



GH-SL SEWER AUTHORITY

FOR CLEANER LAKES AND RIVERS

RECEIVED
OCT 15 2026
CITY OF FERRYSBURG

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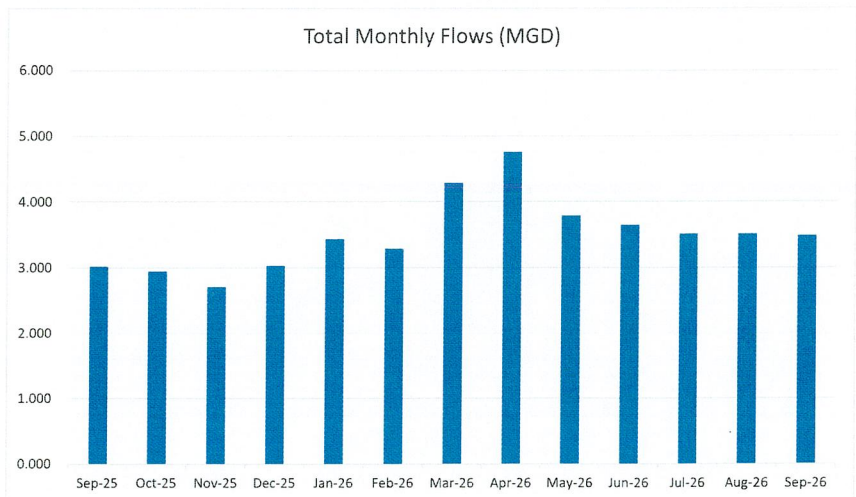
September 2026 WWTP OPERATIONS

MONTHLY OPERATIONS

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Plant performance for the month of September was satisfactory. We averaged a daily flow of 3.490 MGD in our treatment plant, which was a slight increase from the average of 3.463 MGD we saw last month. Compared to this time last year, our average daily flow is slightly higher.



Over the course of the last month, we removed 681,000 gallons of solids at 4.02% of solids content from the process and placed them in our storage tanks. We were able to land apply some biosolids and that totaled 396,000 gallons for the month. Our total cost was \$30,020 or \$519 per dry ton; it included a 33% fuel surcharge to our hauling rate because of the current price of diesel. We ended the month with around 1.5 million gallons of biosolids in storage, or roughly 37% of available storage space.

MONTHLY COMPLIANCE

Compliance for the month of September met all the parameters of our NPDES permit. The Monthly Operating Results are attached to this report, and you can compare the results to the limits found in our permit.

MORE FACILITY NEWS

Biosolids Dewatering Pilot –

Plant staff participated in a pilot with Huber Technologies. Over the course of the week, blended waste activated sludge and primary waste was processed through the HUBER Q-PRESS screw press. The technology is designed to dramatically improve how we handle solids separation and sludge dewatering. What is most intriguing about this equipment is that we are not required to pre-thicken the sludge before feeding it to the system. By squeezing out water content, the Q-PRESS will allow us to significantly reduce sludge volume, which will provide us with a multitude of different efficiencies.

We were able to send our blended waste activated sludge and primary waste through the machine at 1% solids content and produce a final cake product at 20% dry solids content, and we were able to achieve that consistently. That 20% dry solids content is considered our goal when disposing at the regional drying facility.

I have attached some photos to provide you with a quick visual process of the unit. The Huber Q-Press is a surprisingly small unit, so small that it fits inside of a trailer. After setting up the unit, the Huber on-site tech hooks up power, connects water hoses, and sludge feed hoses. Once he turns on the machine to start the process, within 20-30 minutes we see liquid solids as cake solids. But before entering the press, the liquid sludge is mixed and conditioned with a polymer flocculant. This causes fine solids to clump together into larger flocs. This happens inside their unique process piping that provides the necessary turbulence for a space saving process in lieu of a larger mixing well that other traditional dewatering pieces of equipment use. From there, the sludge enters the inclined cylinder, gravity combines with pump feed pressure to allow large volumes of free water to drain through the filters. A slow rotating auger screw continuously pushes the sludge upward through the cylinder. Rising pressure effectively squeezes the remaining free water out of the sludge mass. At the discharge end, the thick sludge pushes through an annular gap and past a pneumatically adjustable counterpressure cone. This cone maintains artificial plug formation to maximize compression. The resulting dry sludge cake is then discharged.

