

**REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE
METRO EAST SANITARY DISTRICT
ST. CLAIR AND MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022, AT 9:00 A.M.
LOCATED AT: 1800 EDISON AVENUE, GRANITE CITY, IL 62040**

9:00 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, and Oney

Absent: Commissioner Jackson

Others attending the meeting were:

Executive Director Rick Fancher, Attorney Tom Schooley, Attorney Dana Bond, Attorney Caleb Mundorf, Treasurer Kim King, Joe Juneau, Business Representative Teamsters Local 525 Brett Wessel, Superintendent Scott Hillman and Roger Morthland

Absent: Attorney Sprague

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Mr. Fancher reported Tracey Kelsey with the US Army Corps of Engineers announced she is retiring at the end of the year. Jennifer Kengovski will be the new liaison for MESD. She will be introduced at the next monthly USACE meeting.

Mr. Fancher informed the Board he and Attorney Schooley met onsite at the Merchants Bridge project to discuss providing a written agreement regarding cleanup responsibility in the event of high-water or flooding.

Mr. Fancher reported a sinkhole on the Lansdowne line behind Gateway Racetrack. Visu-Sewer and Baxmeyer are going to televise the line to determine what is going on. He will have more information at the end of the week.



REPORT OF ENGINEER:

Joe Juneau reported on the following projects:

Jeremy Dressel is working with Attorney Tom Schooley on easement negotiations with Terminal Railroad.

The intergovernmental agreement between the City of Granite City and Metro East Sanitary District is in regard to lining the Twin 60s and Twin 48s and replacing the culverts underneath St. Clair Avenue and Victory Drive. The Twin 48s start at Wilson Park, turn into the Twin 60s as they go past the high school, and then tie into Nameoki Ditch. The lines were originally put in by East Side Levee District (Project 15). The City of Granite City received a grant to line the two lines and replace the culverts under St. Clair Avenue and Victory Dr.

- Attorney Schooley asked what the cost will be to Metro East Sanitary District.
 - o Mr. Juneau responded at this point there is no cost. He advised after the improvements are done the ongoing maintenance will go back to Metro East Sanitary District.
 - Attorney Schooley asked what the estimated total costs are for all the projects.
 - o Mr. Juneau responded roughly 7 million total project costs. Both the City of Granite City and MESD have been working together on other improvements, so there's been cooperation going back and forth. This is an extension of that by the City to the District.
 - o Attorney Schooley asked the time frame for the work to be completed.
 - Mr. Juneau responded the culvert project at St. Clair and Victory is estimated to be finished mid-summer of next year. The lining of the Twin 60s and Twin 48s should be spring. He explained that based on the success of the Meachum Crossing project, a new process will be used. Rather than doing what is typically done using an insituform liner, gunite will be sprayed in the line. Gunite is cheaper and can be done in variable thicknesses. Since the concrete line is in good condition, except for the bottom as it joints, this is the method they will be using.

MINUTES:

The Regular Minutes for October 18, 2022 were presented for approval.

Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Dixon to dispense with the reading of the minutes, approve them as submitted and place them on file.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

The General Fund and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

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

The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Brinza 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, and Oney

Nays: None

Absent: Jackson

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The General Fund Financial Reports for the month of October 2022 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Dixon to approve the General Fund Financial Report as submitted and place them on file for audit.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

The Special Funds Financial Reports for the month of October 2022 were submitted for approval:

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

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

The Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of October 2022 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Brinza to approve the Lansdowne Fund Financial Report as submitted and place them on file for audit.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

PAYROLL:

The Payroll for the period of October 2, 2022, through October 15, 2022 was submitted for approval.

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

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

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

The Payroll for the period of October 16, 2022, through October 29, 2022 was submitted for approval.

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

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

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

LANSDOWNE ADJUSTMENT REPORT:

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Brinza to approve the Lansdowne Adjustment Report as submitted.

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

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

REPORT OF ATTORNEYS:

Attorney Schooley reported he has prepared a licensing agreement that will give MESD permission to get their mowers and vehicles through one of the cells at the Merchants Bridge approach. He has also prepared a maintenance agreement that spells out the rights and obligations. Attorney Schooley explained to the Board a concern of District's is the debris piling up on the bridge approach. Debris will need to be properly disposed of and MESD property will not be used as a dumping site.

Lastly, Attorney Schooley reported he prepared a Notice of Claim to TRRA and Walsh Construction giving notice there is a leak in the 24-inch sewage force main. Due to the piling and driving of sheet pile this is believed to have caused the issue. The Notice of Claim is the District's legal notice that more than likely there will be a liability claim filed against TRRA and Walsh Construction. This is a big-ticket item.

- Mr. Fancher reported he noticed sewage boils three weeks ago on the South side of the bridge.
 - Commissioner Brinza asked if we have started the repair.
 - Mr. Fancher responded, "We are in the engineering process, trying to see how we can bypass around it. It is a completely encased force main with no manholes."

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Board discussion and/or approval of the Lansdowne Fiscal Year 2022 Audit.

- Commissioner Brinza commented he thought the Auditor had an area of concern.
 - o President Oney responded the concern was drop in revenue. He reported after looking it over, it is to be due to flow being down as well as the new rate increase not going into effect until October of 2022. The response is in the audit.

Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Lansdowne Fiscal Year 2022 Audit.

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

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

Board discussion and/or approval of Resolution 2022-R-009 to approve Board Chairman to execute an intergovernmental agreement between the Metro East Sanitary District and the City of Granite City for improvement.

- President Oney advised the Board this is the document Mr. Juneau discussed in his report.

Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve Resolution 2022-R-009 to approve Board Chairman to execute an intergovernmental agreement between the Metro East Sanitary District and the City of Granite City for improvement.

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

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

Board discussion and/or approval of insurance coverage for the District.

- President Oney commented he would like the Executive Director and staff to go out for RFPs in the fall of 2023. After reviewing the quote his concern was the Broker only bringing in one bid. When he questioned this to the Broker, he was told no one else would bid. He explained there is not a problem with the insurance itself, but proper business practice is you have a couple of bids to compare.

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Dixon to approve insurance coverage for the District.

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

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

Board discussion and/or approval of medical leave of absence for Mark Hudson.

- President Oney informed the Board Mr. Hudson has exhausted all time and Family Medical Leave and has requested extended leave until April 2023. He will pay his own medical insurance in that time frame. In April, if he is not able to return to work without restrictions the Board will then need to reevaluate.
 - o Attorney Schooley asked if all proper medical documentation has been completed.
 - Mr. Fancher responded all paperwork has been turned in to the office.

Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve medical leave of absence for Mark Hudson.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote

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

Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Darwin to enter into Executive Session for employee/personnel matter per 2(C)(1) of open meetings act – personnel pre-termination hearing.

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

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

BOARD ENTERED INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 9:18 A.M.

BOARD RETURNED TO REGULAR SESSION AT 9:52 A.M.

Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Jackson to return to regular session.

The Clerk recorded the attendance:

Present: Commissioners Darwin, Brinza, Dixon, and Oney
Absent: Commissioner Jackson

Attorney Tom Schooley, Attorney Dana Bond, Attorney Caleb Mundorf,
Executive Director Rick Fancher, Business Representative Teamsters Local
525 Brett Wessel, Superintendent Scott Hillman, and Roger Morthland

Commissioner Brinza made a motion of recommendation that the Board accept the decision of the Executive Director to terminate Mr. Morthland; seconded Commissioner Darwin.

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

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

There being no further business placed before the Board, Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Brinza to adjourn.

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

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

So, adjourned at 9:55 A.M.


Clerk