

My name is Steve Myers,

Issue #1:

On April 10, 2024, the Green Valley Sanitary District board President Jason Reitz, Secretary Lorretta Jangula, Treasure / Vice-president Scott Mohr and newly appointed Trustee Val Lewton went into executive session without citing a codified law or qualifying for executive session. They did this with GVSD attorney Erica Olson present.

The agenda says, "Discuss complaint by Steve Myers." Agendas are not read to the public before or after approval. This one could be read online 2 days before the meeting, if you have a computer and know where to go.

<https://www.rapidvalleysanitarydistrict.com/documents/1847/4-24-GREEN-VALLEY-SANITARY-DISTRICT-MEETING-AGENDA-final.pdf>

SDCL1-25-2 Executive or closed meetings may be held for the sole purposes of:

"Discussing a complaint" does not fall under any of those purposes. Not even #3. The OMC is not a judicial body. It is an administrative commission.

In the publication, **Conducting the Public's Business in Public**, the question is--What is the proper procedure for executive sessions? Their answer is-- "Motions for executive sessions must refer to the specific state or federal law allowing for the executive session." It goes on to say, "Also, best practice to avoid public confusion would be that public bodies explain the reason for going into executive session."

I've attached the audio for that portion of the meeting, labeled "**4-10-2024 Executive Session**" that tells us the truth of what happened.

Jason struggled. GVSD board Attorney Erica Olson had to advise, 5 year 7-month President, Jason Reitz that he needed a motion to go into executive session. At no time did she advise that the motion needed to include a state law or a reason for going into executive session.

November of last year, the South Dakota Open Meeting Commission found that Bennett County was in violation of the same open-meetings law.

<https://southdakotasearchlight.com/2024/11/18/relaunched-open-meetings-commission-finds-violations-in-five-of-six-cases/>

The Open Meetings Commission ruled that [a complaint](#) against the Bennett County Board of Commissioners was a violation of open-meetings laws.

That was the first complaint involving the Bennett County Board of Commissioners. [Another](#) called out the board's failure to properly move into an executive session during a February 2023 meeting. The commissioners failed to cite the specific law authorizing the closed session and failed to obtain a second for the motion to enter the executive session. That was determined by the Open Meetings Commission to be a [violation of state law](#).

Issue #2

On May 8, 2024, at the monthly Green Valley Sanitary District meeting, board President Scott Mohr and Vice President/Treasure Val Lewton stopped me recording the public meeting.

SDCL 1-25-11 Says I can record a public meeting.

As I did at the beginning of the previous meeting, I held my recorder up to show it and let everyone know that I am recording. I also told the person to my right that I am recording. This recorder was in plain sight in front of me on the table, 5' from the treasure and 6' from the president.

On August 27, 2025, I emailed Attorney Ty Daly asking for access to the recording of the minutes for that May 8, 2024, meeting. I did receive those minutes on September 2, 2025. I have attached the first 10 minutes of that recording, labeled "**First 10 minutes.**"

You can hear how argumentative and dysfunctional the meeting is and the disruptions that came from other than me, including board members, especially Val Lewton.

I expressed my objection to the Secretary's misquoting me in past minutes of meetings. At approximately 7 ½ minutes I told the board that I'm recording too. Next you hear Val Lewton ask, "Did you get everyone's permission to record?"

At approximately 8 minutes Scott says, "All it takes is one opposed and you're in violation of their rights." Someone asked where he went to law school? Val replied, "That's what our attorney says."

At approximately 8 ½ minutes Scott looked right at me and said, "Do we need to adjourn the meeting right now?" I stopped recording and put my recorder in my shirt pocket but continued to argue my objection of the mis-quotes.

Just over 9 minutes in, GVSD resident, Julaine Jager had googled the question of recording a public meeting and stood up and read the answer. Val argues and says, "You're not correct."

I've also attached a recording of Commissioner **Travis Lasseter** asking the board if they stopped anyone from recording a meeting. You can hear Scott Mohr say, "I did."

Yes, there were disruptions to the meeting. There would not have been as many if the board hadn't insisted that I stop doing something that I have the legal right to do.

