

**REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE  
METRO EAST SANITARY DISTRICT  
ST. CLAIR AND MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022, AT 9:00 A.M.  
LOCATED AT: 1800 EDISON AVENUE, GRANITE CITY, IL 62040**

9:01 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 Oney,  
Absent: None

Metro East Sanitary District employees attending the meeting were:

Rick Fancher, Executive Director, Attorney Tom Schooley,  
Attorney Robert Sprague  
Absent: None

Other Attendees: Joe Juneau with Juneau and Associates

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

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**PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE: NONE**

## **REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**

Rick informed the Board that he has met with the Corp of Engineers regarding the flood wall project. This project should be wrapping up completely in July or August. They have started Bid Project 12A for the relief wells. This project centers around Cahokia area down to the treatment plant in Granite City. They have roped off these locations therefore we currently are not mowing those areas.

Rick continued to state that he and staff met with the plant manager for American Bottoms along with some of their constituents regarding the agreement between both parties. As the Board is aware American Bottoms pays for the manpower but not electricity. In addition, they also conduct the monitoring at 11 feet up to where we would go in at 19.5. This agreement is still intact. The plant Manager was meeting with us to help her with their budget. We explained to the manager that it is something you really cannot budget for because you never know what the river is going to do.

Rick brought up Attorney Schooley's conversation from the May Board meeting regarding Ameren's payment to MESD for the easements. Rick stated that we should be receiving the payment for the pipeline sometime in July.

Rick informed the Board that we are finding expired easements almost every day.

Rick told the Board that on Tuesday (June 28<sup>th</sup>) he was meeting with the Governor J.B. Pritzker, Senator Durbin, Curtis McCall, and any constituents in Centerville Township area regarding the drainage issues. He stated they will be meeting onsite at Lake Drive and Hwy 157. Hopefully, the Governor will be able to provide more funds to fix that problem down there. MESD has been working on that area for about two or three months. It is looking a lot better.

## **REPORT OF ENGINEER:**

Joe advised the Board that Charlie had provided a report in their packet. If there are any questions, he would answer them in that regard.

**MINUTES:**

The Regular Minutes for the May 24, 2022, were presented for approval.

Motion Commissioner Brinza: seconded Commissioner Jackson 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, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

**MINUTES:**

The Executive Minutes for the May 24, 2022, were presented for approval.

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

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

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

**CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS:**

The General Fund and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson; seconded Commissioner Dixon 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

Absent: None

**The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:**

**Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded Commissioner Jackson 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  
Absent: None**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

The General Fund Financial Reports for the month of May 2022 was 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.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, Jackson and Oney

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Special Funds Financial Reports for the month of May 2022 was submitted for approval:

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

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

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



**PAYROLL:**

The Payroll for the period of April 17, 2022 , through April 30, 2022, were submitted for approval.

Motion Commissioner Jackson; seconded Commissioner Brinza 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  
Absent: None

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The Payroll for the period of May 1, 2022, through May 14, 2022, were 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  
Absent: None

**PAYROLL CONT'D:**

The Payroll for the period of May 15, 2022 , through May 28, 2022, were 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  
Absent: None

## **LANSDOWNE ADJUSTMENT REPORT:**

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

- President Oney informed the Board that he spoke with Rick regarding the consistent adjustments for the same thing and I believe we got this matter resolved.
  - o Commissioner Brinza asked if it was just a billing error.
    - Rick explained that when we passed the Ordinance making sure that any customer that used over 9060 gallons per month were place on a list. From this list a letter was generated informing them they must provide us a cleanout or somewhere to test within 6 months.
    - Once this 6-month period hit these customers were charged with a \$500 surcharge. A lot of the customers that were charged stated they had somewhere for us to test. So that is why you are seeing the adjustments coming through.
    - Rick informed the Board that after some of the tests were completed the charges were actually higher than the \$500.00 surcharge.

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Jackson 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  
Absent: None

## **REPORT OF ATTORNEYS:**

Attorney Schooley had nothing to report at this time

Attorney Sprague had nothing to report at this time.

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## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Discussion and/or approval of Illinois American Water Lansdowne sale transaction.

- President Oney informed the Board that he has met with Illinois American Water. He stated it was because Granite City is considering selling the treatment plant to IAW. President Oney continued to state that he had Ken Jones reach out to Attorney Schooley to see if we needed to send out another RFP.
    - o Attorney Schooley stated that if Granite City is going to sell the Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Illinois American Water the timeline on this is at least at a minimum of a year out. Therefore, himself and Ken Jones agreed there is not a big hurry for MESD to do something with ours.
    - o Right now, it is just a matter of letting the City and American Water work out their contract. Our sale is contingent upon Granite City selling the treatment plant.
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**NEW BUSINESS:**

Board discussion / approval of Ordinance Number 2022-0-019 establishing uniform rates for Illinois Bell Telephone Company D.B.A. AT & T Illinois in consistent with Ordinance No. 2021-0-013 – renewing ordinance 81-0-22 of Project 15.

Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Jackson to approve Ordinance Number 2022-0-019.

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

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

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Board discussion / approval of Ordinance Number 2022-0-020 establishing uniform rates for Illinois Bell Telephone Company D.B.A. AT & T Illinois in consistent with Ordinance No. 2021-0-013 – renewing ordinance 82-0-12 of Project 14.

Motion Commissioner Jackson; seconded Commissioner Brinza to approve Ordinance Number 2022-0-020.

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

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

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**NEW BUSINESS CONT'D:**

Board discussion / approval of Ordinance Number 2022-0-021 establishing uniform rates for Illinois Bell Telephone Company D.B.A. AT & T Illinois in consistent with Ordinance No. 2021-0-013 – renewing ordinance 85-0-2 of Project 17.

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Jackson to approve Ordinance Number 2022-0-021 establishing uniform rates for Zayo.

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

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

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Board discussion / approval of Resolution 2022-R-004 to intervene the appeal of Spectrum Brands, Inc. to the state of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board.

- Attorney Schooley stated that all three (3) of these Resolutions are allowing MESD to intervene in the appeal of property taxes in Springfield. These are regarding the warehouses located in Pontoon Beach. The Granite City School District along with the City of Edwardsville have also intervened and are splitting the cost of the appraisals.
- Attorney Schooley advised the Board that since these are in our jurisdiction, he felt that MESD should have a seat at the table. It will be at no cost to the District.

Motion Commissioner Jackson; seconded Commissioner Brinza approving Resolution 2022-R-004.

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

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

Board discussion / approval of Resolution 2022-R-005 to intervene the appeal of WPT Inner Park Dr., LLP, to the state of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board.

Motion Commissioner Jackson; seconded Commissioner Darwin approving Resolution 2022-R-005.

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

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

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Board discussion / approval of Resolution 2022-R-006 to intervene the appeal of Sealy Lakeview Corporate Drive II, LLC. to the state of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board.

Motion Commissioner Jackson; seconded Commissioner Darwin approving Resolution 2022-R-006.

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

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

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**ANY FURTHER BUSINESS PLACED BEFORE THE BOARD:**

- President Oney informed the Board that Juneau and Associates will be submitting the full Rate Increase Study on the sewer usages at the next meeting for their review and the Board will be voting on it at the August meeting.
- Commissioner Jackson wanted to thank Rick and staff personally and publicly for the work they have done off of 82<sup>nd</sup> and Lake Dr.
- Commissioner Jackson continued to state that usually we just hear complaints and rarely praised for doing an excellent job. Commissioner Jackson said that particular area is one of the worst ones in their community but since the work has been completed the area looks night and day.

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

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

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

So, adjourned at 9:14 A.M.

  
Clerk