

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE METRO EAST
SANITARY DISTRICT, ST. CLAIR AND
MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS HELD ON
TUESDAY, GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS AT 9:00
A.M. NOVEMBER 17, 2020 AT 1800 EDISON
AVENUE,**

President Oney called the meeting to order and the Clerk recorded the attendance.

The following was the attendance:

Present: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Dixon, Oney and Brinza.

Absent: None

Metro East Sanitary District employees attending the meeting were Executive Director Rick Fancher, Treasurer Kim King, Attorney Schooley, Attorney Meinders.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Executive Director Fancher reported:

We received a new employee handbook attorney Schooley and I are going through it to make sure everything is in the handbook that is needed.

The teamster contract is almost done. Just a few more items to be worked out.

We had an insurance renewal for workman's comp and liability. It is going to go up about 4%, which is reasonable.

We received our Corps inspection report from last December. There are several inaccuracies. I called and spoke with Racheal Lopez and we are going to have a zoom meeting as soon as MESD is set up to have zoom meetings.

Report continued:

We have 163 relief wells we need to have inspected within a 5 year period. They are about \$2000 a piece so that would be about \$330,000 over the 5 years per the Corps specs. They first told us inspect every 10 years and then a week later they said they were wrong it needs to be done in 5 years.

Attorney Schooley “This is when I wrote a letter to Chuck Etwert at Southwestern Flood Prevention District Council (FPD) and asked for them to help us. Define these costs as part of the FDP money. He responded that he wasn’t responsible for any maintenance on the relief wells.”

Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Dixon a to approve the Executive Director Report.

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

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

REPORT OF ENGINEER:

President Oney reported:

As everyone knows we have had some issues with the twin 60’s. Juneau Associates went out and got a bid, because we have some streets in Granite that are collapsing because of the twin 60’s. They went out and got a bid for lining them and the bid came in at \$549,500. We will get with Juneau and discuss and get back to the Board.

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MINUTES:

The minutes for the October 20, 2020 were presented for approval.

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Motion Commissioner McCall; 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 Brinza, McCall, Darwin, Oney, and Dixon

Nays: None

Absent: None

CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

The General Fund and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

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

The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims as submitted and order them paid.

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

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

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The General Fund Financial Reports for the month of October 2020 was submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Brinza to approve the General Fund Financial Reports for the month of October 2020 as submitted and place them on file for audit.

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Special Funds Financial Reports for the month of October 2020 was submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Special Funds Financial Reports for the month of October 2020 as submitted and place them on file for audit.

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of October 2020 were submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of October 2020 as submitted and place them on file for audit.

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

PAYROLL:

The Payroll for the period of October 4, 2020 through October 17, 2020 were submitted for approval.

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

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

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

The Payroll for the period of October 18, 2020 through October 31, 2020 were submitted for approval.

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

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

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

LANSDOWNE ADJUSTMENT REPORT:

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

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

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

REPORT OF ATTORNEY: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion and/or approval of Insurance Renewal:

Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner McCall to approve the insurance renewal for the upcoming year.

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Discussion and/or approval of repairing pump #1 at Lansdowne.

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Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Brinza to approve repairing pump one at Lansdowne

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Discussion and/or approval of Ordinance 2020-0-017 property tax appeal:

Attorney Schooley reported:

This is one of the warehouses in Pontoon Beach. They are contesting their equalized assessed valuation. The Board of Review decided they want to take it to the appeal board in Springfield. They do not have an appraisal, they are claiming it is a legal argument. In order for us to intervene the Board would have to pass a resolution and I would file it along with a petition. Granite City school district is intervening as well. It is just a matter that we do not get backdoored at the property tax appeal board and they listen to all the arguments. My recommendation is to pass the Ordinance.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to adopt Ordinance 2020-0-017 property tax appeal.

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

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

Discussion and/or approval of Ordinance 2020-0-019 requiring new employees to live within the district.

Commissioner Brinza “I am generally opposed to these, I think it limits your talent pool. At the same time, I understand the benefits to it. My only issue is the amount of time you hire someone and make them move. The county here in Madison gives 2 years and I would like to push it out to six months move time instead of 90 days.”

President Oney “My opinion is we collect taxes for protecting this area. I want the employees to have a case in anything that goes on. There is a State law that requires our Executive Director to be a resident. It does not give any time frame to move in. If it is good enough for Director, it should be good for our employees. I have always believed you if you work for that district you should work in that district.”

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Dixon to adopt Ordinance 2020-0-018 District requirements for new employees.

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

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

Discussion and/or approval of Ordinance 2020-0-019 Lansdowne flat rate fee for Commercial & Industrial users:

President Oney “Since we just received this Ordinance, I would like to table this discussion so the Commissioners that are not here can review it.

Motion Commissioner Brinza; seconded Commissioner Darwin to table this discussion till next meeting.

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

The Board entered into Executive Session at 9:23 A.M.

Motion Commissioner Dixon; seconded Commissioner Darwin to return to regular session at 9:38 A.M.

The Clerk recorded the attendance:

Present: Commissioners Brinza, McCall Darwin, Oney and Dixon.

Absent:

Metro East Sanitary District employees attending the meeting were Executive Director Rick Fancher, Treasurer Kim King, Attorney Schooley, Attorney Meinders.

President Oney “We are getting a zoom account for meetings. The next Board meeting will be on zoom, only Attorney Schooley, Attorney Meinders, Executive Director Fancher, District Clerk Hogue and myself will be in attendance. We will be sending out the zoom number and the log in number and also the phone in number.”

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

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

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

So, adjourned at 9:40 A.M.

Clerk