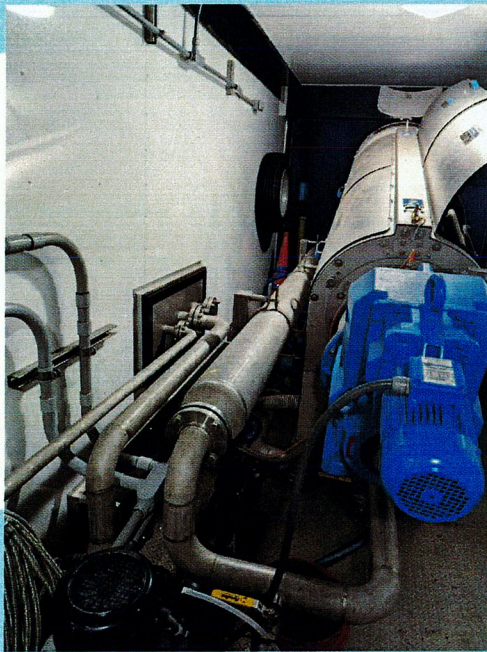
We had high hopes for this unit, and we were pleasantly surprised with the results, especially with how consistent it was. Even with the results of this pilot, we understand that there are other options for different dewatering technologies that present their own positives, so we will continue to evaluate what other technologies could serve our needs and pursue pilots to help inform our decision when the day comes.

HUBER Q-PRESS PILOT

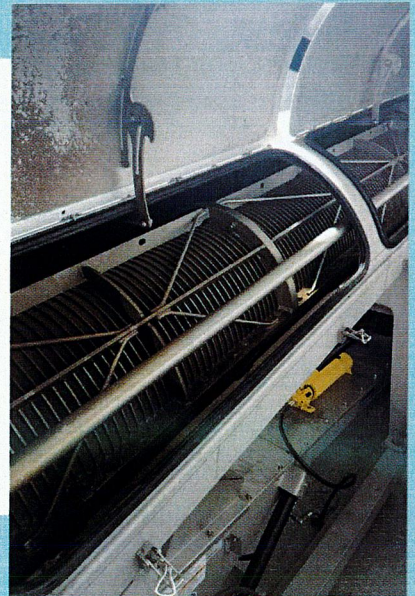
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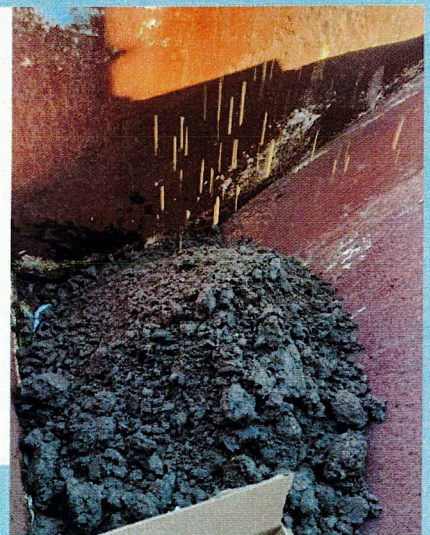
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COPIES TO:

Craig Bessinger

From: Bailey Gonzales-Bertapelle <bertapelleb@norarec.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2026 2:25 PM
Subject: NORA Board Meeting - October 22, 2026 - CANCELLED
Attachments: 10.13.2026 Webinar.pptx

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Hello,

After speaking with Rebecca, we have decided to cancel tomorrow's scheduled meeting due to a lack of quorum.

To keep everyone in the loop, here are a few updates that would have been shared tomorrow evening.

Fall Programming

- Intro to Taekwondo and Tiger Tots kicked off with 19 total participants.
- 4th Grade Girls Basketball: 60 participants
- 5th/6th Grade Girls Basketball: 65 participants
- Jackie took advantage of the GHAPS day off last week and ran a half-day Outdoor Recreation Explorers camp.
- Saturday Fishing at Bass River: 9 participants

Upcoming programs include basketball clinics with Basketball Basics, the Mini-Bowling League at Grand Fun, 5th/6th Grade Indoor Tennis, Fall Youth Archery, additional White Pines Wednesdays, and more.

Grants & Fundraising

- I attended a fundraising webinar hosted by Freshwater Future that Mary Jane shared with me. I have attached the slides they provided afterward.
- I have a meeting with the Community Foundation next Friday, October 30, to discuss what a non-endowed fund might look like for us.
- We wanted to apply for the MiLEAP Out-of-School Time Grant to support Recreation Summer School. However, since the Outdoor Discovery Center receives funding for programming at the same location, we were advised not to apply this year. We will revisit this opportunity next year and see if we can find a solution.
- Jackie scheduled NORA to work a couple of fish fry fundraisers at the Eagles on Friday, December 4, and Friday, January 29.

