

**PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING OF
THE METRO EAST SANITARY DISTRICT, ST.
CLAIR AND MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2016 AT 1800
EDISON AVENUE, GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS AT
9:00 A.M.**

President Pennekamp called the Public Hearing to order and the Deputy Clerk recorded the attendance.

The following was the attendance:

Present: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.
Absent: None.

Attending the meeting were Executive Director Bob Shipley, Attorney George Filcoff, Attorney Larry Calvo, Superintendent John Maeras, Cindy Worthen acting as Deputy Clerk, Treasurer Ken Davis and Roger Morthland.

President Pennekamp presented the Budget and Annual Appropriation to defray the necessary and ordinary expenses of the Metro East Sanitary District for the Fiscal Year 2016, beginning on the first day of January 2016 and ending on the thirty-first day of December 2016.

There being no one present for the Public Hearing, President Pennekamp asked that the Public Hearing be closed.

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Hanfelder to close the Public Hearing at 9:03 A.M.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

President Pennekamp called the regular meeting to order and the Deputy Clerk recorded the attendance.

The following was the attendance:

Present: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Absent: None.

Attending the meeting were Executive Director Bob Shipley, Attorney George Filcoff, Attorney Larry Calvo, Superintendent John Maeras, Deputy Clerk Cindy Worthen, Treasurer Ken Davis and Roger Morthland.

BUDGET AND ANNUAL APPROPRIATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016:

An Ordinance concerning the Budget and Annual Appropriation to defray the necessary and ordinary expenses of the Metro East Sanitary District, of St. Clair and Madison Counties, in the State of Illinois, for the Fiscal Year 2016, beginning on the first day of January 2016 and ending on the thirty-first day of December 2016 was presented. Ordinance Number 2016-0-002 was assigned to this document.

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner McCall to adopt Ordinance Number 2016-0-002 concerning the Budget and Annual Appropriation to defray the necessary and ordinary expenses of the Metro East Sanitary District, of St. Clair and Madison Counties, in the State of Illinois, for the Fiscal Year 2016, beginning on the first day of January 2016 and ending on the thirty-first day of December 2016 was presented.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

President Pennekamp commented that the budget is at a net loss and the financial situation is critical. I would like to submit to the Board in good faith a hiring freeze.

Superintendent Maeras stated, "I need to hire part-time employees for the pump stations when they are in operation."

President Pennekamp said the Board needs to determine when additional employees are needed.

Commissioner Hanfelder asked, "Why can't we use our regular employees to fill the pump stations?"

Superintendent Maeras responded, "It is too costly, because of the overtime pay. The part-time employees are paid a lower hourly rate and lessen the amount of overtime hours.

The river is currently at 25' and we may need to open the pump stations this Sunday."

Commissioner Hanfelder, "How many men are needed to fill the pump stations?"

Superintendent Maeras answered that he needs 18 men to fill 4 pump stations. He currently has 16 total employees including the secretary.

President Pennekamp asked, "What determines how many employees are hired?"

Executive Director Shipley explained that the river stage determines the number of employees hired and the length of service. The budget includes additional man hours to work the pump stations.

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner McCall that no new employees will be hired, unless the Mississippi River reaches a river stage of eighteen feet or higher and at that time temporary employees can be hired to man the pump stations while the river is high.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Nays: Commissioner Laub.

Absent: None.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Executive Director Shipley presented his report:

Executive Director Shipley, “I will be happy to answer any questions regarding my report.”

Commissioner Hanfelder asked, “Has the flow to the Granite City Regional Treatment Plant gone down since the river has gone down?”

Executive Director Shipley responded, “It is good until it rains. The storm water from the Villages of Caseyville and Washington Park enter the sewer line every time it rains.”

Commissioner Hanfelder asked, “Can the District mail letters to the villages to make them aware of the problem, and possibly fine them for emptying storm water into the sewer system.”

President Pennekamp, “The questions is, are there funds within the villages and cities to pay for the storm water? State Legislators might support the villages and cities in this type of situation. The letter needs to say that the District will work with the cities or villages to resolve the problem.”

