

**FOUR RIVERS SANITATION AUTHORITY
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

JULY 27, 2026

5:15 P.M.

MINUTES

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

Pollack called the meeting 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	Secretary/Treasurer
Brad Long	Trustee

Trustee Ed Grondzki was absent.

Staff present: Chris Baer, Executive Director; Mike Christensen, Director, Plant Operations; 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:

- Gino Galluzzo, AGHL Law
- Maryjo Pirages Reynolds, AGHL Law
- Lee Aschim, FRSA
- Dan Bouchard, Teamsters
- Angie Good, FRSA

Pollack moved to act upon Approval of Minutes, Agenda Section 3, items 1-16, through a single omnibus vote; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Mowris moved to approve the Minutes referenced in Agenda Section 3, items 1-16; seconded by Bernstein; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

There were no Appearances Before the Board.

Pollack announced that Union negotiations are now complete.

Mowris stated the Investment Report reflects \$ 93,716,103.80 total funds invested for the month of June, 2026, with earned interest in the amount of \$273,184.09. Total cash and investments are \$106,964,044.62. Report placed on file.

Bernsten moved to approve Total General Fund Expenditures for the month of June, 2026, in the amount of \$ 6,057,775.90, with \$0 Total Special Assessments; seconded by Bernstein; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Campbell advised there are no outstanding agreements at this time.

Bernsten moved to award contract for Maintenance Building Renovation, Capital Project No. 2102, to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Stenstrom Construction Group, in the amount of \$2,230,500.00; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Long moved to award contract for Plant Roadway Improvements, Capital Project No. 2406, to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, N-TRAK Group, LLC, in the amount of \$1,439,582.30; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Long moved to award contract for RFP No. 27-202, Security Service – Guard House, to the qualified, responsive and responsible proposer, Metro Enforcement (d/b/a On-Line Security Systems, LLC) to provide security service at the guard house at a cost of \$322,140.00 over a 33-month contract term August 1, 2026 – April 30, 2029. Contract term to align expiration with FRSA fiscal calendar year. Contract includes two one-year extensions, if mutually agreed upon in writing between contractor and FRSA; approval is for initial contract and authorization to exercise two one-year options to extend; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Baer announced the August 7 retirement of FRSA Inventory Clerk, Rosetta Etchin, who has been part of the FRSA team for 18 years. Baer displayed a commemorative plaque to be presented to Etchin and extended his congratulations and best wishes as she begins a new chapter.

Bernsten moved to approve Resolution 26 27 08, authorizing FRSA Executive Director to sign a Consulting Services Agreement between FRSA and Vogrinc Search Group; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Mowris moved to approve Resolution 26 27 07, authorizing FRSA Executive Director to sign a Consulting Services Agreement between FRSA and Fulcrum Government Strategies, LLC; seconded by Bernsten; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Baer provided an IEPA SRF Loan-Funding Project Update: FRSA projects did not make the IEPA Intended Use Plan (IUP); therefore, FRSA is waiting on by-pass funding dollars. Current program has \$2.2B in identified projects with \$602M funded. FRSA projects submitted with current SRF request include:

- Phosphorous Removal and DeAmmonification (\$29.7M)
- Chemical Polishing (\$3.9M)
- Sidestream Fermentation and Selective Wasting (\$26.6M)

Baer reported that staff has enlisted the assistance of Fehr Graham to review FRSA projects and identify any other possible grant funding opportunities.

Local 325 alerted FRSA of complaints submitted to their office regarding excessive hold times, billing issues and other delays with FRSA Customer Service. Baer advised that the FRSA team is addressing these concerns related to the new billing system.

Baer advised that FRSA has been served with a Summons for Discovery regarding a subcontractor accident/injury which occurred in 2024. No litigious action has been taken to date other than serving the Summons. FRSA has provided information to AGHL, who is currently reviewing.

Baer referenced the City of Rockford's announcement today that Thomas McNamara will step down as Mayor in August to serve as CEO of the Illinois Municipal League. The City will install an acting Mayor soon. Baer offered his praise of and gratitude for Mayor McNamara, citing the Mayor's dedication to Rockford. Baer spoke of the exceptional working relationship he has experienced with the Mayor and offered his best wishes to him as he moves forward.

Baer advised that IAWA Annual Conference will take place in September in Joliet, IL. Baer and Christensen plan to depart FRSA early morning, September 16, and return after sessions on September 17. Baer asked Trustees to advise Susan by end of day Thursday if they plan to attend so that hotel reservations can be made, as they are quickly selling out.

Mowris moved to approve Administrative Order AO:2026-01 in the matter of Curtis Metal Finishing Company; seconded by Long; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Patterson presented the Human Resources Monthly Report. She advised that discussions are beginning regarding insurance renewal plan.

