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*Matt Zurbruggen*

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*Carla Platipodis*

**VCU Operations &  
Maintenance Director**  
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**VCU Field Services Director**  
*Nate McGinley*

**Engineering Director**  
*Max Rehlander*

**Assistant VCU  
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Manager**  
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*Paul Scott*

**VCS Public Works Manager**  
*Katie Travis*

**VCS Executive  
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*Jackie Algozine*

**GIS Coordinator &  
Database Administrator**  
*Emily Reyna*

**VALPARAISO CITY UTILITIES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MINUTES**

**January 13, 2026**

The VCU Board of Directors met in an Executive Session on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 205 Billings Street beginning at 4:15 p.m. to discuss the following topic(s):

**IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) 2B** Initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing:

**IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) 2D** The purchase or lease of real property by the governing body up to the time a contract or option to purchase or lease is executed by the parties;

The Valparaiso City Utilities Board Meeting was called to order following the Executive Session by President John Walsh with the following attendees: Vice President Kari Bennett, Secretary Rod Gayda, Assistant Secretary Jeff Lamb and VCU Attorney Mike Langer via phone. Additional participants were Executive Director of Public Works & Utilities Steve Poulos, Deputy City Services Director Matt Zurbruggen, CFO Carla Platipodis, Maintenance Director Shihua Chen, VCU Field Services Director Nate McGinley, Engineering Director Max Rehlander, VCS Executive Administrator Jackie Algozine, and City Council Member Peter Anderson.

➤ **Approval of Minutes from December 9, 2025, Board Meeting**

- Rod Gayda motioned to approve the December 9, 2025, Board Minutes, seconded by Jeff Lamb. The remaining members approved the motion.

➤ **Approval of Claims**

- Rod Gayda motioned to approve the claims, seconded by Jeff Lamb. The remaining members approved the motion.

➤ **Approval of December 2025, Journal Entries**

- Rod Gayda motioned to approve the December 2025 Journal Entries, seconded by Jeff Lamb. The remaining members approved the motion.

➤ **Approval of November 2025, Financial Statements**

- Kari Bennett motioned to approve the November 2025 Financial Statements, seconded by Rod Gayda. The remaining members approved the motion.

➤ **WW SRF Disbursement #83- Bowen Engineering \$1,042,514**

- Steve Poulos presented WW SRF Disbursement #83 for Bowen Engineering in the amount of \$1,042,514. A motion was made by Kari Bennett to approve WW SRF Disbursement #83 in the amount of \$1,042,514. Rod Gayda seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the remaining members.

➤ **WW SRF Disbursement #84- LGS Plumbing \$171,488**

- Steve Poulos presented WW SRF Disbursement #84 for LGS Plumbing in the amount of \$171,488. A motion was made by Kari Bennett to approve WW SRF Disbursement #84 in the amount of \$171,488. Rod Gayda seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the remaining members.

- **WW SRF Disbursement #85- Stantec Engineering \$28,080**
  - Steve Poulos presented WW SRF Disbursement #85 for Stantec Engineering in the amount of \$28,080. A motion was made by Kari Bennett to approve WW SRF Disbursement #85 in the amount of \$28,080. Rod Gayda seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the remaining members.
- **WW SRF Disbursement #86--DLZ Engineering \$24,368**
  - Steve Poulos presented WW SRF Disbursement #86 for DLZ Engineering in the amount of \$24,368. A motion was made by Kari Bennett to approve WW SRF Disbursement #86 in the amount of \$24,368. Rod Gayda seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the remaining members.
- **WW SRF Disbursement #87- Mendenhall & Associates \$1500**
  - Steve Poulos presented WW SRF Disbursement #87 for Mendenhall & Associates in the amount of \$1500. A motion was made by Kari Bennett to approve WW SRF Disbursement #87 in the amount of \$1500. Jeff Lamb seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the remaining members.
- **WW SRF Disbursement #88-Mendenhall & Associates \$7,650**
  - Steve Poulos presented WW SRF Disbursement #88 for Mendenhall & Associates in the amount of \$7,650. A motion was made by Kari Bennett to approve WW SRF Disbursement #88 in the amount of \$7,650. Jeff Lamb seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the remaining members.
- **DW SRF Disbursement #72-Bowen Engineering \$254,601**
  - Steve Poulos presented DW SRF Disbursement #72 for Bowen Engineering in the amount of \$254,601. A motion was made by Kari Bennett to approve DW SRF Disbursement #72 in the amount of \$254,601. Kari Bennett seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the remaining members.
- **DW SRF Disbursement #73-Mendenhall & Associates \$3,750**
  - Steve Poulos presented DW SRF Disbursement #73 for Mendenhall & Associates in the amount of \$3,750. A motion was made by Kari Bennett to approve DW SRF Disbursement #73 in the amount of \$3,750. Jeff Lamb seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the remaining members.
- **Midwood Terrace Phase 1 – Storm Sewer Acceptance**
  - Nate McGinley presented Midwood Terrace Phase 1, a residential subdivision located at the northwest corner of CR500N and CR175W. The development is within city limits but outside of Valparaiso City Utilities water and sanitary service area. The subdivision is served by Indiana American water and Aqua sanitary sewer, only the storm sewer within the city right-of-way will be owned and maintained by VCU. The developer Olthof Homes is requesting acceptance of the Phase 1 storm sewer infrastructure installed by Reichelt Plumbing. The total value of the storm sewer assets is \$285,363.00. The recommendation to the VCU Board is to accept the Phase 1 storm sewer infrastructure for Midwood Terrace in the amount of \$285,363.00 and the 1-year maintenance bond for 10% of the cost of assets which has been received from Olthof Homes. Kari Bennett made a motion to accept the Phase 1 storm sewer infrastructure for Midwood Terrace in the amount of \$285,363.30 and the 1-year maintenance bond for 10% of the cost of assets that has been received from Olthof Homes. Rod Gayda seconded the motion, and the remaining members approved the motion.
- **MAAC Amendment to Water Usage Agreement – Request Acceptance**
  - Nate McGinley presented an amendment that the five additional fire hydrants and 6-inch water main extension be paid for by “MAAC” and at all times be owned, operated, maintained and kept in good working condition in accordance with industry standards. MAAC has agreed that the new installations be used solely for firefighting training at the facility. This amendment incorporates the Water Usage Agreement dated February 13, 2018. Jeff Lamb made a motion to accept the MAAC Amendment to water usage agreement dated February 13, 2018. Kari Bennett seconded the motion, and the remaining members approved the motion.

