

MINUTES  
NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
MARCH 5, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Darnell Brown.

I. Roll Call

Present: Darnell Brown  
Timothy DeGeeter  
Ronald Sulik  
Samuel Alai  
Jack Bacci  
Sharon Dumas  
Marjorie Chambers

The Secretary informed the President that a quorum was in attendance.

II. Approval of Minutes

**MOTION** – Mayor Bacci moved, and Ms. Chambers seconded, to approve the Minutes of the February 19, 2026 Board Meeting. Without objection, the motion carried unanimously.

I. Public Session

There were no items.

II. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, Chief Executive Officer, advised the Board of Trustees that coming into the new year, NEORS staff are meeting with the new mayors and township trustees in the service area. On February 19<sup>th</sup>, Francisco Rivera, Watershed Team Leader, Matt Scharver, Director of Watershed Programs, and Ms. Dreyfuss-Wells met with Jim Petras, Cleveland Heights Mayor, Josie Moore, Special Assistant to the Mayor, and Michael Reese, City Administrator, to discuss the relationship between NEORS and its member communities for stormwater management and wastewater treatment. Additionally, there was discussion regarding projects that NEORS has performed in the City of Cleveland Heights under the Member Community Infrastructure Program (MCIP) and the Community Cost-Share dollars under the Regional Stormwater Management Program (RSMP), as well as upcoming public outreach regarding the Doan Brook Restoration at Horseshoe Park project this year.

On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, NEORSD met with Mayor Sandra Morgan of East Cleveland to discuss the City's projects under the MCIP and RSMP, as well as the three large scale green infrastructure projects in the City built under Project Clean Lake. Also in attendance were City of East Cleveland representatives Kamla Lewis, Director of Economic and Community Development, Lynn-Ann Gries, Financial Director, as well as their City Engineer Josh Slaga.

There will be future meetings with the new leadership from Oakwood Village, University Heights, Mayfield Heights, Olmsted Township, and Olmsted Falls. Ms. Dreyfuss-Wells thanked Donna Friedman, Manager of Community Watershed Coordination, and her team for organizing these meetings.

During the week of February 23<sup>rd</sup>, NEORSD's Organizational Development and Engagement team hosted a series of gallery walks to honor and celebrate Black History Month at each of the five facilities, during which 159 employees interacted with 14 storyboards, videos and games to learn about important Black figures in American history, and Black Clevelanders, in particular. This event is one example of the ways that NEORSD honors and recognizes various cultures and peoples throughout the year. Employee feedback was very positive with staff complimenting the new format. Ms. Dreyfuss-Wells thanked Karrah Spencer, Organizational Development and Engagement Specialist, and the communications team for designing and executing this event, and the format that will be used for other events throughout the year.

### Action Items

#### Authorization to Issue Request for Proposal

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| Resolution No. 30-26 | Authorization to issue an RFP, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 6119, for a professional services agreement for support services for Automation Controls.                      |
| Resolution No. 31-26 | Authorization to issue an RFP, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 6119, for professional services for the Kahua Application Enhancements project.                                |
| Resolution No. 32-26 | Authorization to issue an RFP, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 153, for a professional services agreement for General Engineering Services – Wastewater Collections (GES-18). |

**MOTION** – Mr. Sulik moved, and Ms. Chambers seconded to adopt Resolution Nos. 30-26 through 32-26. After the following discussion, without objection, the motion carried unanimously.

President Brown requested additional information regarding Resolution No. 32-26. Robin Rupe, Director of Engineering and Construction, explained that this Resolution is related to the second

contract for which NEORSD is looking to issue a request for proposals, that focuses primarily on the collections system. The reason for these task-based contracts is that they are more cost effective and allow for NEORSD to authorize consultants to begin services in a short timeframe. The process has been streamlined through various administrative tools that keep the processes moving efficiently. This has been the most efficient method of engaging vendors for subspecialty services and on-call support services.

During the last GES project for collections systems, NEORSD engaged 1 primary consultant and 18 other consultants and teams to support initiatives. One example of a task performed under the existing contract was the design of one of the drop shafts in the Mill Creek system. This new contract will be a three-year proposed timeframe or when the associated \$3 million is spent.