Bernsten moved to delay consideration of Agenda Item VIII-D-2 until completion of Executive Session; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

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

Mittel presented the Monthly Financial Report, advising that, for the period ending June 30, 2026, Total Revenue recorded for the fiscal year is \$11.7 million; User Fee Revenue is approximately \$7.6 million year-to-date; Operations & Maintenance Departmental expenditures total \$5.3 million for the two-month period; Capital project expenditures total \$2.6 million fiscal year-to-date. Debt service payments in June totaled \$2.28 million.

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

	<u>Company</u>	<u>Bond Type</u>	<u>Bond No.</u>	<u>Date of Expiration</u>
1.	Area Mechanical, Inc.	PU	W150439965	5/31/2027
2.	Area Mechanical, Inc.	PV	W150439962	5/31/2027
3.	Area Mechanical, Inc.	CO	W150439958	5/31/2027
4.	Automatic Fire Systems, Inc.	PV	LSM0803892	5/31/2027
5.	Barker Services, LLC	PV	66625973	5/31/2027
6.	Barker Services, LLC	PU	66625986	5/31/2027
7.	Barker Services, LLC	CO	66625995	5/31/2027
8.	Boomer Plumbing, Inc.	PU	67048501	5/31/2027
9.	Boomer Plumbing, Inc.	PV	67048487	5/31/2027
10.	Boomer Plumbing, Inc.	CO	67048478	5/31/2027
11.	Collins Plumbing Services, LLC	PU	66436480	5/31/2027
12.	Collins Plumbing Services, LLC	PV	66385960	5/31/2027
13.	Dee's Plumbing, Inc.	PU	2491888	5/31/2027
14.	Dee's Plumbing, Inc.	PV	2491886	5/31/2027
15.	DPI Construction, Inc.	PV	W150438857	5/31/2027
16.	DPI Construction, Inc.	CO	MLI7309852	5/31/2027
17.	DPI Construction, Inc.	PU	A150019542	5/31/2027
18.	Evergreen Irrigation, Inc.	PU	2278492	5/31/2027
19.	Evergreen Irrigation, Inc.	PV	2288007	5/31/2027
20.	Fischer Excavating Inc.	CO	55221692	5/31/2027
21.	Five Star Plumbing Co.	CO	63608270	5/31/2027
22.	Five Star Plumbing Co.	PV	63608289	5/31/2027
23.	Five Star Plumbing Co.	PU	63608300	5/31/2027
24.	Freed Plumbing	PV	RLI0630523	5/31/2027
25.	Freed Plumbing	PV	RLI0630523	5/31/2027
26.	Hartwig Mechanical, Inc.	PV	800256295	5/31/2027
27.	Hartwig Mechanical, Inc.	PU	800256294	5/31/2027
28.	Held Brothers Plumbing	PU	67389007	5/31/2027
29.	Kellenberger, Inc.	PV	302442P	5/31/2027



30.	Kellenberger, Inc.	CO	302442Q	5/31/2027
31.	Kelsey Excavating, Inc.	CO	800251467	5/31/2027
32.	Landmark Excavating, Inc.	CO	32S541706	5/31/2027
33.	LH Plumbing, LLC	PV	RSB4129230	5/31/2027
34.	Lungo's Plumbing	PU	66765819	5/31/2027
35.	Lungo's Plumbing	PV	66765829	5/31/2027
36.	M. Robinson Plumbing	PV	7900692857	5/31/2027
37.	M. Robinson Plumbing	CO	7901322822	5/31/2027
38.	Mechanical, Inc.	PU	LPM08779887	5/31/2027
39.	Mechanical, Inc.	PV	LPM08779788	5/31/2027
40.	Mechanical, Inc.	CO	LPM9268647	5/31/2027
41.	Miller Engineering Co.	PV	25390611	5/31/2027
42.	Miller Engineering Co.	PU	25390610	5/31/2027
43.	Nelson Carlson Mechanical	PV	25390616	5/31/2027
44.	Nelson Carlson Mechanical	PU	25582291	5/31/2027
45.	Nelson Carlson Mechanical	CO	25390617	5/31/2027
46.	Northern Illinois Service Co.	CO	LSF224043	5/31/2027
47.	N-Trak Group, LLC	CO	354026890	5/31/2027
48.	N-Trak Irrigation, LLC	PV	A150012397	5/31/2027
49.	Pearson Plumbing & Heating	PV	RLI0488281	5/31/2027
50.	Pearson Plumbing & Heating	PU	RNB0488280	5/31/2027
51.	Precision Piping, LLC	PV	2676878	5/31/2027
52.	Precision Piping, LLC	CO	2676875	5/31/2027
53.	Roto-Rooter Sewer Service	PU	66242526	5/31/2027
54.	Roto-Rooter Sewer Service	PV	66242520	5/31/2027
55.	Roto-Rooter Sewer Service	CO	72461042	5/31/2027
56.	Spain Construction, Inc.	CO	66259682	5/31/2027
57.	Stellar Plumbing	PV	67935801	5/31/2027
58.	Stenstrom Excavation & Blacktop	CO	104482884	5/31/2027
59.	Total Plumbing, Ltd.	CO	3281694	5/31/2027
60.	Total Plumbing, Ltd.	PV	3281695	5/31/2027
61.	Troy Lee Excavating, Inc.	CO	IL100244	5/31/2027
62.	Williams Brothers Plumbing	PV	69905867	5/31/2027
63.	Williams Brothers Plumbing	PU	50701620	5/31/2027

