

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE METRO EAST
SANITARY DISTRICT, ST. CLAIR AND
MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017 AT 1800
EDISON AVENUE, GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS AT
9:00 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 and Sawicki.
Absent: None.

Metro East Sanitary District employees attending the meeting were Executive Director Stephen Adler, Attorney James Craney, Superintendent Randy Presswood, Superintendent John Maeras, Superintendent Rick Fancher, Lansdowne Office Manager Cindy Worthen and Payroll Clerk Kim Hogue.

Also, attending the meeting were Charlie Juneau, Juneau Associates; Ryan Matthews, Dimond Bros. Insurance; Dani Brauss, AAIM Employers Association; Frank Dorris and Linda Knogl.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

INSURANCE RENEWAL:

Ryan Matthews advised the board that he met with MESD employees and Commissioner Sawicki last week on the upcoming renewal of the Workers' Compensation & Commercial Policy expiring December 1, 2017. The renewal premiums are down four and a half percent. The recommendation of Dimond Bros. is to stay with the same carrier and the current deductibles. Other options were discussed to reduce the premiums, for instance increasing deductibles. The savings did not warrant the higher deductible. Illinois County Risk Management Trust (ICRMT) is the largest insurer of

November 8, 2017

Page 2

public entities in the State of Illinois. ICRMT has a ninety-five percent retention rate, and a long standing relationship with MESD. The insurance was bid last year and no other insurance company came close to the ICRMT price.

Motion Commissioner Sawicki; seconded Commissioner Darwin to accept the insurance renewal package from Dimond Bros., and award the commercial insurance package for an annual premium of \$172,380 and the workers' compensation package for an annual premium of \$164,196 to Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

President Brinza thanked Mr. Matthews for his presentation. Mr. Matthews left the meeting at 9:06 A.M.

AAIM PRESENTATION:

Ms. Brauss gave the following presentation in regards to the AAIM Employers' Association:

November 8, 2017

Page 3

Dani Brauss from AAIM Employers Association stated there was a special promotional price of \$795 until the end of the year, after that the price is \$1,153 per year for businesses with less than 100 employees.

President Brinza thanked Ms. Brauss for her presentation, and she left the meeting at 9:18 A.M.

REPORT OF ENGINEER:

Mr. Juneau reported:

The monthly meeting with the Corps of Engineers was held on Monday, October 30th. MESD must submit a System Wide Improvement Framework (SWIF) plan to the Corps to stay in the PL 84-99 program.

The Corps is concerned with two major deficiencies: repairing the gate at Blue Waters Ditch Pump Station and the East St. Louis 126" sewer line.

East St. Louis does not have the money to repair the line, but it is one of the compliances this Board has to address.

The Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District (FPD) lined and paid for the 126" sewer. The repairs only meet the 100 year certification. The Corps is requiring MESD to meet the 500 year certification.

The District has to submit the SWIF to the Corps prior to the fall of 2018. It will take 6 months for the Corps to review, so the District has even less time to complete the SWIF.

There is a meeting next Tuesday, November 14th at the FPD office with AMEC, their engineering firm, to address the 500 year certification.

REPORT OF LANSDOWNE OFFICE MANAGER:

Ms. Worthen reported:

The sewage treatment collections and shut offs are going well.

November 8, 2017

Page 4

We have been cross training on billing procedures. The person being trained has now completed a billing on her own with no problems.

We are organizing and setting up procedures for the ordinance billing. We have sent out some invoices and are working on more. These are old ordinances, and we are working hard to find the correct addresses and company names.

We are getting a lot more calls from commercial accounts due to the rise in BOD and TSS charges. This is due to the fats, oil and grease in the lines. We are helping them understand why these charges happened.

LANSDOWNE REPORT:

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

November 8, 2017

Page 5

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the October 18, 2017 meeting were presented for approval.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Sawicki 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 and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

The Executive Session minutes for the October 18, 2017 meeting were presented for approval.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Sawicki to approve Executive Session minutes as submitted, and the minutes are to remain closed to public viewing.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

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

November 8, 2017

Page 6

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Sawicki to approve the General Fund, Special Funds 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 and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The General Fund, Special Funds and Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of October 2017 were submitted for approval:

November 8, 2017

Page 7

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Sawicki to approve the General Fund, Special Funds and Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of October 2017 as submitted and place them on file for audit.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

PAYROLL:

The Payroll for the period of October 8, 2017 through October 21, 2017 was submitted for approval:

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

REPORT OF ATTORNEY:

Attorney Craney reported:

I have been contacted by Ameren; they are ready to meet with MESD regarding a master agreement to renew the ordinances. Executive Director Adler and I will try to schedule a meeting for next week.

Ameren has an issue that needs immediate attention. They are planning to construct a river crossing structure. Ameren has agreed to pay an initial license fee of Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

However, Ameren has not agreed to pay a yearly fee. They claim the property originally belonged to Ameren, and Ameren gave MESD an easement to use the land.

I have pending litigation to discuss in closed session.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Executive Director Adler reported:

We need to talk about the meeting schedule for next year. Does the Board want to continue to hold two meetings a month or only have one meeting?

Charlie Juneau and I met on the meter project regarding storm water. We have a proposal that will be brought before the Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Romans would like to talk to the Board about purchasing the 10 acres of ground that his family originally owned and deeded to MESD. If MESD is not using the property, then it is always a good idea to relinquish rights to the property. Then all of the taxing bodies can benefit from the property taxes received.

MESD cannot give or sell the property to Mr. Romans. The proper procedures must be followed, the property will have to be declared surplus and then we will have to advertise for bids.

We have received quotes to repair the gate at Blue Waters Ditch Pump Station. The cost is \$450,000 to replace one gate. We need to talk to the FPD about these costs. I also want to talk to Superintendent Maeras and Pump Operator Scott Hillman about MESD repairing the gate.

Pump No. 1 at North Pump Station is being replaced and Pump No. 4 is being repaired. We are hoping to get one of the pumps back within the month.

We are working with the Corps on a levee safety program.

I have a meeting scheduled with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources regarding the draining and dredging of Horseshoe Lake.

Madison County is still working on the MESD website and wants to have it online by December 1, 2017.

An incident occurred with an MESD tractor; as a result we are having a meeting to discuss the correct procedures in reporting an accident.

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2013-0-007 and Ordinance No. 2011-0-007 establishing uniform rates for a licensee to enter along, upon and over and use of the land and levees of the Metro East Sanitary District in Madison and St. Clair Counties, Illinois. Ordinance No. 2017-0-011 was assigned to this document.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-0-011 establishing uniform rates for licensee to enter along, upon and over and use of the land and levees of the Metro East Sanitary District in Madison and St. Clair Counties, Illinois.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Sawicki 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.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 10:00 A.M.

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner McCall to return to regular session at 10:18 A.M.

The Clerk recorded the attendance:

Present: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza and Sawicki.

Absent: None.

Also, attending the meeting at this time were Executive Director Steve Adler, Attorney James Craney and Kim Hogue.

Attorney Craney suggested amending Ordinance No. 76-01 to change the date and time of future MESD meetings.

Executive Director Adler suggested meeting once a month at 8:00 A.M.

November 8, 2017

Page 11

Commissioner McCall questioned how the public will feel about an 8:00 A.M. meeting.

President Brinza felt the public will appreciate an 8:00 A.M. meeting time as they will be able to attend at the beginning of the day and miss less work.

Executive Director Adler said he will amend Ordinance No. 76-01, changing the meetings to the second Wednesday of the month at 8:00 A.M. effective January 1, 2018.

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

So adjourned at 10:26 A.M.

Clerk