Lake Santee Regional Waste & Water District
Meeting Minutes
Meeting of July 16, 2026 – 3:30 pm
Lake Santee Community Room

1. Call to Order / Roll Call
    a. President Tom DePalma called the meeting to order and requested a roll call. All members were present. Also in attendance were Utility Administrator John Lecher, Utility Superintendent Greg Coffin, Utility Operator Dom Huber and John Foudray Maintenance Manager.

2. Guest introduction and short comments
    a. Jeff Meinders of C + H/M
    Tom asked Jeff to tell a little bit about his business and discuss how he thought the Itawamba sewer and water tap went. Jeff thanked us for the opportunity to do business with them and stated that they are headquartered in Milan Indiana and have been in business for 44 years with 10 employees and that they do all types of work with utilities and sewer and water districts. He felt the Itawamba taps went well. He said it took longer than normal, as they asked a lot of questions and learned a lot about how we wanted things done as they went along. He said it would have been helpful to have been on the project a little sooner, as the builder had already installed the gutters and buried the drainage, which they had to work around.
    Tom then asked John F., Greg and Dom how they thought things went and they all agreed it went well with all agreeing that C+H/M were well prepared, asked a lot of good questions and had more than enough staff with them.
    Tom thanked Jeff for coming and said we would have further discussions to determine how to proceed and that we would get back with him.
    After Jeff left a discussion ensued about how to proceed, how many we should do and how many they should. Bob made a motion for us to contract them to do the next taps which are up coming before we make a firm decision on how we proceed long term. Maurie seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

3. Consent Items
    a. Minutes of 6/18/26 Meeting
    b. Financial Report
    c. Register of Claims – Water
    d. Register of Claims – Sewer

    A motion was made by Larry N and seconded by Joyce to accept the consent items. Motion carried.

4. Superintendent Report
    a. Sewer Status Report
        i. Greg reported that sewer system was running well. He said we had one E. coli test that was higher than it should be, but that the average should be okay. He also stated that the new gear box should be in next week. They will install it and have the old one repaired and then put it on the shelf as a replacement. Greg said he approved a $6,800- expenditure for a new blower on the membrane unit from Midwest the other quotes he received were for $8,000- and $15,000-.

    b. Water Status Report
        i. Greg reported that he still waiting on membrane 2 which has no date for

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delivery yet. He will follow up on that.

ii. The Neptune system – we are currently connecting with 98.37% of the meters. We were down to not reaching 3 meters, but that went back up to 8 recently. They are working on replacing several meters to try work out the problem but will always probably have a couple that won't connect.

c. Plant Operational Review Report
   i. The fire alarm system had been going off for no apparent reason. While tracking down the cause it was discovered that condensation was accumulating in the wall unit. It was replaced and the problem was corrected/
   ii. C + H/M Contracting (See earlier discussion)
   iii. Exam status – Greg has sent an email to get Dom's retest scheduled, but hasn't gotten it scheduled yet..

5. Administrator Report
   a. Status report
      i. 15 leaks of which 5 were new. One was repaired while the others are being worked on.
      ii. 0 Disconnect notices.

   b. Write-offs / adjustments
      i. None

6. Treasurer Report
      i. There was some concern about the amount of money in the water checking account, so Bob made a motion to transfer $50,000- ledger # 128.1 to 131.5 to make sure we avoided any overdraft possibilities. The motion was seconded by Steve and passed unanimously.

7. Old Business
   a. Wessler projects status update
      i. Asset management plan – Steve discussed how the AMP can help manage our P&L so we hopefully get surprised with unexpected expenses down the road. The committee will work to coordinate the two when the committee meets again after next month's board meeting.
      ii. The GIS system continues to get updated as several valves were not listed on the map and three that didn't exist did. The map is pretty usable at this stage, but progress is still being made.
   b. 26 Members toured the Sewer and Water Plant on Friday June 19th making it a success, so it was agreed that we should offer more tours periodically.
   c. Employee Benchmarking – No response from the other lake communities. John will continue to work on that.
   d. It appears the final grade has been completed on the north boring site.
   e. Status of process for customer requests to test and/or replace potentially faulty meters. Greg stated that after working on one on Oneida, that it can hard to determine which side of the meter was leaking, ours or the customers. Nevertheless it was agreed that a written process needs to be developed so there

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is coordination between the office and the field workers, Work will continue on this matter.

f. Muni-Link software conversion. John presented a comparison of Muni-Link, InHance and Contintental Utility Solutions. A lengthy discussed ensued regarding the pros and cons of each system. Maurie motioned to approve $18,000- for the upfront cost and $7,500- annual fee for the Muni-Link which will include a three year history from our old system upon conversion. The motion was seconded by Steve. With this being the most expensive option, further discussion ensued with both John and Joyce expressing how they felt the total integration with Neptune was worth the additional cost. Motion passed unanimously with Joyce abstaining.

8. New Business –
    a. None

9. Trustee Reports and Comments
    a. None

10. Adjourn – motion was made to adjourn by Maurie and was seconded by Bob. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

    Respectfully Submitted by
    Steve Yost, Secretary

    These minutes are subject to approval by the LSRWWD Board at the 8/20/26 meeting.