

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE METRO EAST
SANITARY DISTRICT, ST. CLAIR AND MADISON
COUNTIES, ILLINOIS HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
JULY 11, 2018 AT 1800 EDISON AVENUE,
GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS AT 8:00 A.M.**

President Brinza called the meeting to order and the Clerk recorded the attendance.

The following was the attendance:

Present: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Sawicki and Dixon

Absent:

Metro East Sanitary District employees attending the meeting were Executive Director Stephen Adler, Attorney James Craney, Attorney Larry Calvo, Superintendent Randy Presswood, Superintendent Rick Fancher, Deputy Superintendent Cedric Irby, Foreman Scott Hillman and Lansdowne Office Manager Cindy Worthen.

Also, attending the meeting were Charlie Juneau representing Juneau Associates, Kathy Goclan and Frank Dorris.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Executive Director Adler reported:

We have a meeting later today with the Granite City Treatment plant Board. Commissioner Sawicki and I have worked very hard on getting a proposal we could live with this quarter.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is scheduled our levee inspections for August 15, 2018. We did not have an inspection last year, so we are working hard to have everything look good for this one.

President Brinza "How is it looking, do we feel good about inspection?"

Superintendent Fancher responded we are seventy five percent ready. Most of it now is getting everything cut. We have moved mowers from Madison County to St. Clair County to help get it done. Some minor things that we were written up for, two of them were taken care of yesterday by Superintendent Presswood. We will be ready for the inspection.

Executive Director Adler continued:

The arbitration is still in process with the employees that were laid off, but it seems to be going well.

We had some significant power problems from the last storm. A lot of our pump stations were out of power for twelve hours. It created a substantial amount of overtime for us. The only damages we had were at the CNV pump station. This shows us that keeping Horseshoe Lake low has saved us again.

The billing change we are trying to put together I would like to schedule that for some time around December.

Executive Director Adler asked that the Superintendents give their reports.

Superintendent Fancher reported:

The tuck pointing at Chouteau, Nameoki and Venice (CNV) station is half way done.

We are mowing everywhere now and grating roads. We are checking items off the list of deficiencies daily.

I spoke with a man named Tom who will be handling the USACE inspection and it will begin the week of August 13, 2018.

Foreman Hillman presented his report:

Superintendent Presswood reported:

We have moved the heavy equipment from the interior to the front levee. I have one guy out spraying and we are using one hundred gallons a day to make sure we keep the levee maintained for the inspection coming up.

REPORT OF LANSDOWNE OFFICE MANAGER:

Ms. Worthen reported:

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REPORT OF ENGINEER:

We applied for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) eleven million dollar facility plan project, hoping to get sixty percent loan forgiveness. It is making its way through the review process.

We had a meeting with Terminal Railroad regarding the deep cut off wall that did not get funded this cycle. They own most of the land and we need easements from them, the meeting went very well.

We met yesterday on changing the billing. I believe keeping the billing cycle pretty much the same but adding line items might work.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the June 13, 2018 were presented for approval.

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Motion Commissioner Sawicki; seconded Commissioner Darwin 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 McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Sawicki and Dixon

Nays: None.

Absent: None

CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

The General Fund and Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Sawicki; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the General Fund and Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims as submitted and order them paid.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Sawicki and Dixon

Nays: None.

Absent: None

PAYROLL:

The Payroll for the period of June 3, 2018 through June 16, 2018 and the Payroll for the period of June 17, 2018 through June 30, 2018 were submitted for approval.

Motion Commissioner Sawicki; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Payroll as submitted.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Sawicki and Dixon
Nays: None.
Absent: None

REPORT OF ATTORNEY:

Attorney Craney reported:

We have the ongoing litigation on the Greathouse lawsuit regarding the Open Meetings Act. The Judge agreed with her, but we are now in the stage of talking about the damages. We have an upcoming hearing.

The last meeting I was asked to look at the possibilities of surcharges or fees on the Lansdowne bills. It is my opinion at this time that it can be done. Some Ordinances would have to be passed. I wanted to take a look and make sure there was not a statue prohibiting this and I did not find one.

The CNV issue I have put on the agenda today, I do not think we need to vote on anything today. They will need to pass an Ordinance and file with the Circuit court that allows them to dissolve. The only catch is they will transfer their property over to us and we need to figure out how we will accept the property.

I will discuss more in closed session.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Vote to approve the acceptance of any real property transferred to MESD from Chouteau, Nameoki and Venice Drainage & Levee District after their dissolution.

Motion Commissioner Sawicki; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve transfer of real property from Chouteau, Nameoki and Venice Drainage & Levee district.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Sawicki and Dixon
Nays: None.
Absent: None

Potential vote and action on employment contract for the Executive Director:

President Brinza “I think this is something we will want to discuss in closed session since it is a personnel issue and reopen afterwards if needed, so we will table this for closed session.”

Discussion to adopt a resolution to allow Board members to attend meetings electronically in accordance with Open Meeting Act requirements:

The Board agreed to have Attorney Craney move forward with preparing any documents needed to adopt this resolution.

Discussion and possible action on Emergency purchase for CNV Pump Motors:

Executive Director Adler reported two motors were damaged during the storm at the CNV pump station. We need to get them as soon as possible.

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Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Executive Director to spend up to fifty thousand dollars for the purchase of two new pump motors for the CNV pump station:

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Sawicki and Dixon
Nays: None.
Absent: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin; to enter into Executive Session for the exceptions noted under 5 ILCS 120/2(c) 1. Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline or performance of employees and 11. Pending or threatened or imminent litigation and land acquisition or disposal.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Sawicki and Dixon
Nays: None.
Absent: None

The Board entered into Executive Session at 9:12 A.M.

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner McCall to return to regular session at 9:58 A.M.

The Clerk recorded the attendance:

Present: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Sawicki and Dixon
Absent: None.

Also, attending the meeting at this time was Executive Director Steve Adler, Attorney James Craney and Attorney Larry Calvo.

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Sawicki and Dixon

Nays: None.

Absent: None

So adjourned at 9:59 A.M.

Clerk