

BEN DAVIS CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEARING

BEN DAVIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Pursuant to notice published in the Indianapolis Star, Fred Buckingham, Chairman, called the Public Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., on Monday, September 28, 2026. Those in attendance were Cathey and Brian Vaughan, Chrissy and Wanda Hayes, freeholders, Kathie Kennedy, freeholder, Jordan Vermillion, freeholder, Mr. Steve Brock, Financial Advisor, Ms. Jennifer Hess, Attorney for the District; Mr. Ryan Heathco, Board Member (Director) and Ms. Beverly Matthews, Board Member, (Vice Chair), Angela Wirth, Finance Secretary; Sarah Kennedy, Administration & Finance with the Ben Davis Conservancy District; Micah Sarabyn, Project Manager; John Mowery of VS Engineering; Brandon Cook; Maintenance Superintendent; and Brian Daviau, Maintenance Department.

Mr. Buckingham introduced himself, Ms. Beverly Matthews and Mr. Ryan Heathco as Conservancy Board Members. Mr. Buckingham then introduced Ms. Angela Wirth, Secretary Finance Officer, to introduce the staff. Ms. Wirth asked the employees to stand and introduced Mr. Brian Daviau and Mr. Brandon Cook. Ms. Wirth introduced Ms. Micah Sarabyn, Project Manager, Ms. Sarah Kennedy, Assistant Financial Officer, and Ms. Cathey Vaughan as Administrative Assistant. Ms. Wirth also introduced the Advisory Board that included Ms. Jennifer Hess and Mr. Steve Brock.

Mr. Buckingham, called upon Mr. Steve Brock to share his information on the 2027 budget. Mr. Brock, then asked if Ms. Hess, would first share information about the Rate Structure for the District and the difference between the Ad Valorem tax and the monthly sewer user fee. Ms. Hess explained that the freeholders were not being double billed for their Sanitary Sewer. Ms. Hess explained that when the District was first established, the freeholders paid through their Marion County Property Taxes for the sanitary sewer. In 2017, the District sought approval for the monthly sewer user fee, through the Marion County Circuit Court. The justification behind this was that the District would have the ability to pay back revenue bonds without using tax payor monies. Marion County is unique from other counties in manner in which it permits use of tax payer funds with respect to bonding and what it allows to be paid or utilized from these funds. Ms. Hess asked if there were any questions or comments, there were not.

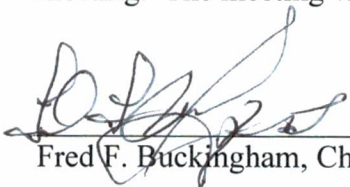
Ms. Hess then called upon Mr. Brock to discuss the 2027 Budget Resolution, the Rate Tariff and Salary Resolutions. Mr. Brock explained that the current sewer user fee is regulated by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance, DLGF and that an annual budget is submitted by the District for approval from the DLGF each calendar year. The current monthly rate of \$40.00 will be increasing to \$45.00 in January of 2027 due to Citizens Energy Group increasing their rates for treatment of the Districts sewage. Mr. Brock provided what the District has paid to CEG from 2019 to 2025, and how their rates have increased over 800%. Mr. Brock provided the annual payments made

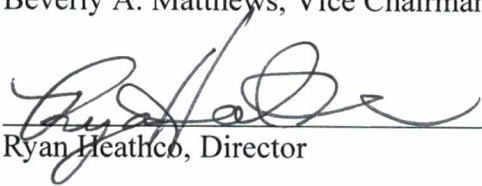
to CEG since 2023 and what the District is expected to pay in the year 2027. Mr. Brock stated that the District is dealing with a 70-year-old system and miles of porous clay pipes.

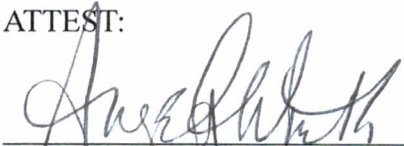
Ms. Hess asked Mr. John Mowery from VS Engineering to speak about the work the District has put into the District this year in lining, replacing and repairing broken pipe. Mr. Mowery explained the projects that the District has been undertaking to reduce inflow and infiltration including lining projects.

Ms. Hess introduced the Budget, Salary, and Rate Resolutions for 2027 and passed out copies to all in attendance. These are the same proposed Resolutions that were posted on the District website. She asked if there were any public comments or concerns regarding these resolutions. There being no comments or concerns stated by any freeholder in attendance, Mr. Heathco made a motion to approve the Rate Resolution for 2027. Mrs. Matthews seconded the motion, and Mr. Buckingham was also in agreement. Motion passed. The 2027 Rate Resolution was approved. Mr. Heathco made a motion to approve the Salary Resolution for 2027. Mrs. Matthews seconded the motion, and Mr. Buckingham was also in agreement. Motion passed. The 2027 Salary Resolution was approved. Lastly, Mr. Heathco made a motion to approve the Budget Resolution for 2027. Mrs. Matthews seconded the motion, and Mr. Buckingham was also in agreement. Motion passed. The 2027 Budget Resolution was approved.

Mr. Brock then asked if there were any questions or concerns and Mr. Brian Vaughan inquired about the possibility of a CEG take over of the District. Mr. Brock and Mr. Buckingham responded and explained previous interactions between the District’s Board and CEG as well as the outcome. With no more questions, and no further business, Mr. Buckingham made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 PM.


Fred F. Buckingham, Chairman

Beverly A. Matthews, Vice Chairman

Ryan Heathco, Director

ATTEST:

Mrs. Angela Wirth, Secretary