Community Outreach

- Jackie and I will be attending separate Trunk-or-Treat events at Lake Hills on Wednesday and Peach Plains on Thursday. If anyone is able to donate candy for either event, please let me know!

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NORTHWEST OTTAWA RECREATION AUTHORITY

1415 Beechtree Street, Grand Haven, MI 49417

Phone: 616.850.5125 www.norarec.org

NORA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AGENDA

RECEIVED
OCT 19 2026

Date: October 22, 2026 **Time:** 5:30 P.M. **Location.:** ESC Building (GHAPS)

CITY OF FERRYSBURG

1. Call to order: Chairperson – Rebecca Hopp, Ferrysburg

2. Roll Call.	Mary Jane Belter, GH Twp	Howard Behm – GH Twp
	Sarah Kallio - Grand Haven	Lyndsey Huisman - Grand Haven
	Craig Bessinger – Ferrysburg	Sarah Elliott - GHAPS
	Marc Eickholt - GHAPS	Rick Mikkelsen – Robinson Twp
	Rebecca Hopp - At Large	

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda –

4. Approval of Consent Agenda –

A. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of August 27, 2026 as printed.

B. Financial Reports:

1. September 2026 Financials – Revenue & Expense Sheet

5. New Business

A. Fall Programming

6. Old Business

A. Grants/Fundraising Update

B. Community Outreach Update

C. Ferrysburg Elected Representative Vacancy

7. Public Comments

8. Advisory Board Comments

9. Next Scheduled Meeting – December 17, 2026

10. Adjournment

**NORTHWEST OTTAWA RECREATION AUTHORITY
NORA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Date: August 27, 2026

Time: 5:30 P.M.

Location: ESC Building (GHAPS)

1. Call to order: Chairperson Rebecca Hopp: the meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

Mary Jane Belter, GH Twp - pr
Howard Behm – GH Twp - pr
Sarah Kallio - Grand Haven - pr
Lyndsey Huisman - Grand Haven - ab
Craig Bessinger – Ferrysburg - ab
Ferrysburg – elected position, vacant
Sarah Elliott - GHAPS - pr
Marc Eickholt - GHAPS - pr
Rick Mikkelsen – Robinson Twp - ab
Rebecca Hopp - At Large – pr

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda: *motion to approve the agenda: Motion by Eickholt , second by Kallio. Vote: 6-0*

4. Approval of Consent Agenda: *motion to approve the consent agenda: Motion by Elliott , second by Kallio . Vote: 6-0*

A. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2026, as printed.

B. Financial Reports:

1. July 2026 Financials - Financial report pending completion of annual audit

Discussion: none

5. New Business

A. Fall Programming: Bailey gave an update on the fall programs:

baseball – 157 kids are registered, showing a yearly increase., They are seeing a mix of new kids and baseball driven kids. The team's makeup is diversified in ability.

The program is drawing kids from outside of Grand Haven and Spring Lake.

Jackie gave an update on White Pines Wednesdays. Previously she had done archery, last year she added pickleball. This year, considering the kids that would just sit in the gym and watch – other activities were added. She looked at the school calendar and added 3- or 4-week sessions of various activities: archery, bike to/for ice cream, prep for basketball, pickleball, baseball, softball, \

The new software is great for parents to set up a payment plan. It is being used for the White Pines Wednesdays. Parents pay \$15 upfront and then payment is made as the event goes.

Good number of registrations so far. Jackie has some high school students that helped this summer that she could bring on and pay if needed.

Sarah k Kallio commented that it is good to see non-traditional sports offered.

B. Fundraising/Grant Writing Strategy:

Regarding the fund raiser – Bailey stated he has no feelings as to whether or not the fund raiser takes place. However, if the board decides to do it, work needs to start earlier than in the past. The board needs to decide if it is worth the effort.

Behm (questions and comments) Has it always been at this same time in July? Yes. 2026 would have been the third year.

Bailey: With the Unicorn open on Tuesdays there was no indoor back up. We could change locations and time of the year.

Belter: finding another location could be problematic – cost of rental, type of menu

Behm: do we pursue a whole other event, at a different time of the year

Rowland: do we do a fund raiser or pop-up events for more exposure.

Eickholt: the board needs to make a decision – event or grant writing for funding?

Kallio: if we had more money – what would NORA do with it? What kind of outreach and financial impact are we looking for? What would NORA do with the additional money? What is the goal of the event? It was a struggle to get items for the fund raising; the same people attended.

