

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE METRO EAST
SANITARY DISTRICT, ST. CLAIR AND MADISON
COUNTIES, ILLINOIS HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 14, 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 and Sawicki.

Absent:

Metro East Sanitary District employees attending the meeting were Executive Director Stephen Adler, Attorney James Craney, Superintendent Randy Presswood, Superintendent Rick Fancher, Lansdowne Office Manager Cindy Worthen and Pump Operator Scott Hillman.

Also, attending the meeting were Charlie Juneau representing Juneau Associates Mike Baker, Chris Downs and Adrian Wallace of Johnson Controls and Frank Dorris.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

JOHNSON CONTROLS PRESENTATION:

Mike Baker, Chris Downs and Adrian Wallace gave the following presentation:

At the end of the presentation Executive Director Adler added, that if this was approved today there would be no financial commitment at this point. Although in the future there may be if the board decided to move forward with the recommendations.

Commissioner McCall commented he was uncomfortable at this time voting until he could get a little more information.

President Brinza thanked them for their presentation.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Executive Director Adler reported:

John Maeras retired last week. Rick Fancher was put in charge of the levee system. We are working on getting rid of the trees on the North End of the District.

Needless to say, right now we only have one goal, that is to get our accreditation back from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

We had a meeting and training with the laborers about our new responsibilities caring for the levee.

The #4 pump at North should be installed by the end of February.
The #1 pump we still do not have a date back from the manufacturer about replacement.

The update on the Blue Waters issue: Scott Hillman and his crew have made very good progress. We have 2 gates operable now and the pump has been sent out for repair.

Charlie will talk about the meter project. We have been talking about rolling it into the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) project.

I have a copy of the Scheffel Boyle study that has been done. I will pass out a copy to all the commissioners for your review.

United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) meeting was canceled due to the government shutdown in late January

We had a meeting with Representative Mike Voss and staff and we outlined the priorities of the District getting the interior flooding under control. A lot of our time spent was discussing issues about dredging Horseshoe Lake.

Several of the employees have brought to my attention about not feeling safe in different places of the work environment. The district has a policy that prohibits firearms. Employees that have a valid conceal and carry license, would like to know if the District would consider changing that policy. It is a safety issue.

Commissioner McCall, "I think we need to go back and do some research and see if any of the workers of the past have ever had incidents, while at work that would cause them to carry a gun. I do not believe I would be in favor of our employees carrying a gun"

President Brinza, "I would like to also see what other entities in the area are doing, and what policies they have in place."

Attorney Craney said he would look up the statute on conceal and carry. He stated there might be an issue that an employee cannot carry a gun, while on government property. The vehicle would be allowed.

Mr. Hillman expressed his concerns about going to the lift stations at 2 am and people interacting with him that were inebriated and hearing gun fire going on in the area. He stated it is an unsafe working condition at times.

Ms. Worthen stated that they were not necessarily asking for conceal and carry, but for some training in their office. The Madison Avenue office employees have been threatened by disgruntle customers. The customers have even gone as far as to threaten our children and families. We just want to know what procedures we should take when these problems occur. The employees are getting scared. There have been 4 robberies in the area. We are just concerned.

Commissioner McCall, "Maybe the police should come in and train, give everyone some tips for the office."

President Brinza, "Is there any Liabilities? We need more information before we can make a decision."

Executive Director Adler continued:

I sent out an update on Blue Waters Pump Station. I am very happy with the work that Mr. Hillman and staff are doing there.

REPORT OF ENGINEER:

Mr. Juneau received an email from Tracey Kelsey from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers asking for a meeting to be scheduled for February 26, 2018

The System Wide Improvement Framework (SWIF) is well at hand to meet the deadline in April.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) facility plans are going through reviews. There has been talk that the IEPA has been working on storm water improvements as part of the loan program

Executive Director Adler has talked to me about putting the meter monitoring system in the IEPA loan. I do believe we can do something inexpensive. I would like to talk to Executive Director Adler to set up a meeting with Caseyville. If Caseyville would agree to let us into their pump stations and see if they have hour meters. We could take a couple measurements and read their hour meters on a regular basis; the data flow would be available to MESD.