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

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

Bernsten moved to approve a Temporary Construction Easement for PIN: 12-08-452-014, Spring Creek Congregational Church, to repair existing FRSA infrastructure located in Spring Creek; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Mowris moved to approve Professional Services Contract; Gravity Belt Thickener (GBT) Expansion, Capital Project No. 2436; Contractor: Carollo Engineers, Inc.; contract includes design and bidding services related to preparation of bidding documents for installation of a second GBT in the GBT Building; fee not to exceed \$298,470.00, with an allowance of 32 weeks for project completion; seconded by Bernsten; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Mowris moved to approve Scum Separator Building HVAC and Roof Replacement; Capital Project No. 2502, Change Order No. 1; Contractor: Hartwig Mechanical, LLC; seconded by Long; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Bernsten moved to approve Interstate Diversion Basin Trunk Upsizing, FPCIP #150D; Capital Project No. 2108; Change Order No. 1; Contractor: Fischer Excavating, Inc.; and to approve staff request to explore potential complaint to ICC with legal counsel regarding delays in review of CNRR permit application for the project; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Mowris moved to approve 202 N. Main Street Sanitary Service, Capital Project No. 2636; Final Quantities; Change Order No. 1; Contractor: N-TRAK Group, LLC; seconded by Bernsten; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Bernsten moved to approve Title 2 Variance Request – 6059 E. State Street, Rockford; with condition that, if interior grease trap(s) become inadequate at any time to accommodate the facility or, if there are any changes in wastewater strength or volume, FRSA may require additional pretreatment measures to ensure compliance; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Bernsten moved to approve Title 2 Variance Request – 6061 E. State Street, Rockford; with condition that, if interior grease trap(s) become inadequate at any time to accommodate the facility or, if there are any changes in wastewater strength or volume, FRSA may require additional pretreatment measures to ensure compliance; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Bernsten moved to authorize proceeding with the following preliminary activities regarding potential Special Assessment on Van Stone Drive, Machesney Park:

1. Obtain appraisals for all parcels located within the proposed Special Assessment Service Area; and
2. Conduct an informational meeting with affected property owners to present the proposed project, explain the Special Assessment process and answer questions;

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

Ben Bernsten	Aye
Rick Pollack	Aye
Richard Mowris	Aye
Brad Long	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, including updates on NPDES Draft Permit and Air Emissions Audit.

Long moved to authorize posting of one Maintenance Electrician position now, prior to actual retirement of one current electrician (utilizing an open Maintenance Mechanic spot); this is in keeping with past practice of an early search and hire to find qualified, available candidates; upon actual retirement of current electrician, staff is authorized to hire Maintenance Mechanic; process follows planned approach to provide best organizational coverage during transitional period; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

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

Long moved to approve RFP #24-209, Lawn Maintenance Contract Change Order No. 1 (adding three months of third season) and fourth season contract extension; Contractor: BL Wellwood; seconded by Mowris; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

Baer presented Collection Systems Status, Monthly Management and Trend Reports.

At 6:45 p.m., Pollack requested a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (deliberations concerning salary schedules of one or more classes of employees) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)11 (probable or imminent litigation); Mowris made motion; seconded by Bernstein; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

At 7:20 p.m., Executive Session adjourned, and meeting moved back into open session.

Pollack stated that no decisions had been made nor votes taken during Executive Session.

Trustees addressed Agenda item VII-D-2: Mowris moved to approve modified Option 1 as presented as interim compensation plan for non-union employees; option includes 1.25% compensation change (retroactive to May 1, 2026), plus the agreed stipend, for all non-union hourly, salaried (including mid-managers) and executive leadership; seconded by Bernstein; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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

At 7:25 p.m., Bernstein moved to adjourn meeting; seconded by Long; motion passed upon roll call as follows:

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



Clerk