

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE METRO EAST SANITARY DISTRICT, ST. CLAIR AND
MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS HELD ON TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 17, 2019 AT 1800 EDISON AVENUE, GRANITE
CITY, ILLINOIS AT 8:00 A.M.**

Executive Director Adler called the meeting to order and the Clerk recorded the attendance.

The following was the attendance:

Present: Commissioners Darwin, Krekovich and Dixon.

Absent: Commissioner McCall, Brinza.

Metro East Sanitary District employees attending the meeting were Executive Director Adler, Deputy Executive Director Sawicki, Attorney Calvo, Attorney Craney, Superintendent Rick Fancher, Superintendent Scott Hillman and Superintendent Cedric Irby and Lansdowne Office Manager Roger Morthland. Also, attending the meeting were Charlie Juneau representing Juneau Associates and Attorney Barney Mundorf.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Executive Director Adler reported:

We had the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) inspection this week and I believe we did really well.

We are going to cut our part-time help in half.

The Union negotiations are going well.

I am going to forego all the reports from the superintendents except Superintendent Hillman. I would like to know where we are with the CNV Pump?

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Superintendent Hillman “The pump is in and running. A lot of things broke since we opened up the stations and now just closing them. We will have some emergency repairs coming.”

MINUTES:

The minutes for the November 19, 2019 were presented for approval.

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Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Dixon 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 Darwin, Krekovich and Dixon

Nays: None.

Absent: Commissioner McCall, Brinza.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

The executive session minutes for the November 19, 2019 meetings were presented for approval:

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Dixon to approve the executive session minutes, as submitted and place them on file.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Krekovich and Dixon

Nays: None.

Absent: Commissioner McCall, Brinza.

CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

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

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Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Dixon 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 Darwin, Krekovich and Dixon

Nays: None.

Absent: Commissioner McCall, Brinza.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The General Fund, Special Funds and Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of November 2019 were submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Dixon to approve the General Fund, Special Funds and Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of November 2019 as submitted and place them on file for audit.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Krekovich and Dixon

Nays: None.

Absent: Commissioner McCall, Brinza.

PAYROLL:

The Payroll for the period of November 3, 2019 through November 16, 2019 and the Payroll for the period of November 17, 2019 through November 30, 2019 were submitted for approval.

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Krekovich and Dixon

Nays: None.

Absent: Commissioner McCall, Brinza.

REPORT OF ATTORNEY:

Attorney Calvo reported:

You asked me to look at that letter about the new lines and towers, on the Gateway project. It is covered by the easement we signed recently.

Executive Director Adler commented:

There is an issue with a suit from Blassingame, we charged a lady for a sewer bill for years and we have just found out she has a septic tank, but if she is within 300 feet of a sewer line she has to hook up. Will you relay this to the other attorney.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter from St. Clair County and a letter from Illinois Emergency Management Agency was presented:

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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 2019, commencing January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019 was presented. Ordinance No. 2019-0-012 was assigned to this document

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Krekovich to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-0-012 providing for the Annual Tax Levy for the Metro East Sanitary District, St. Clair and Madison Counties, Illinois for the Fiscal Year 2019, commencing January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019.

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

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

Discussion and/or Approval of employment contracts and cost of living adjustments

Executive Director Adler “I am not going to issue any bonuses of any kind until the USACE inspection comes in, but I would like to give the employees a three percent cost of living increase in their contracts and entertain a contract with our newest employee Matt Foster who is doing the cats.

Attorney Calvo “If we agree to a higher amount with the union. I would like the flexibility to increase the employees.”

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Krekovich to authorize a three percent increase for all contractual employees and the attorney can increase or decrease the amount depending on how the union negotiations go.

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

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

Discussion and/or approval of the Ethics Committee members:

Charlie Brinza, Chairman
Charlotte Dixon, Member
Victor Darwin, Member

Executive Director Adler “We have a republican and a member from St. Clair county and a Democrat from Madison County and the Chairman. If no one has any objections someone can make a motion for these nominations.”

Motion Commissioner Krekovich; seconded Commissioner Dixon to nominate and approve the Ethics committee of Charlie Brinza, Chairman, Charlotte Dixon and Victor Darwin as members of the committee.

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Dixon; 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 pending or threatened or imminent litigation.

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

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

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:15 A.M.

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Krekovich to return to regular session at 8:29 A.M.

The Clerk recorded the attendance:

Present: Commissioners Darwin, Krekovich and Dixon

Absent: Commissioner McCall, Brinza.

Also, attending the meeting at this time was Executive Director Adler, Deputy Executive Director Sawicki and Attorney Craney and Attorney Mundorf.

Executive Director Adler “The only thing that come out of the Executive Session is that we need to entertain a motion to make sure when we update the cost of living increases for the contractual employees that Executive Director Adler goes back to May.”

Attorney Mundorf “You can not vote on a new item that is not on the agenda so I would amend the previous motion that cost of living adjustments correspond to the anniversary date.”

Motion Commissioner Dixon; seconded Commissioner Krekovich to amend the previous motion that the cost of living adjustment corresponds to the anniversary date of contract.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Krekovich and Dixon

Nays: None.

Absent: Commissioner McCall, Brinza.

Attorney Craney entered the regular session at 8:30.

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Attorney Craney “We filed a third-party lawsuit against Granite City. Although I am not an engineer, I have spoken at length to Deputy Executive Director Don Sawicki, Superintendent Scott Hillman and others and as a non-engineer I am absolutely convinced we are not responsible for the homes flooding.”

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Krekovich and Dixon

Nays: None.

Absent: Commissioner McCall, Brinza

So, adjourned at 8:32 A.M.

Clerk