Behm: He has some ideas for some places to use

Rowland: would it be worthwhile to do 'get to know' NORA event, expand the community outreach? Is there an opportunity to do something like this – smaller venue, lower cost?

Belter: NORA did host an event at the Unicorn with invited guests. Appetizers were provided, cash bar. The event was sponsor funded.

Additional funds would be used for equipment. There was also a brief discussion about groups that currently have few NORA activities: pre-school and senior. The scholarship fund always has a need for additional funding.

Belter suggested generating a list of groups to meet with to provide an introduction to NORA, the programs, and the needs. Perhaps more can be done through the governmental units with their emails and mailings to their residents.

Next agenda (and for future agendas) add fund raising, grant writing, outreach. This would be for discussion and updates.

Kallio: commented that the role of NORA – for youth in particular – is to “level the playing field” for opportunities that all kids can participate in. The key is all – there are affordable opportunities.

A. Summer Programming Wrap Up:

Bailey commented that he has spent most of his time in the office while Jackie has been doing outdoor rec activities in the morning and summer rec school in the afternoon,

Jackie did an update on programs: The get outdoors for girls which just completed its second year and a new outdoor program for boys – BRO. Boys recreating outdoors. The activities were the same for both groups. She had 2 high school boys work with her.

B. United Way Update:

Not a positive update. There was not enough communication to Bailey as to when to apply. Chris was sent info when to apply, always in June. That wasn't pushed to Bailey when Chris left. United Way didn't know who to send the info to so we can't apply until the next cycle.

7. Public Comments: no public

8. Advisory Board Comments:

Hopp: Montgomery has resigned, Bessinger is retiring. Both changes affect Ferrysburg's representation. She has asked the Ferrysburg City Council to appoint someone and has not received any communication. She asked Eickholt to reach out to the Ferrysburg mayor.

Elliott expressed a thank you for all of the effort and coordination to provide NORA opportunities for those children that don't have the financial means to participate.

Staff was commended on their work accommodating the 'smoke/hazardous air conditions' days. Rowland discussed adjustments made.

9. Next Scheduled Meeting – October 22, 2026

10. Adjournment: *motion to adjourn: Motion by Kallio , second by Elliot.*

Meeting adjourned at p.m. 6:38 p.m.

Craig Bessinger

From: Rebecca Hopp <rebecca.hopp1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2026 3:41 PM
To: Bailey Gonzales-Bertapelle; Marc Eickholt; Howard Behm; Mary Jane Belter; Sarah Elliott; Craig Bessinger; 99F1Endo; Lyndsey Huisman; Sarah Kallio
Subject: Ferrysburg's appointment

Caution! This email is from an external address and contains a link. Use caution when following links as they could open malicious web sites.

Good afternoon, Members of the Board,

Following a recent conversation with Mr. Bessinger, I understand that no City Council member was appointed to serve on the NORA Board of Directors during the October 19 Council meeting.

I have also spoken with Council Member DeWitt, who was unable to provide an explanation for Mr. Carlson's continued failure to make an appointment to the Board.

Given the importance of appropriate Board representation and the continued absence of a Council appointee, I believe this matter warrants further attention and clarification regarding the anticipated timeline for an appointment.

I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful fall weather.

Best Regards,
Rebecca Hopp

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Craig Bessinger

From: Kevin Kieft <KKieft@preinnewhof.com>
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2026 2:22 PM
To: Craig Bessinger; Matt Schindlbeck; Amber Schaner
Cc: Richard Taglione; Breckin Deverney
Subject: Pine St Update

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Pine Street update:

Schmidt Bros. finished grading subbase and spreading aggregate along Pine St. except for the east intersection of 4th and Pine St where storm work is yet to occur. Northern Pipeline is planning to be onsite next week to install catch basin castings within the curblin and complete remaining storm work on 4th/Pine. Schmidt will continue grading curblines and sidewalk for MZH Concrete. MZH is scheduled to start pouring concrete 10/20. MZH to complete curbs and then jump to drives, ADAs, and sidewalks. It is expected that once concrete work is completed and cured, Schmidt will start preparing the aggregate base to be paved. A schedule for aggregate grading and paving (by others) has not been provided yet.

Schmidt Bros is continuing to coordinate with Keenan Marina on getting boats out for storage and utilizing mainly Ridge or 5th with Pine accessible if needed.

Have a great weekend.

Kevin Kieft, P.E.

Prein&Newhof

t. 231-798-0101 x.1204 c. 616-299-3823

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OCT 21 2026

CITY OF FERRYSBURG

Empowering Businesses. Building Communities.