#### Authorization to Amend Agreement

Resolution No. 33-26

Authorization to amend Project Agreement No. 3859 with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority to increase the District's in-kind contribution of habitat restoration projects previously authorized under the Regional Stormwater Management Program from \$1,122,000.00 to \$3,098,000.00 as in-kind credit toward a 35% non-federal sponsor match requirement toward the total cost of the Feasibility Study and Remedial Design for those parties' Cuyahoga River Old Channel project, all with no further monetary cost to the District.

**MOTION** – Ms. Dumas moved, and Mayor Bacci seconded to adopt Resolution No. 33-26. After the following discussion, without objection, the motion carried unanimously.

President Brown requested additional information regarding the project associated with this Resolution. Matt Scharver, Director of Watershed Programs, explained that NEORSD's role in the project is small, as it is a U.S. EPA and Cleveland Cuyahoga Port Authority project to execute dredge removal of sediment from the Cuyahoga River Old Channel. Mr. Scharver provided photographs of the project area and explained that there are approximately 160,000 cubic yards of sediment to be removed from the Channel.

The agencies are performing the project under the direction of the U.S. EPA's Great Lakes National Program Office. NEORSD's role in the project is providing the required 35% local match funding. Under the RSMP, NEORSD initially dedicated over \$1 million to the project. Further analysis of the project area has identified additional instability, which will require more investigative and design activities. NEORSD has been asked to increase its in-kind contribution to nearly \$3.1 million. NEORSD has more than \$30 million of such funding available to match toward this project and will return to the Board to request an increased amount in the future for construction fund match. The

dredging is scheduled to begin in 2028. There will be a construction agreement request and NEORSD has positioned approximately \$4 million to support the construction effort.

Mr. Scharver provided additional photos of the project area and explained that some of the sediment will be deposited at the grave dock where ship repair used to be performed, and the remainder will be sent to a confined disposal facility cell (CDF) near Burke Lakefront Airport. President Brown asked if the CDF is still being used for that purpose. Mr. Scharver responded affirmatively.

President Brown asked if there is an issue with the bulkheads in the project area. Mr. Scharver answered affirmatively and explained that the bulkheads along the dock areas, particularly on the southern side, are problematic. The channel needs to be 21 feet deep and there will need to be additional assessments to ensure the proper design.

This project area is important for the Cuyahoga Area of Concern and will help to address beneficial use impairments. There are approximately 40 different fish species that use the lower Cuyahoga River and the Old River Channel as a respite area, so removing the sediment from the area is a benefit to fish consumption advisories and recreational use on Lake Erie.

Authorization to Close Out Public Improvement Contract

Resolution No. 34-26                      Authorization to close out Public Improvement Contract No. 25006927 with Markley's Precision Company for the Sludge Cake Storage Bin #3 Interior Restoration project at the Southerly Renewable Energy Facility, to decrease the contract amount by \$8,600.00, thereby bringing the total contract amount to \$86,000.00.

Resolution No. 35-26                      Authorization to close out Public Improvement Contract No. 25003619 with Ohio Machinery Co. dba Ohio CAT for EMSC Generator Radiator Replacement Services, to decrease the contract amount by \$10,000.00, thereby bringing the total contract amount to \$165,000.00.

**MOTION** – Ms. Chambers moved, and Mayor Alai seconded to adopt Resolution Nos. 34-26 through 35-26. Without objection, the motion carried unanimously.

Authorization to Amend Resolution

Resolution No. 26a-26                      Authorization to amend Resolution No. 26-26, adopted February 19, 2026, approving the assignment of Agreement No. 25001233 from SCT Operations, Inc. to Health Express Urgent Care, LLC (Health Express) for occupational health services, to correct the vendor's name from Health Express Urgent Care, LLC to Health Express Urgent Care Centers, LLC.

**MOTION** – Mr. Sulik moved, and Ms. Chambers seconded to adopt Resolution No. 26a-26. Without objection, the motion carried unanimously.

Information Items

There were no items.

III.    Open Session

There were no items.

IV.    Public Session (any subject matter)

There were no items.

V.     Executive Session

There were no items.

VI.    Approval of Items from Executive Session

There were no items.


VII. Adjournment

**MOTION** – President Brown stated business having been concluded, he would entertain a motion to adjourn. Mayor Bacci moved, and Ms. Dumas seconded the motion to adjourn at 12:50 p.m. Without objection, the motion carried unanimously.



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Timothy J. DeGeeter, Secretary  
Board of Trustees  
Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District



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Darnell Brown, President  
Board of Trustees  
Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District