Executive Director Shipley, “ We will schedule meetings with the Mayors of each entity to discuss storm water filtering into the sewer lines and the expense of treatment.”

REPORT OF LANSDOWNE OFFICE MANAGER:

Mr. Morthland reported:

1. Illinois American Water Company will be disconnecting water from several homes this week, due to past due sewage treatment bills.
2. Past due letters are continuing to be mailed.

3. The District is receiving payments on past due accounts from the State of Illinois' Local Debt Recovery Program.
4. March billing was printed and mailed successfully.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the February 17, 2016 meeting were presented for approval:

Motion Commissioner Hanfelder; seconded Commissioner Laub to dispense with the reading of the minutes, approve them as submitted and place them on file.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

GENERAL FUND CLAIMS:

The General Fund Claims and Specific Claims for the month of February 2016 were submitted for approval:

March 9, 2016

Page 7 of 14

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Laub to approve the General Fund Claims and Specific Claims for the month of February 2016 as submitted and order them paid.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

The Various Specific Claims for the month of February 2016 were submitted for review:

March 9, 2016

Page **8** of **14**

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Hanfelder to accept the Various Specific Claims for the month of February 2016 as submitted:

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

LANSDOWNE CLAIMS & SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims for the month of February 2016 were submitted for approval:

March 9, 2016

Page 9 of 14

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner McCall to approve the Lansdowne Treatment Plant Claims and Specific Claims for the month of February 2016 as submitted and order them paid.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The General Fund, Specific Funds and Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of February 2016 were submitted for approval:

March 9, 2016

Page 10 of 14

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the General Fund, Specific Funds and Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of February 2016 as submitted and place them on file for audit.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

LANSDOWNE REPORT:

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were submitted for approval:

March 9, 2016

Page **11** of **14**

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner McCall to approve the Lansdowne Adjustment Reports as submitted.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

PAYROLLS:

The Payrolls for the periods of January 31, 2016 through February 13, 2016 and February 14, 2016 through February 27, 2016 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Payrolls as submitted.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

REPORT OF ATTORNEYS:

Attorney Filcoff reported:

1. Working with Superintendent Greathouse concerning IDOT and problems concerning flooding around Lansdowne Pump Station.
2. Reviewing expired Ordinances.
3. Working on Union contracts with Attorney Calvo.

Attorney Calvo reported, "Later today, I have meetings scheduled with the Operating Engineers Union and both Teamsters Unions to negotiate the new contracts."

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Superintendent Maeras presented a report and quote from Illinois Electric Works regarding the repairs to the 400 HP, 441 RPM, Fairbanks Morse vertical pump motor at the South Pump Station:

President Pennekamp asked, "Superintendent Maeras, your report lists additional costs to repair the stator for \$27,300.00, does that also need to be repaired?"

Superintendent Maeras responded, "Yes, something hit the shaft. I cannot explain how the pump was damaged because the pump is still underwater. We will review the cause of the damage once the water goes down. If the river goes up, this pump runs 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Hanfelder to declare the repairs to the 400 HP, 441 RPM, Fairbanks Morse vertical pump motor at the South Pump Station an emergency and authorize Illinois Electric Works to repair the pump motor, rewind the stator and repair the stator core hot spots for a total cost of Forty-six thousand, one hundred forty dollars (\$46,140.00).

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

President Pennekamp, "Some of the tort liability certificates of deposit are expiring soon. Can we get a legal opinion as to what constitutes work on the levee system, and can tort liability funds be used for that purpose? What specifically stipulates emergency? We need a good definition to determine what tort money can be used for."

Attorney Filcoff replied, "This needs to be discussed because of definitions and liabilities that may occur."

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

March 9, 2016

Page **14** of **14**

There being no further business, Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded
Commissioner Laub to adjourn.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hanfelder, Laub, McCall, Darwin and Pennekamp.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

So adjourned at 9:35 A.M.

Deputy Clerk