REPORT OF LANSDOWNE OFFICE MANAGER:

Ms. Worthen reported:

The billing for January was two hundred and fifty thousand (\$250,000) and we collected three hundred fifty five thousand (\$355,000). We are on target for collections.

I have been working closely with the Administrator at the Southwestern Illinois Correctional Center. We have received two more checks. The administrator wanted the board to know they are making every effort to get their bills paid.

We have been working on the easement project and have brought in forty five thousand dollars (45,000.00).

President Brinza, "Good work, please pass that on to everyone."

MINUTES:

The minutes for the January 10, 2018 meeting were presented for approval.

Motion Commissioner McCall; 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 and Sawicki
Nays: None.
Absent: None

CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

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

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Motion Commissioner McCall; 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 and Sawicki

Nays: None.

Absent: None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

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

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the General Fund, Special Funds and Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of December 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 December 31, 2017 through January 13, 2018 and the Payroll for the period of January 14, 2018 through January 27, 2018 were submitted for approval.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin 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 spoken with John Papa who represents the City of Madison about the Madison collapse. They have submitted claim to the insurance company. We do not have an answer as of yet if they will pay the claim.

I have spoken with Granite City Treatment Plant about when they will have their next meeting. By their agreement they are supposed to have regular meetings and why they are not is still unclear. Since we had less flow and they typically adjust the rate every six months our bill should have been lowered. What I am being told is that we are being over charged the last few bills because the rate adjustment has not been done. They assured me that if we have overpaid a credit would be issued. So the question for the Board, is should we keep overpaying and wait for the credit in the future or do we make a partial payment until they meet to adjust our rates.

Charlie Juneau sent me some information on how we can determine the flow going to the treatment plant. Charlie can we accurately determine what we should pay?

Charlie Juneau, "pretty much".

Executive Director Adler asked the board if they had any objections to the attorney and the engineer coming to a mutual agreement on what we should be paying the treatment plant and cutting them a check.

The board agreed to pursue what percentage we owe and paying that amount.

Attorney Craney Continued:

I believe that would be reasonable until they meet to send us a correct bill.

I have pending litigation to discuss in closed session.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion Commissioner Sawicki; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve Johnson Controls preliminary development of a proposed performance infrastructure project, with the understanding MESD has no financial obligations or other contractual obligations are assumed by the District through passage of this motion.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

The Executive Session Minutes through December 31, 2017 were presented for review:

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin that all Executive Session Minutes remain closed to the public, as they contain confidential information regarding potential lawsuits, actual lawsuits and company personnel.

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

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

An Agreement between the Metro East Sanitary District and Juneau Associates, Inc., P.C. was presented:

Executive Director reported that this agreement is contingent on the approval of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) loan.

Motion Commissioner Sawicki; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the agreement between Metro East Sanitary District and Juneau Associates contingent on the approval of the IEPA financing.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

An Ordinance amending Ordinances No. 665, 686, 687A, 737, 747, 80-0-3, 84-0-8, 87-0-004, 88-0-004, 91-0-004, 95-0-001, 95-0-003, 98-0-005, 2007-0-007, 2007-0-009, 2008-0-003, 2008-0-007, 2008-0-008A, 2009-0-002, 2010-0-003, 2013-0-003, 2013-0-004, 2016-0-008 and 2017-0-005 entitled “An Ordinance Regulating: The use of public and private sewers and drains, private sewage disposal, the installation and connection of building sewers, the discharge of waters and wastes into the public system, and providing penalties for violations thereof; the levying of charges for wastewater services (use charges) in the Metro East Sanitary District, Counties of St. Clair and Madison, State of Illinois” was presented. Ordinance Number 2018-0-002 was assigned to this document.

Executive Director Adler commented that the change is not for the rate increase it is only adding the word change “pro rata”.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to adopt Ordinance No. 2018-0-002.

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 McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to enter into Executive Session for the exceptions noted under 5 ILCS 120/2 Open Meetings – The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

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 10.04 A.M.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to return to regular session at 10:50 A.M.

The Clerk recorded the attendance:

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

Also, attending the meeting at this time was Executive Director Steve Adler.

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

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

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

So Adjourned at 10:51 A.M.