two sanitary sewer manholes in the Village – one on Hamlin Avenue and one within the sidewalk of Buffalo Street. Work is anticipated for spring 2026, pending the Contractor’s secure of the NYSDOT highway permit for Buffalo Street.

**Contract 95 (Multi-District) CIPPL Term Contract (Kenyon Pipeline and United Survey)** – United Survey was issued Work Order No. 10U which includes 2,780 linear feet of various diameter vitrified tile pipe sewers in the Village of East Aurora, including sewers on Linden Ave and Sycamore Street. Preparatory work is anticipated to begin this winter/spring.

c. Payments (Handout)

Ms. Plesh presented a copy of the payments to the Board.

d. Draft NYSDEC Division of Water Technical & Operational Guidance – Multiple Discharge Variance (Handout)

Mr. Fiegl presented a letter written to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation regarding draft technical and operational guidance on discharge permitting related to mercury concentrations. The letter noted the potential unintended consequences of the NYSDEC’s strategy for WRRF compliance and explained the challenges that water resource recovery facilities have in meeting the proposed goals due to the variable of wastewater entering facilities. In general the ECDSM is supportive of strategies to mitigate against mercury loadings; however, when considering that vast majority of mercury is from

atmospheric deposition, the ECDSM questions the impact the NYSDEC’s strategy would have on the goal of addressing the mercury water quality standard while setting up well performing WRRFs with established mercury control programs for potential for SPDES permit violations.

e. State Environmental Quality Review – Updates/Amendments to the Rules and Regulations for Erie County Sewer Districts (Handout)

Mr. Fiegl presented the solicitation for Lead Agency status under the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Act. Updates to the “Rules and Regulations for Erie County Sewer Districts”, previously approved by all ECSD Boards of Managers, have completed County Attorney review. SEQR review is required before requesting approval by the County Legislature. The SEQR comment period will be open until March 2, 2026.

On a motion by Ms. Plesh, seconded by Mr. Wrazen, the Board voted 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. Armbrust, seconded by Mr. Wrazen the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 am. The motion was carried 4-0.

**The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 9:30 am, East Aurora Village Hall.** A tour of the East Aurora WRRF is tentatively scheduled for after the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary L. Plesh, Secretary  
ECSD No. 8 Board of Managers

MLP:tc

Motion to Approve the February 10, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Moved by: M. Plesh  
Seconded by: J. Armbrust  
App./Disapp.: 4-0  
Date: April 14, 2026  
Signed: Mary L. Plesh