

**REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE  
METRO EAST SANITARY DISTRICT  
ST. CLAIR AND MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS  
HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023, AT 9:00 A.M.  
LOCATED AT: 1800 EDISON AVENUE, GRANITE CITY, IL 62040**

9:00 A.M.- President Oney called the meeting to order, and the Clerk recorded the attendance.

The following were in attendance:

Present: Commissioners, Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson, and President Oney  
Absent: None

Others attending the meeting were:

Executive Director Rick Fancher, Treasurer Kim King, Attorney Robert Sprague, and Engineer Joe Juneau

Absent: Attorney Tom Schooley

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

**REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**

Mr. Fancher reported the following:

Mr. Fancher reported he spoke at a press conference in Cahokia Heights along with the Mayor of East St Louis and Cahokia Heights pertaining to the flood issues in the area. He described the parameters of Metro East Sanitary District and where the District gets water from. He is attending a follow-up meeting today as they will be discussing the amount of money the region is going to receive on the flooding issues. One of the issues that will be addressed is Harding Ditch.

A preconstruction meeting was held with Haier Plumbing in regard to the 24-inch force main project under Merchants Bridge. Mr. Fancher deferred to Joe Juneau to advise on a project start date.

- Mr. Juneau reported, “Haier Plumbing is waiting on their right of entry with TRRA. The construction personnel must pass through RailPros, which is TRRA’s certification process, and that is to be completed this week.”

The monthly Corps of Engineers meetings are running smoothly. The District turned in the required PL8499 form.

The development at Route 3 and New Poag Road is moving forward. The purchase of the property does not affect MESD other than a road MESD currently has a permanent easement on will be moved. He has forwarded this information to Joe Juneau to look over. Mr. Fancher also informed the Board he has been in correspondence with the buyer regarding how far from the toe of the levee their fencing must be. They must also have a retention pond that cannot be pumped into the Cahokia Diversionary Canal.

Mr. Fancher informed the Board of two upcoming IDOT projects. The first project is redoing the bridge at Highway 111 and Hartford. MESD is working in conjunction with Wood River as they own half. The engineers are working with IDOT on the elevation level. They are putting the sill back in, which is where the flood wall butts up to the ground and goes up on the walls, so it must be at a certain elevation. The second project is tearing the bridge out at Highway 111 and Highway 55 in Fairmont that crosses Cahokia Canal.

IPMG performed a safety walk through at the maintenance buildings. Everything went well and all fire extinguishers that needed serviced have been completed and are now up to date.

### **REPORT OF ENGINEERS:**

Mr. Juneau reported once personnel complete the required training for certification and right of entry permit with TRRA, he anticipates construction under Merchants Bridge will begin within the next 30 days. As far as the urgency of it is concerned, it is not aggressively leaking, but it is something that they will be moving forward with. Upon completion, an investigation will be done to see exactly where it was leaking within the casing.

Mr. Juneau advised he will look over the agreements from IDOT that Rick reported on.

Lastly, Mr. Juneau informed the Board they are continuing to work on documentation associated with the Lansdowne transfer of sale.

**MINUTES:**

The Regular Minutes for April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 were presented for approval.

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

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

**CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS:**

The General Fund and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

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The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson; seconded Commissioner Dixon to approve the Lansdowne and Specific Claims as submitted and order them paid.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

The General Fund Financial Reports for the month of April 2023 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the General Fund Financial Report as submitted and place them on file for audit.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

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The Special Funds Financial Reports for the month of April 2023 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Brinza to approve the Special Funds Financial Report as submitted and place them on file for audit.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

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The Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of April 2023 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson; seconded Commissioner Dixon to approve the Lansdowne Fund Financial Report as submitted and place them on file for audit.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

**PAYROLL:**

The Payroll for the period of April 2, 2023 through April 15, 2023 was submitted for approval.

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

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The Payroll for the period of April 16, 2023 through April 29, 2023 was submitted for approval.

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

**LANSDOWNE ADJUSTMENT REPORT:**

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Lansdowne Adjustment Report as submitted.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

## **REPORT OF ATTORNEYS:**

Attorney Sprague addressed the Board. In response to getting a legal opinion on whether the Board of Commissioners receiving health insurance is legal, he has prepared legislation to be passed to make it clear. It has passed the House and the committee in the Senate. Attorney Sprague believes it will come out of the Senate this week and go to the Governor for signature.

- President Oney added, "Attorney Schooley has his opinion, but is not here today. I'm sure you can understand what his opinion is. He will have it at the next meeting. I appreciate what Attorney Sprague and Attorney Schooley have done. I don't want to be accused of doing something illegal. "
  - Commissioner Brinza and Commissioner Dixon both agreed.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

President Oney advised the pedestrian bridge agreement with World Wide Technology Raceway has been signed and completed.

- Commissioner Brinza asked, "Are they putting a guard at the bridge?"
  - President Oney responded, "Yes. Also, when the race is not on they will blockade it with concrete and fencing."

President Oney reported to the Board they held a meeting to discuss documents pertaining to the sale of Lansdowne with Joe Juneau and Attorney Schooley.

- Joe Juneau reported, "Currently we are documenting all the assets that will be transferred over to Illinois American, and that there is sufficient fee title and warranty information to back up what you are transferring. The one issue that will present itself when you get the final report, there are some areas where the easements will be by prescriptive rights. There will not actually be a document there, but the line has been in place and in use for an extended period of time, so it gives you the rights to use it and maintain it. This will be an issue that will be worked out between legal of both Illinois American and the District. It's inevitable when you have a system this old that a line was put in either through an unrecorded document or something that cannot be verified, so it is there by prescriptive right. The Board will be given a copy of the report prior to its submittal."

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion and/or approval of Resolution 2023-R-002 intervening in the appeal filed by NP Edwardsville, LLC to the State of Illinois property tax appeal board.

Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Jackson approval of Resolution 2023-R-002 intervening in the appeal filed by NP Edwardsville, LLC to the State of Illinois property tax appeal board.

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

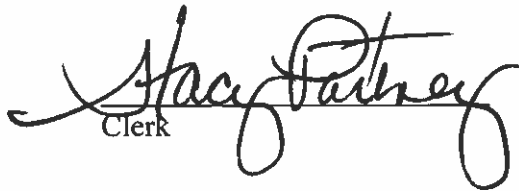
Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

There being no further business placed before the Board, Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Jackson to adjourn.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None

So, adjourned at 9:14 A.M.

  
Clerk