

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LAVALE SANITARY COMMISSION
MARCH 12, 2026

The regular meeting of the Commissioners of the LaVale Sanitary Commission was held at the Commission's office in LaVale, Maryland on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 9:00 AM.

Chairman Gehauf, Commissioners George, McKenzie, Hensel and Young were in attendance. Director of Operations Wendt and Maintenance Supervisor Emerick were also in attendance.

Chairman Gehauf called the meeting to order and stated the minutes of the meeting of February 12, 2026, had been mailed to the Commissioners. Commissioner Young moved that the minutes be approved. Commissioner George seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Chairman Gehauf asked Mr. Emerick for the maintenance report.

Mr. Emerick stated Commission personnel had worked with Belt Construction to do the final four tie ins for the new water distribution system. He stated it was a difficult night, but all four tie ins were completed by 8:00 AM. He went on to say that the new system was in service and the only remaining work was restoration work. He stated he was working with the inspector to develop a punch list for the project.

Mr. Emerick reported he had been out for a week, and Commission personnel had completed the meter reading cycle. He went on to say that because of the extreme cold the reading cycle had taken longer than usual.

Mr. Emerick reported Commission personnel had located a leak in Zone 8 at 307 Sunset Drive. He stated Commission personnel had replaced the service line to the property and installed a new outside meter.

Mr. Emerick then briefed the Commission on two upcoming jobs. He stated the right of way from Ramblewood Drive to New York Avenue had been cleared for the waterline replacement. Discussion followed concerning the project.

Mr. Emerick then briefed the Commission on the Stoney Brook Drive project. He stated Commission had begun work outside the paved area and were installing a new four inch main. He went on to say that once the asphalt plants open, he could complete the rest of the line replacement.

Mr. Emerick then briefed the Commission on repairs done on Trescher Heights Drive. He stated that Commission personnel had installed two outside meters and a main line valve. He stated the project replaced galvanized lines and fittings and old wheel valves. Discussion followed concerning the project.

Mr. Wendt then presented the Commission with copies of the Water, Sewer, and Revenue reports for February 2026.

During January 2026, lost water was 75,399 gallons per day.

During February 2026, lost water was 83,086 gallons per day.

Zone 1 Lost	4,879 Gallons per day	Zone 2 Lost	2,718 Gallons per day
Zone 3 Lost	5,957 Gallons per day	Zone 4 Lost	22,805 Gallons per day
Zone 5 Lost	20,259 Gallons per day	Zone 5A Lost	0 Gallons per day
Zone 6 Lost	0 Gallons per day	Zone 7 Lost	17,334 Gallons per day
Zone 8 Lost	14,106 Gallons per day		

Discussion continued concerning the reports.

Under the heading of Active Construction Projects, Mr. Wendt then briefed the Commission on the status of the gravity sewer portion of the project. He stated the control panel for the overflow valve had been delivered and was scheduled to be installed on March 16, 2026. He went on to say once the installation and testing was complete the bypass to gravity could be completed and the pump station taken offline. Discussion followed concerning the pump station and the process of taking it offline.

Mr. Wendt opened a discussion on the Winchester Road Water project.

As of 01/20/2026

17,141 feet of main line installed. 94% of work completed.

\$3,297,701.00 in pay requests. 81% of the money expended.

Updated numbers will be available following the next progress meeting.

Mr. Wendt stated the job was complete except for the restoration. He stated he anticipated the asphalt plants to be opened mid-April and the restoration was scheduled to start soon after. Discussion continued concerning the project specifically about the restoration of asphalt on state roads. Mr. Wendt stated representatives from the pipe manufacturer were in and there was no resolution to the pipe deformations issues.

Mr. Wendt briefed the Commission on the status of the SCADA system upgrade. He stated Valley Automation had installed the new system at Red Hill, and it had been in operation for the last couple of months with a few issues that had been corrected. He went on to say that Phase 2 had begun and was proceeding. He stated he had issues with the sim cards for the new routers. Discussion followed concerning the project.

Under the heading of Communications, Mr. Wendt opened discussion on a master meter for the Harbor Freight plaza. He stated it was the last strip mall in LaVale that did not have a master meter and Commission personnel had documented illegal unmetered taps within the plaza. Mr. Emerick presented the Commission with a proposal from LB Water for a master meter vault for the property. The cost of the vault was approximately \$28,500.00. Commission personnel would install the vault. Discussion followed concerning the project. Commissioner Young moved the vault be purchased and installed by Commission personnel. Commissioner Hensel seconded and it was unanimously carried.


Mr. Wendt presented the Commission with copies of a sewer credit request for 517 National Highway. Mr. Emerick stated he had been on site and verified the leaked water did not enter the sewer system. The amount of the credit was \$326.94. Commissioner McKenzie moved the credit be approved. Commissioner Young seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Wendt then opened discussion on the Advalorum Tax for the upcoming year. He stated he and Commissioner George had discussed the rate. Commissioner George presented the Commission with a spreadsheet showing calculations for the new rate. After discussion Commissioner Young moved the rate remain the same as the previous year, Commissioner George seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Under the heading of Old Business, Chairman Gehauf opened discussion on the recent presentation by Jason Pepe of Stiefel Investments. Discussion followed concerning the investment strategy since the fund was moved from LPL Financial.

Mr. Wendt then presented the Commission with a copy for the approved Drinking Water Loan Fund Intended Use Plan. He stated the City of Cumberland had been approved for a 56-million-dollar loan to upgrade the water treatment plant. Extensive discussion followed concerning the loan and how it would impact water rates going forward.

Chairman Gehauf moved the public meeting be closed. Commissioner Young seconded and it was unanimously carried. The public meeting was closed at 10:30 AM.


Chairman


Secretary-Treasurer