➤ **Sturdy Road Lift Station Replacement Project Division A – Change Order #3 Time Extension**

- Nate McGinley presented a change order for LGS Plumbing requesting a 180-day extension. This is change order #3 for the Sturdy Road Lift Station Replacement Project Division A. The request states that as of March 31, 2026, LGS will have achieved substantial completion with a final completion date of April 30, 2026. Rod Gayda made a motion to accept change order #3 for the Sturdy Road Lift Station Replacement Project Division A and the following dates that are stated on the change order; by March 31, 2026, LGS will have achieved substantial completion and a final completion date of April 30, 2026. Jeff Lamb seconded the motion, and the remaining members approved the motion.

➤ **Park Well Groundwater Flow Monitoring Assessment (Clarification) - Arcadis**

- Matt Zurbriggen presented a need for clarification regarding the amount requested for the Park Well Groundwater Flow Monitoring Assessment that was presented last February to the VCU Board. The VCU Board approved a contract with Peerless Midwest to drill a 24-inch production well on the Park property east of SR 49 and CR 500. The clarification for professional services contract was approved at the 11/25/25 Board meeting. The amount requested and approved at that meeting was \$18,270. The actual contract states the amount is \$18,720. VCU staff requests and recommends that the Board approve the correct amount of \$18,720. Jeff Lamb made a motion to approve the stated amount of \$18,720 for the Park Well Groundwater Flow Monitoring Assessment. Rod Gayda seconded the motion, and the remaining members approved the motion.

➤ **US 30 & Thornapple - CIPP Liner Request**

- Matt Zurbriggen presented that the sanitary sewer line under US Hwy 30 at Thornapple has a hole in the line. VCU staff have reached out to CIPP lining contractors for quotes to repair. Three quotes were obtained for this work. The Insight Pipe contractor with a quote of \$14,628.00 stated they cannot CIPP line the sewer without a spot repair to the potential hole in the line. The spot repair includes closing US Hwy 30 and an amount of unknown additional costs. Inliner Solutions with a quote of \$29,510.00 stated the sewer can be lined without any unknown additional costs. VCU staff requests that the VCU Board approve the quote from Inliner Solutions for the CIPP liner in the amount of \$29,510.00. Rod Gayda made a motion to approve the quote from Inliner Solutions for the CIPP liner in the amount of \$29,510.00. Jeff Lamb seconded the motion, and the remaining members approved the motion.

- Insight Pipe Contractors:	\$14,628.00
- Inliner Solutions:	\$29,510.00
- InsituForm:	\$44,031.37

➤ **Parcel A Test Well Request**

- Matt Zurbriggen presented a contract for drilling a 6-inch test well and for water quality testing at the Parcel A Property. VCS received a proposal from Peerless Midwest for the drilling and testing of the test well in the amount of \$32,045. After coordination with Peerless Midwest, internal VCS staff, and our consultant Arcadis, we recommend approval of this contract with Peerless Midwest for \$32,045 for the drilling and testing of the Parcel A test well. Kari Bennett made a motion to approval the contract with Peerless Midwest for \$32,045 for the drilling and testing of the Parcel A test well . Rod Gayda seconded the motion, and the remaining members approved the motion.

**Staff Reports:**

- Matt Zurbruggen presented on the Bond Project with a PowerPoint update on the following areas: Blower Building, East Digester lid placement completed, Airport Water Treatment Plant upgrades, Sturdy Road Forcemain upgrades, and a Financial Update.

**Next Board Meeting:**

**January 27, 2026**

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President

Secretary