Thank you,

Steve Myers

October 15, 2025



From: Pamela Kammerer <cowgirlnfa@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 3:07 PM
To: march18th@rap.midco.net
Subject: Audio recording May 8th 2024

To whom it may concern, and Ty M. Daly,

In regards to SD open meetings commission in the matter of open meetings complaint 2025-04, green valley sanitary district -Pennington County, Issue 2:

There was no video recording only an audio recording that was in question. At one point after the meeting was called to order by Scott Mohr he stated that Steve Meyer could not record the meeting, he was visibly agitated and rude in his delivery. This created much disruption as people in the audience disagreed with Mr. Mohr. One woman even read From the internet about such recording of public meetings and she was ignored. The secretary (Val Lewton) was also agreeing with Scott and talking over people. Many in the audience were verbal. The meeting was out of control. The board and Scott were all visibly angered and making rude comments. The audience was angry as well. Scott's soul purpose for stopping the meeting was to stop Steve from recording period. Steve had recorded meetings in the past and would remind the board that he had said recordings when they would try to back track or change what had been said in the past. I think Scott was trying to silence Steve and not have himself contradicted. I my opinion this entire board is a joke and should step down. They are very frustrated by being asked to be accountable, of which they are not.

I also reject the notion that the board was avoiding a violation of the law. There was never and apology from the Trustees.

Sincerely,

Pamela Kammerer
Concerned citizen

From: Julaine Jager <jjsd1237@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 6:49 PM
To: March18th
Cc: Julaine Jager
Subject: May 8, 2024 no record -Scott

I, Julaine Jager attended the May 8, 2024 meeting. This is what occurred.

During the meeting Steve Meyer stated he was recording. Scott and Val stated to Steve that you can not record the meeting and announced to the whole room. Scott said to Steve "stop recording." Steve said "I am going to record cause I can and its a public meeting." Scott then stated " you need to stop the recording or I will stop the meeting". Steve stopped the recording. I thought well lets see what the rule is so I googled on my phone cause everyone seemed unclear on the issue. I spoke up and said "it says we can record." I thought in all fairness state the fact. Scott and Val stated no you can't harshly. I thought we'll ok this is how it goes at these meetings. Seems to always be strife. I said nothing more that state the fact.

This is my testimony of what I experienced at the May 8, 2024 water meeting.

Julaine Jager

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

May 3, 2025

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing this letter about my recollection of the May 8, 2024 Green Valley Sanitary District meeting and the recording of meetings.

Scott said he was now going to be recording the meetings. Steve Myers said he was also recording the meeting. Scott told him he could not be recording, because that was not legal. A heated discussion went back and forth. At the end of that discussion Steve said I have shut my recording off, and I do believe he put the recorder in his shirt pocket.

The meeting then proceeded.

Sandy Staples
6830 Green Dr
Rapid City, SD
57703

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To whom it may concern:

I have attended almost all the scheduled monthly RUSD meetings, and yes, there have been numerous disruptions in most of these meetings. The disruptions are not caused by Steve Meyers. Mr Meyers signs up to speak and when he does, if he brings up something the board doesn't like, or is caught in lies on, or that the board cannot do legally, the board does the disruption by telling him to shut up, and sit down. The comments are being caused by normally 2 board members, Scott and Val.

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When the district commissioner attended the meeting, he questioned Scott about not allowing the public and/or Steve to record the meetings.

Scott told him he did say that. Scott did say at that point he would check into it.

There are recordings of all minutes of the meetings, I strongly request that people review these monthly recordings to hear first hand who is doing and saying what. The residents are being bullied and lied to.

There are only a handful of people that stand up and inform the board of their documented proof of their lies and the board does not like them.

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Scott and Val even criticize Steve Meyers to the public when Steve is not at the meetings with comments such as:

You can thank Steve Meyers for the high attorney fees that you all pay for, again, listen to your recordings. Once again, who is causing distractions or commotions.

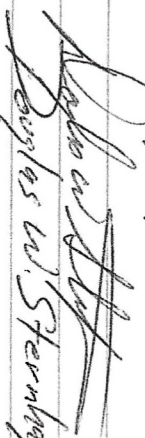
On the last official meeting, the entire board turned in their resignation letters. First Scott threw his in front on the floor and told the residents off as he walked out.

A minute or two later, Loretta threw hers on the floor and also told the residents off.

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About 5 minutes later Val threw hers on the floor and told all residents to F___ off numerous times.

The actions are not acceptable and all the lies and bullying must end.


Douglas M. Sternberger