

**FOUR RIVERS SANITATION AUTHORITY
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MAY 18, 2026
5:15 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Four Rivers Sanitation Authority (FRSA) Board of Trustees and staff met in-person at Four Rivers Sanitation Authority, 3501 Kishwaukee Street, Rockford, Illinois, 61109.

Pollack called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 5:20 p.m. and advised that the meeting was being recorded.

The following Trustees were present:

Rick Pollack	President
Ben Bernstein	Vice President
Richard Mowris	Clerk/Treasurer
Brad Long	Trustee
Ed Grondzki	Trustee

Staff present: Chris Baer, Executive Director; Mike Christensen, Director, Plant Operations; Jim Reader, Director, Collection Systems; Matt Campbell, Director, Engineering; Ashley Bernard, Assistant Director, Plant Operations/Customer Service/IWS; Lisa Mittel, Assistant Director, Management Services; Kwame Calvin, Assistant Director, Internal Services; Brittany Patterson, Manager, Human Resources; Susan Skinner, Executive Services Coordinator.

Others in attendance:

- Evan Bonnett, AGHL Law
- Tony Rafferty, FRSA
- Dan Bouchard, Teamsters
- Anna Reader, Resident

Bernsten moved to approve Minutes of the April 27, 2026, Meeting of the Board of Trustees; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernsten	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondski	Aye

Mowris moved to approve Minutes of April 27, 2026, Meeting of the confidential Executive Session; seconded by Bernsten; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernsten	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondski	Aye

There were no Public Hearings or Appearances before the Board.

Pollack shared a compliment extended to the team on behalf of Cahoots, Rockford.

Mowris stated the Investment Report reflects \$ 92,739,722.17 total funds invested for the month of April, 2026, with earned interest in the amount of \$270,432.51. Total cash and investments are \$105,951,974.73. Report placed on file.

Mowris moved to approve Total General Fund Expenditures for the month of April, 2026, in the amount of \$ 4,766,204.11, with \$0 Total Special Assessments; seconded by Bernsten; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernsten	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondzki	Aye

Campbell advised there are no outstanding agreements at this time.

Long moved to approve contract for 2026-2027 Collection System Repairs, Capital Project no. 2754, to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, N-TRAK Group, LLC, for the sum of \$ 838,375.00; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernstein	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondzki	Aye

Long moved to approve award for Decommissioned Equipment Demolition, Capital Project No. 2634, to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Northern Illinois Service Company, for the sum of \$ 32,500.00; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernstein	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondzki	Aye

Long moved to approve award for RFP 26-206 – Janitorial Service, to Advanced Cleaning Systems for the total cost of \$ 475,923.00 for a 33-month term (contract expiration to coincide with FRSA fiscal calendar); includes two options to extend for one year per extension; contract cost is the sum of first nine months of service, year one and year two; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernstein	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondzki	Aye

Mowris moved to approve award for six Kevlar-lined flexible Air Piping Flex Connectors and expansion joint alignment rings, CPI EPO1763, to Lai Ltd., for a total cost of \$ 32,416.00; seconded by Long; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernstein	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondzki	Aye

Baer welcomed new Trustee Ed Grondzki and expressed his gratitude to Grondzki for taking on this important role.

Baer paid tribute to Jim Reader, Director of Collection Systems, as Reader retires after 36 years. Baer noted that, in typical Reader style, Reader's formal retirement letter credited and thanked all the people he has worked with throughout the years. Baer expressed that Reader will be greatly missed at FRSA and extended his best wishes as Reader welcomes this next chapter of life. Reader then gave heartfelt remarks expressing his thanks to all members of Board and staff.

Bonnett advised that no action is needed at this meeting regarding Enforcement of Administrative Order (Fines and Compliance Requirements) – Curtis Metal Finishing; the item is delayed pending additional investigation.

Patterson presented the Human Resources Monthly Report. Patterson advised that a hiring freeze is in place pending contract negotiations.

Calvin presented the Information Technology and Safety reports for the month.

Mittel presented the Monthly Financial Report, advising that, for the period ending April 30, 2026, Total Revenue received for the fiscal year is \$57.3 million; User Fee Revenue is approximately \$44 million year-to-date; Operations & Maintenance Departmental expenditures, including encumbrances, total \$27.6 million for the 12-month period; Capital project expenditures total \$39.8 million fiscal year-to-date. There were no debt service payments in April.

Bernsten moved to approve the following Plumber/Contractor Bonds/Registration during the period of April 1-30, 2026:

	Bond Type	Bond Number	Expiration Date
Mara Plumbing	PV	A150022669	05/31/2026
Anderson Construction	CO	2676758	05/31/2026
Flo-Pro Plumbing	PU	101858271	05/31/2026
Flo-Pro Plumbing	PV	101859032	05/31/2026

seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernsten	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondzki	Aye

Mowris moved to approve Professional Services Contract, Amendment No. 3, Co-Generation Rehab Project, Capital Project No. 2344, with Donohue & Associates, Inc.; seconded by Bernsten; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernsten	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondzki	Aye

Campbell advised that the Engineering Report for the month is included in the Board Packet.

Christensen provided the Monthly Management Report for Plant Operations.

Bernard presented a Customer Service/IWS Summary and Status Report for the month.

Christensen explained the purpose and structure of Pretreatment Awards for Significant Industrial Users (SIUs) and FRSA's recognition of industrial partners successfully maintaining compliance and infrastructure protection. Award levels are classified as Gold, Silver or Platinum. Christensen provided a list of eligible award candidates for 2025, and advised that all were notified May 6, 2026, and are required to respond by May 25, 2026, to accept the award with publication, accept privately or decline the recognition. No Board action required.

Bernard provided an overview of the Industrial Waste Surveillance Department's findings for 2025 regarding Industrial Users in Significant Non-Compliance (SNC) and identified non-compliant facilities with whom FRSA is working to bring back into compliance with federal pretreatment standards. No Board action required.

Reader presented the Monthly Update/Summary, Trend Reports and Management Report for Collection Systems.

At 6:10 p.m., Mowris motioned to move into Executive Session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)2, to discuss Collective Bargaining negotiating matters between the public body or representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; seconded by Long; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernstein	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondzki	Aye

At 6:35 p.m., Long moved to adjourn Executive Session and move back into Open Session; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernstein	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondzki	Aye



Pollack advised that no decision were made nor votes taken during the Executive Session.

At 6:40 p.m., Long moved to adjourn Meeting; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

Ben Bernstein	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	Aye
Ed Grondzki	Aye

Clerk

