

GRAND VALLEY REGIONAL BIOSOLIDS AUTHORITY



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MEETING MINUTES

May 22, 2025 at 1:30 pm

Water Resource Recovery Facility

1300 Market Ave SW - Grand Rapids

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by: 1:33pm

2. **Attendance**

Present:

Kevin Lynch, Jon Burke, Aaron Vis, Myron Erickson, Rachael Brower, Carly Aller, James Ouzts, Andrew Meyer, Jared Grabinski, Wayne Jernberg, Jessica Wood, Mike Rummelt, Tim Burkman, Tai Verbrugge, Miguel Hernandez, Tiffany Berry

3. **Approval of Minutes from March 27, 2025 Meeting**

*Motion: **Myron Erickson**, supported by **Tim Burkman**, moved to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2025 meeting as submitted. Motion carried.*

4. **Comments from audience regarding agenda items**

None.

5. **Election of Board Members:**

According to the by-laws City of Grand Rapids holds 75% state in the authority and should hold the Chair position with Wyoming holding the Vice Chair position. Additional Positions to be voted on today include Secretary and Treasurer. Elections to be nominated are as follows:

- (GR) Regular Director – Tim Burkman – Chair
- (WY) Regular Director – Aaron Vis – Vice Chair
- (GR) Regular Director – James Ouzts – Secretary
- (WY) Regular Director – Myron Erickson
- (GR) Alternate Director – Molly Clarin – Treasurer

GRAND VALLEY REGIONAL BIOSOLIDS AUTHORITY



(WY) Alternate Director – John Shae

*Motion: Aaron Vis, supported by James Ouzts, moved to approve Myron Erickson.
Motion carried.*

6. 2026 GVRBA Budget approved by commission and presented to the board

Presented by Alexia Hall - not in attendance, but discussed that the budget was approved by commission and the documents added to records, no further discussion was warranted.

7. Signed MMRMA documents

Presented by James Ouzts - no changes in coverage and the cost did go down, and James is the representative and has signed for the new year worth of coverage. One addition to coverage for cyber security attacks with no additional charge. The MMRMA is an additional coverage beyond what is already covered by our respective authorities.

OPS Team Report

Presented by Mike Rummelt – The Operations Team is providing the following Monthly Report to the Grand Valley Regional Biosolids Authority (GVRBA) Board of Directors for March and April 2025.

Land Application Report

Durango has continued to do a great job hauling and land applying Biosolids. During the month of March, they were able to haul and apply 1.7 million gallons, 368 dry tons. April, they had another good month hauling and applying 3.4 million gallons, 627 dry tons, this is the best April hauling since 2021. Wyoming currently has 2.8 million gallons in storage.

Dewatering Facility Report

Operations within the dewatering facility have been going well. Wyoming sent 900,000 gallons, 81 dry tons, to the Dewatering facility during the first couple weeks of March. They stopped sending sludge on March 15th. During the months of March and April our solids averaged 22.6%, which is lower than our target of 25% with a recovery rate of 97.5%, which is above our target of 95%.

GRAND VALLEY REGIONAL BIOSOLIDS AUTHORITY



Resolution – Republic proposes another year, same prices per ton plus surcharges, landfill in Pierson will be a back up, which is nice to see that we have a back up if needed in writing. It would be good for us to approve this one for now and then look for additional contracts as needed down the road.

Motion: Aaron Vis, supported by Tim Burkman, moved to approve the Resolution to Renew Republic as presented. Motion carried.

8. GVRBA Assets/Dissolution Resolution Review and Discussion – Jessica Wood

Jessica Wood was asked to review the GVRBA documents to determine whether they direct how assets would be distributed if/when GVRBA were to dissolve and if not, to propose some dissolution language that might address the parties' concerns.

The only dissolution language in the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Joint Management Project Agreement was in the Articles of Incorporation which allows the Authority to be dissolved by act of the constituent municipalities (Grand Rapids and Wyoming) or “by law”.

She did not find any language pertaining to asset distribution upon dissolution. However, acquisition, disposal or lease of real property by the Authority must first be approved by the legislative bodies of each City. See Art of Incorporation Article VI. Note that the Joint Biosolids Management Project only grants the Authority licenses to access Grand Rapids' WWTP and Wyoming's Clean Water Plan, so it looks like the Authority just owns the “Biosolids System” related to the Project for residuals produced from the WWTP and CWP.

In today's Board meeting, the Directors discussed the impetus for the request—it stemmed from the auditors. Three or four solution variations were suggested, **all contingent upon the retirement of the debt in 2029.**

1. Segments 1 & 4 revert to City of Wyoming and Segments 2 & 3 revert to City of Grand Rapids.
2. Reimbursement of seed money.
3. Agreement to meet and negotiate in good faith.

GRAND VALLEY REGIONAL BIOSOLIDS AUTHORITY



4. Agreement to meet and negotiate in good faith and to participate in mediation if less formal meetings fail to result in resolution promptly.
5. Some combination of the above 4 suggestions.

The Directors stated that they would check with their auditors to determine whether any of the above solutions would satisfy their concerns, after which the constituents could consider specific language.

Notwithstanding the notes above, here are some alternative example language to aid the conversation, in case further solutions are necessary:

In the event the Authority is dissolved, the ownership of the Biosolids System and all consents to the location of the Biosolids System granted under this Agreement shall be transferred to the Constituent Municipalities as follows. Any portion of the Biosolids System exclusively serving a Constituent Municipality shall be transferred to that Constituent Municipality. Any wastewater treatment facilities or capacity owned by the Authority and other portions of the Biosolids System that serve Constituent Municipalities shall be transferred to those Constituent Municipalities as tenants in common, with each Constituent Municipality having a percentage of ownership over the portion of the Biosolids System being a percentage equal to the number of residential equivalent units being served in that Constituent Municipality by the portion of the System being transferred at the time of the transfer divided by the total number of residential equivalent units in all of the Constituent Municipalities being served by the portion of the System being transferred at the time of the transfer.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at **14:06** p.m.