



**Pikes Bay Sanitary District**

**Strategic Planning Process 2021 - 2025**

**Approved December 7, 2020**

**Created by Committee of the Pikes Bay Sanitary District  
With the assistance of consulting services from Kevin K. Stranberg  
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# Background

The Pike's Bay Sanitary District (PBSD) represents about 20% of the land area of Bayfield Township. The PBSD is governed by five Commissioners who are popularly elected and charged with governing on behalf of the Town residents who are included in the PBSD area.

The PBSD provides facilities for the collection of sewerage for a part of the district by providing collection piping, manholes, and lift stations in the District. Not all of the area of the District is provided with service from PBSD.

The waste generated in the PBSD, and from the City of Bayfield, is piped to a state-of-the-art treatment facility (the Greater Bayfield Waste Water Treatment Plant or GBWWTP) located in the Township. The GBWWTP facility is owned and operated by the Greater Bayfield Waste Water Treatment Plant Commission. The GBWWTPC is comprised of three representatives from the PBSD (the PBSD Commissioners) and three representatives from the City of Bayfield. This relationship is defined and operated under the Intermunicipal Agreement between the City of Bayfield and PBSD.

In the early 1970's, a joint sanitary waste processing plant was created to serve the Pure Air Sanatorium and the real estate development at Port Superior Marina. The plant was owned by Ashland, Bayfield and Douglas Counties and administered by Bayfield County. The joint operation continued until the early 1980 when the sanatorium was put up for sale. At that point, Port Superior continued to operate the plant and appealed to the Town of Bayfield to create a municipal sanitary District. A new municipal sanitary district was established (Pike's Bay Sanitary District) in 1980 and took over the operation of the existing facilities. Operations continued through the 1990's with the existing plant easily handling the needs of Port Superior Marina, Pike's Bay Marina, Brookside Cottages, Port Superior Condos, Waterford Condo Assn. Chequamegon Rd. residences and Wild Rice Restaurant.

In the early 2000's, the City of Bayfield was exploring options for replacing their treatment plant in Bayfield, in order to comply with regulations. The City approached Red Cliff to build a cooperative facility and were rejected. They then reached out to PBSD for financial assistance. The PBSD Board and Town of Bayfield Board supported an effort to combine the treatment portion of their respective sewerage systems. This was done in spite of PBSD rate payer resistance. It was agreed that PBSD would be responsible for 18% of the construction costs of the Greater Bayfield Waste Water Treatment Plant (GBWWTP) based on a study conducted by Strand Engineering showing expansion in the PBSD significantly higher than the City. In order to finance the facility through a loan from Wisconsin Clean Water Fund, it was necessary to increase the taxable value of PBSD. It was understood that the taxable property in the District would pay for the new GBWWTP facility and it's maintenance over the life of the plant. The District included areas which would not receive sewer services for 20 or more years, if at all. Since 2006 there have been two requests to the Town Board to expand the District. Both have been rejected including a request to include all of the Town of Bayfield.

The GBWWTP was completed in 2006. Since then a number of studies have been commissioned to explore areas that could be affordably served within the District and three projects executed. The "Trailer Court Road Expansion," was completed in 2009, and included area residents, a campground operation, and a 24-unit mobile home park. The second expansion was acceptance by the PBSD of ownership of a private lateral running under the Brownstone Trail for ¼ mile south from the Seagull Inn. In 2015 the Trailer Court Road line was extended to serve parcels on Old Orchard Lane. More recent studies have included the "County Road J," "Golf Course Area," "Blue Wing Bay Area," and "Hwy 13/Ski Hill Rd Extension".

## **MISSION, VISION AND VALUES**

### ***PBSD MISSION***

To provide safe and efficient sanitary services to our district with a primary goal of protecting Lake Superior.

### ***PBSD VISION***

Collaborative work with key stakeholders to assure that Pike's Bay Sanitation District remains viable.

### ***PBSD VALUES***

Our efforts are guided by our belief in and commitment to clean water, collaboration, sustainability, fiscal responsibility and innovation.

#### Clean water

We endorse effective wastewater treatment for District residents as a steward of the largest freshwater lake in the world.

#### Collaboration

We work cooperatively with key stakeholders, including District residents, the Town of Bayfield, City of Bayfield, Bayfield County Zoning, DNR and GBWWTPC.

#### Growth

We support current services while fostering strategic expansion

#### Fiscal Responsibility

We promote the planned and prudent use of funds and resources.

#### Innovation

We support the use of new ideas, technology and methods.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2021 – 2025

### SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Develop a time-sensitive plan for correction of failed or failing private systems. Champion: Rex Dollinger

1. Identify the responsibility of the PBSD and the Bayfield County Zoning Commission in monitoring and enforcing the treatment of waste at all locations within the PBSD date 3/1/21
2. Determine the expectations of Zoning and the DNR in regards to collection systems vs. on site processing systems and holding tank regulations. 3/1/21
3. Review and evaluate the existing data base on residential local waste treatment systems in the Bayfield Co. Zoning 4/1/21
4. Identify the existing Bayfield Zoning data on PBSD sites and develop a map showing existing residences, types of local systems, status of the system, and any action passing as a result of the inspection by the "haulers" 7/1/21
5. Continue to study the best and most economical methods of collecting waste from areas not previously studied for this purpose. A side activity may be soliciting additional grants which could help pay for studies and construction. 12/31/21

Promote operational efficiencies focused on policies, procedures and guidelines for commissioners. Champion: Carol Fahrenkrog

1. Identify physical district needs - example: storage building (3/1/2021)
2. Review and implement efficiencies to the district policies and procedures (9/1/2021)
3. Create an index and guide document to policies, procedures and commissioner guidelines (5/1/2021)

Solidify a financially sustainable plan including budgeting guidelines, a maintenance reserve, and expansion of funding options. Champion: Levi Leafblad

1. Develop multi-year budget 9/30/21
2. Identify priority list of forecasted repairs, maintenance and equipment needs in conjunction with operations and engineering goals 3/30/21
3. Identify any and all potential funding sources, i.e. taxes, service rates, grants, loans and assessments 12/31/21
4. Identify and contact peer sanitary municipalities and state departments to compare budgets, financial statistics and ratios, i.e. appropriate maintenance reserve levels. 6/30/21

Build partnerships with community entities and individuals, specifically GBWWTPC, the Town of Bayfield and the City of Bayfield to keep the area strong and connected. Champion: Pam Brindley

1. Launch Facebook page (2/1/21)
  - a. Post Mission Statement
  - b. Current Projects
  - c. Environmental Impact
2. Develop Newsletter to community entities (3/1/21 – published semi-annually)
  - a. Township of Bayfield
  - b. City of Bayfield
  - c. GBWWTPC
  - d. Chamber of Commerce
3. Post notices about committee positions. (As needed)
4. Encourage board members to connect with individuals and asking them to serve. (As needed)