Dear Craig,

On behalf of The Chamber of Commerce Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Ferrysburg, thank you for your generous sponsorship of the **2026 Business Recognition Awards Luncheon**.

This annual celebration is an opportunity to recognize the businesses and organizations that help shape our region through their dedication, innovation, growth, and investment in our community. Thanks to the support of partners like you, we are able to bring our business community together to celebrate these achievements and recognize those making a lasting difference.

Your partnership means so much more than support for a single event. It represents a shared commitment to strengthening our local economy, celebrating business success, and creating a community where businesses and individuals can thrive.

We are especially grateful for the role you play as a pillar of our business community. Your continued investment, leadership, and willingness to support initiatives like the Business Recognition Awards Luncheon demonstrate the importance of businesses working together toward a stronger future. Partnerships like yours are essential to the work of the Chamber and to the continued success and vitality of the Grand Haven, Spring Lake, and Ferrysburg communities.

We recognize that sponsorship is a choice, and we sincerely appreciate your decision to invest in the Chamber's mission and the businesses we serve. Your generosity allows us to create meaningful opportunities to connect, celebrate, and elevate the people and organizations that make our region such a special place to live and work.

Thank you for believing in the work of the Chamber, for championing our local businesses, and for being an important part of our community's continued success.

We are proud to have you as a partner and look forward to continuing to work together to make a positive and lasting impact.

With sincere appreciation,

Mark R. Allen, IOM
President

Hanna Crouch
Director of Programs & Events

C: mrc
AS

The Chamber of Commerce – Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Ferrysburg
One South Harbor Drive | Grand Haven, Michigan 49417

Craig Bessinger

Subject: FW: Information Concerning this Season's Salt Deliveries- Tariff Impact

From: Hiltz, Valerie (DTMB) <HiltzV@michigan.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2026 11:33 AM
Subject: Information Concerning this Season's Salt Deliveries- Tariff Impact

Some people who received this message don't often get email from hiltzv@michigan.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution! This email is from an external address and contains a link. Use caution when following links as they could open malicious web sites.

Good morning, MiDEAL member.

Your Road Salt for the 2026/2027 Winter Season is being provided to you via from the Compass Minerals, Inc., contract # 260000000713.

What you may not be aware of is that this salt is coming to us from Canada, and as such is being impacted by assessed tariffs.

Compass has been working diligently to mitigate these tariff costs and some have been avoided or negated, however, some costs will need to be passed along to the State and to the MiDEAL users. To lessen the impact, these costs are being spread evenly over the entire season and for all users.

You can expect to see a line item fee for tariffs around \$1.87 per ton in your invoicing from Compass. Both Early Fill and Seasonal Orders up to 80% are being impacted.

These costs go into effect on Monday, October 26, 2026.

Respectfully,

Valerie Ann Hiltz | MiDEAL & Outreach Program Manager



Central Procurement Services
State of Michigan

Preferred Contact Method via Email: HiltzV@michigan.gov

Phone: 517-249-0459

[MiDEAL on Michigan.gov](#) | [Info for Vendors](#)



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CITY OF FERRYSBURG

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PHONE 616-842-5803
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www.ferrysburg.org

October 22, 2026

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Amber Schaner, City Clerk/Treasurer

RE: RFP-City Manager Executive Search Summary

On October 7, 2026, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking an executive search consultant to assist with the selection of a new City Manager. The RFP was distributed to four executive search firms, with proposals due October 22, 2026.

Two proposals were received by the deadline from Pivot Group and Walsh Municipal Services. The City also received proposals from Michigan Municipal League and MGT prior to the issuance of the RFP. All four firms are included in the comparison below for Council's review.

Firm	Proposed Cost	Estimated Timeline	Placement Guarantee	Post-Selection Services
Pivot Group	\$13,400*	2 months	1 year	360-degree feedback after 6 months
Walsh Municipal Services	\$13,500; not to exceed \$14,550	3 months	1 year	Executive coaching included
Michigan Municipal League	Basic Service (BS): \$17,000 Typical Service (TS): \$20,000 Enhanced Service (ES): \$23,000	3 months	BS: None TS: 1 year ES: 2 years	Not listed
MGT	Virtual Recruitment (VR): \$12,000* Limited Scope (LS): \$22,000* Full Scope (FS): \$26,000*	VR: months LS: 2.5 months FS: 3 months	VR: None LS: None FS: 1 year, subject to contingencies	Not listed

Additional Cost Considerations:

* Costs may be subject to additional fees for advertising, background checks, and/or travel expenses.

c: Craig Bessinger, City Manager