

# GRAND VALLEY REGIONAL BIOSOLIDS AUTHORITY



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### AGENDA

October 29th, 2025 at 1:00 pm

Water Resource Recovery Facility

1300 Market Ave SW - Grand Rapids

1. Call to Order at 1:03 pm
2. Attendance: Members/Alternates present: James Ouzts, Aaron Vis, and Myron Erickson. Meeting has quorum.

Non-Members in attendance:

Miguel Hernandez, Alexia Hall, Andrew Meyer, Mike Rummelt, Carly Aller, Jessica Wood, Kevin Lynch, Rachael Brower, William Poelma

3. Approval of Minutes from August 28, 2025

Auditor feedback included two issues:

- Reimbursement of seed money from 2004.
- Asset distribution upon potential dissolution of GVRBA.
- Four options sent to auditors: awaiting response.

Motion: Approve minutes pending additional auditor feedback.

**Motion:** Myron Erickson

**Second:** James Ouzts

**Vote:** All in favor - Motion Carried

4. Public Comments Period

No Comments

5. Resolution for Advanced Safety Graphics - Bill Poelma

Bill Poelma presented a proposal to create Lockout/Tagout placards for 37 assets at GVRBA with multiple sources of hazardous energy. Placards will support OSHA LOTO CFR standards. Grand Rapids has an existing relationship and contract with Advanced Safety Graphics.

- Assets include Thickener #1, CW Screen Building, and BioRem.

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- Advanced Safety Graphics was selected by the City of Grand Rapids Risk Management department based on an interview at a safety conference.
- Right now they are only addressing site #1 and #4.

**Motion:** Myron Erickson

**Second:** Aaron Vis

**Vote:** All in favor - Motion Carried

## 6. Resolution for Recirculation Pump for Odor Control - Kevin Lynch

Kevin Lynch presented a quote from SunSource for replacing a failing fiberglass pump installed in 2009.

- The pump is critical for odor control and has reached the end of its service life. Replacement cost is higher than expected.
- Able to receive another quote from SunSource for \$20,740. Should be done replacing pumps for a while.

**Motion:** James Ouzts

**Second:** Myron Erickson

**Vote:** All in favor - Motion Carried

## 7. Resolution for Centrisys Repair Quote - Mike Rummelt

Mike Rummelt reported that a centrifuge has been at Centrisys for over a week.

Requesting to put \$100,000 in the budget for this repair. Repairs are estimated to be between \$40,000 and \$70,000. New hydraulic back drive was put on 3 years ago and might affect the cost of the repair.

**Motion:** Myron Erickson

**Second:** James Ouzts

**Vote:** All in favor - Motion Carried

## 8. Biosolids Land Application Contracts - Kevin Lynch

Kevin Lynch presented contracts with Beneficial Connections, LLC for land application and Durango JS, LLC for transportation.

- Rates:
  - Beneficial Connections - \$0.032/gallon (remainder of this year), \$0.0345/gallon (2026), \$0.0365/gallon (2027)
  - Durango –
    - Under 19 miles
      - \$0.045/gallon (2025), \$0.0475/gallon (2026), \$0.050/gallon (2027)

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- Over 19 miles
  - \$0.050/gallon (2025), \$0.0525/gallon (2026),  
\$0.055/gallon (2027)
- Estimated increase in land application cost: 19.5% for this year. 30 million gallons applied is the target and how they set their budgetary goals. Last biosolids year, Oct 1-Sep 30, they hauled 24 million. This year Kevin Lynch anticipates 20 million.
- This is an increase of 27% over the budgeted amount but this cost will be burdened by Wyoming, no increase to Grand Rapids O&M cost.

**Motion:** Myron Erickson

**Second:** James Ouzts

**Vote:** All in favor - Motion Carried

## 9. Landfill Service Agreement, Republic Services – Andrew Meyer

Andrew Meyer presented the finalized agreement with Republic Services for landfill use, capped at 500 yards.

Discussion focused on authorized signatories and clarification of whether the agreement is through the City of Grand Rapids or GVRBA.

Corrections to the address and signatory designation were noted.

## 10. Ops Team Report – Mike Rummelt

Durango hauled 320 dry tons in August and 101 dry tons in September. Wyoming has approximately 3 million in storage.

Dewatering: 284 dry tons in August and 270 dry tons in September. Between those two months our solids averaged 23.5% with a recovery rate just over 96%. Centrifuge #3 scheduled for preventive maintenance.

FY26 (2 months in): Currently \$782/dry ton and 2,300 dry tons sent to landfill and land application. FY25: Still finalizing but approximately \$870/dry ton.

## 11. Budget Review – Miguel Hernandez

Miguel Hernandez reported that FY26 is currently \$300,000 under budget. FY25 audit shows \$415,000 over budget with true-up included.

Cash balance: \$6.5 million. Reserve target: \$4 million. Without true-up, FY25 was \$2.3 million under budget.

Discussion included seed money reimbursement and joint dryer funding. True-up decisions deferred to January.

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## 12. Elections – James Ouzts

Chair vacancy due to Tim Burkman's resignation. James Ouzts nominated and elected as Chair.

**Motion:** Myron Erickson

**Second:** Aaron Vis

**Vote:** All in favor - Motion Carried

Myron Erickson nominated and elected as Secretary until June.

**Motion:** James Ouzts

**Second:** Aaron Vis

**Vote:** All in favor - Motion Carried

## 13. Legal Discussion Points

- Freezing Partner Percentages
  - Proposal by James Ouzts: Freeze the current partner contribution percentages for a 6-month pilot period.
  - Andrew Meyer noted that accurate measurement is difficult. The meters being used to calculate Grand Rapids sludge will also be used for Wyoming sludge.
  - Current Estimate: Grand Rapids contributes approximately 67% of raw solids pre-digestion.
  - Consensus: Use historical averages during the pilot. After 6 months, reassess using improved metering data.
  - Next Steps: Jessica Wood recommended drafting a formal interim agreement, retroactive to September 1, 2025, and presenting it for board approval.
- Segment Reversion Upon Dissolution
  - Initial Proposal: Segments 1 & 4 to revert to the City of Wyoming; Segments 2 & 3 to the City of Grand Rapids.
  - Correction by Myron Erickson: The segment assignments were reversed in the initial proposal.
  - Action Item: Clarify and correct segment assignments in the dissolution language of the agreement.
- Reimbursement of Seed Money

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- Originally discussed earlier in the meeting. The seed money from 2004 has been carried on the books.
- Awaiting feedback from auditors regarding appropriate reimbursement methods and implications for asset distribution if GVRBA is dissolved.
- Agreement to Negotiate in Good Faith
  - Consensus: All parties agreed to include language committing to negotiate in good faith.
  - Recommendation by Jessica Wood: Include provisions for mediation if informal negotiations fail to resolve issues promptly.
  - Jessica Wood noted that the last three legal options discussed could be combined into a single clause or kept separate, depending on auditor feedback.

## 14. Board Member Comments

- Myron Erickson: No comments.
- Aaron Vis: Positive outlook on partnership with GR.
- James Ouzts: Encouraged by progress and collaboration.

## 15. Reminder of meeting November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

- November 13, 2025 meeting canceled due to scheduling conflicts. Regular meeting schedule to resume in December.

## 16. Adjournment