

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE METRO EAST
SANITARY DISTRICT, ST. CLAIR AND
MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2016 AT 1800
EDISON AVENUE, GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS AT
9:00 A.M.**

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

The following was the attendance:

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

Also, attending the meeting were Executive Director Bob Shipley, Attorney George Filcoff, Director of Operations Walter Greathouse, Superintendent Randy Presswood, Superintendent John Maeras, Lansdowne Office Manager Cindy Worthen and Treasurer Ken Davis.

Linda Knogl and Kathy Goclan were also in attendance.

President Pennekamp asked if Ms. Knogl or Ms. Goclan would like to address the Board.

Ms. Knogl asked when and where the public hearing for the Lansdowne rate increase will be held.

President Pennekamp stated the public hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 9:00 A.M. at the Metro East Sanitary District office located at 1800 Edison Avenue, Granite City, Illinois.

Ms. Knogl requested an update on the blockage at the Chouteau, Nameoki and Venice (CNV) Pump Station.

Mr. Greathouse replied, "I do not know if the Corps of Engineers has been able to clear the blocked tunnel. However, we are continuing to monitor the slough."

Ms. Knogl voiced her concerns about the levee slides in Cahokia.

Mr. Greathouse stated that the Corps of Engineers is very aware of the levee slides. Matt Hunn from the Corps of Engineers met with MESD staff and the Mayor of Cahokia, and assured everyone that the slides are not an emergency at this time and we should not be worried.

President Pennekamp added that the Corps is waiting on Federal funding to repair the slides.

Ms. Knogl asked about the status of the umbrella on Pump No. 1 at the North Pump Station.

Executive Director Shipley explained that the flap gate on Pump No. 4 at the North Pump Station is being repaired first, and then work will begin on the umbrella on Pump No. 1.

Superintendent Maeras added that Pumps 2, 3 and 5 are all working at the North Pump Station. Pump No. 4 will be operational next week.

Ms. Knogl said that at the last meeting, it was mentioned that a balloon was used to line a pump.

Superintendent Presswood stated that the balloon was used to stop wastewater flow while the sewer line was being repaired.

Ms. Knogl voiced concerns about the next storm, and if the pumps are adequate to keep up with the water.

President Pennekamp stated that he recently toured the levee system and was very impressed with the level of maintenance being performed on the buildings, pumps and entire levee system. He assured Ms. Knogl that work is being done on the pumps. However, the system is aging and it is a constant struggle to keep everything working.

Ms. Goclan asked, "When the District needs money, where do you go?"

President Pennekamp responded that the District is funded through property taxes, replacement tax, easements and user fees. Currently, the District is looking at an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) low interest loan that has a sixty percent (60%)

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forgiveness to repair the sewer lines. The Corps of Engineers also provides funding for the repair of levees and pumps.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Executive Director Shipley presented his report:

Executive Director Shipley added:

The Mississippi River is down and the pump stations have been closed.

Pump No. 2 at the South Pump Station is being repaired.

The sewer line at Route 40 in Fairmont City has been repaired. They are covering the line with dirt.

Superintendent Presswood said Fairmont City built a new lift station which has caused sand and dirt to clog the MESD 54" sewer line. The line needs to be cleaned.

REPORT OF LANSDOWNE OFFICE MANAGER:

Ms. Worthen reported:

1. Illinois American Water Company made a modification to their water usage data file. We have asked LOCIS to update our software, so that it is compatible with Illinois American Water Company.
2. The residential and commercial closed account reminders were mailed today.
3. Delinquent accounts are being reviewed and turned over to the State of Illinois for collection.
4. The billing staff is reviewing and becoming familiar with the new rate Ordinance in anticipation of it being adopted next month.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the November 9, 2016 meeting were presented for approval.

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Hanfelder 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 were submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner Hanfelder; seconded Commissioner Laub to approve the General Fund Claims and Specific Claims 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.

LANSDOWNE CLAIMS & SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

President Pennekamp brought the Hank's Excavating & Landscaping payment to the attention of the Board, explaining that it was for the sewer break at Route 40 in Fairmont City.

Mr. Greathouse added that the District is still waiting on an invoice from D & K Backhoe for the dirt to cover the sewer line.

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Hanfelder to approve the Lansdowne Treatment Plant Claims and Specific Claims 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.

LANSDOWNE REPORT:

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

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Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Laub 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.

PAYROLL:

The Payroll for the period of October 22, 2016 through November 5, 2016 was submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Payroll 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 that he has been in contact with Attorney Matt Chapman regarding the CNV Pump Station. Attorney Chapman provided six dates that he would be able to meet with MESD to discuss the CNV Pump Station agreement.

Attorney Filcoff also mentioned that he prepared and presented five Ordinance renewals to Ameren. The locations need to be confirmed by Ameren, before renewing the Ordinances.

CORRESPONDENCE:

President Pennekamp presented an email from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Levee Safety Program Manager Rachel Lopez, along with the East St. Louis and Vicinity Flood Protection project Levee System Flood Risk Fact Sheet:

President Pennekamp explained, “The Corps performed the Periodic Inspection and gave MESD an unsatisfactory rating due to the 10 ½’ sewer pipe owned by the City of East St. Louis and the Blue Waters Ditch Pump Station. MESD does not have any control over either of these items.

The Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District and the Corps of Engineers finally agreed upon a plan to repair the 10 ½’ pipe. They plan to line the pipe at a cost of Two million dollars (\$2,000,000). The work should be completed by April 1, 2017.

Due to these two items, MESD had to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Corps of Engineers. Part of the requirement is that MESD must communicate to the public the risk of living in an area protected by a levee. We must comply with the Corps regulations to be eligible for future federal funding.

I believe the East St. Louis and Vicinity Flood Protection Project Levee System Flood Risk Fact Sheet explains how the levee system works. I have asked the Corps to label the map that is located in the top right hand corner of the sheet.

The back of the sheet explains what you can do if you live or work behind a levee.”

Attorney Larry Calvo joined the meeting at 9:37 A.M.

President Pennekamp continued, “The Flood Risk Fact Sheet is easy to understand and can be handed out to the public. The Corps also wants me to meet with local government leaders to explain the risk. My plan is to contact the Madison and St. Clair County Board Chairmen, and then set up meetings with the Mayors within the levee system.”

Executive Director Shipley, “The Corps and MESD have been working together on an Emergency Action Plan (EAP). We invited all of the Mayors within our District to the meetings and none of the Mayors attended.”

President Pennekamp added that the Corps complimented the MESD staff on their preparedness and knowledge during the EAP tabletop exercise.

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Commissioner Laub, “Apparently FEMA has added to the flood zones. I have had several people contact me stating they never had flood insurance and now it is required.”

President Pennekamp said the tributaries and rivers also affect the flood zones.

A letter from Unsell, Schattnik & Phillips, P.C. regarding David Vincent Martinez was presented:

President Pennekamp stated, “This issue was previously discussed with the Board, attorneys and supervisors and the matter was resolved. The letter should be placed on file.”

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

An Ordinance providing for the annual tax levy for the Metro East Sanitary District, St. Clair and Madison Counties, Illinois for the fiscal year 2016, commencing January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016 was presented. Number 2016-0-007 was assigned to this document.

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Motion Commissioner Hanfelder; seconded Commissioner Laub to adopt Ordinance Number 2016-0-007.

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

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

There being no further business, Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Darwin 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 9:51 A.M.

Clerk