

**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. JUNE 16, 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, Oney and Dixon.

Absent: Commissioners Brinza

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**

Executive Director Fancher reported:

We have been working with Juneau and Associates on the FEMA payment.

We did find out some of what we initially claimed was covered under the PL84-99. Which is the 60" repair, we received confirmation it is on the United States Corp of Engineers (USACE) list for repairs and will be covered by them. They pay for a hundred percent of their repairs whereas FEMA will only pay us seventy-five percent of our repairs.

Attorney Schooley and I and Superintendent Hillman have been working with IDOT on some easements over 255 and Cahokia conversionary canal. We final have an agreement letter after several meetings. The agreement included that IDOT would repair they the different locations have left draining and running and having wash outs.

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**REPORT OF ENGINEER:** None

**MINUTES:**

The minutes for the March 17, 2020 were presented for approval.

June 16, 2020

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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, Oney, and Dixon

Nays: None

Absent: Brinza

**MINUTES:**

The phone call consensus minutes for the April 20, 2020 were presented for approval.

June 16, 2020

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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, Oney, and Dixon

Nays: None

Absent: Brinza

**MINUTES:**

The phone call consensus minutes for the May 19, 2020 were presented for approval.

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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, Oney, and Dixon

Nays: None

Absent: Brinza

**CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS:**

The General Fund and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

June 16, 2020

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

The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Brinza

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

The General Fund Financial Reports for the month of March & April 2020 was submitted for approval:

June 16, 2020

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Oney, and Dixon

Nays: None

Absent: Brinza

The Special Funds Financial Reports for the month of March & April 2020 was submitted for approval:



June 16, 2020

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Oney, and Dixon

Nays: None

Absent: Brinza

The Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of March & April 2020 were submitted for approval:

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

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

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

**PAYROLL:**

The Payroll for the period of May 3, 2020 through May 16, 2020 were submitted for approval.

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

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

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

The Payroll for the period of May 17, 2020 through May 30, 2020 were submitted for approval.

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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, Oney, and Dixon

Nays: None

Absent: Brinza

**LANSDOWNE ADJUSTMENT REPORT:**

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

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

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

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

#### **REPORT OF ATTORNEY:**

Attorney Schooley reported:

Executive Director Fancher has forwarded me 2 tax objections. Tax objections are very common and no need for attorneys to get involved.

We received a letter from an attorney representing former employees Adler, Sawicki, Foster and Irby. This is the six month notice they are required to give under the law if they are going to file a lawsuit for wrongful termination of employment. They have not sked for damages yet. I have asked Executive Director Fancher to turn it over to their work insurance to see if they have coverage for this.

Executive Director Fancher “It has been turned in and we have coverage and a file has been opened.”

Attorney Meinders reported:

I have talked to Attorney Baricevic and we are in discussion about a flat rate for the Mexican restaurant.

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion and/or approval of Prevailing Wage. Ordinance No. 2020-0-010 was assigned to this document.

President Oney “This will be tabled, based on a new law we do not have to pass an Ordinance every year.”

Discussion and/or approval of annexation of property into the city of Centreville. Ordinance No. 2020-0-011 was assigned to this document.

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Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-0-011 for the annexation of property into the city of Centreville.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Oney, and Dixon

Nays: None

Absent: Brinza

Discussion and/or approval of annexation of property into the city of Granite City.

Ordinance No. 2020-0-012 was assigned to this document.

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Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-0-012 for the annexation of property into the city of Granite City.

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Oney, and Dixon

Nays: None

Absent: Brinza

Discussion and/or approval of an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Referendum.  
Ordinance No. 2020-0-013 was assigned to this document.



Attorney Schooley reported:

MESD can only generate revenue under the statute it is created under. The 2 ways are by increasing rates or by bonds. This allows us to put it on the ballot that we are going out for this forgivable note from the IEPA to improve their sewer system. If they want it yes or no, we are letting them decide because it would probably influence their rates.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-0-013 for Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Referendum.

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

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

Discussion and/or approval of trash service.

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Executive Director Fancher reported:

Our three-year trash service contract was up, and Stacy Partney called a couple trash services, Aspen and Waste Management. Aspen let us know they were not able to bid at this time. In talking with Waste Management our bill is going to drop by two thirds.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the three-year renewal contract for trash service with Waste Management,

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

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

Discussion on Insurance.

President Oney reported:

We are in the middle of negotiations with the unions and part of the negotiations is splitting the unions so that the Operators will provide insurance for the Operators. The teamsters will provide insurance for the teamsters. When they do that neither one of them will supply insurance to the non-union employees, such as the Board members, supervisors and the Executive Director. We have gone out to an insurance company and got some quotes and prices. What will affect the Board members is currently teamsters only had one plan, family plan. These all have multiple plans single, single plus child, single plus spouse and family. Based on what can be provided to the Board members has to be the lowest that is provided between St. Clair and Madison County Board members. Madison only provides single coverage. Board Member would have to pay for any extra coverage.

This is nothing that is going to happen right now. It could save the District money and I wanted to put it out there because of the negotiations. It is for information only right now.

Approval of awarded bids 1-3 and discussion on bid 4.

Executive Director reported:

Bid one through four have all been bid but bid number 4 has been put on hold. Bid four is the 60" line we have been talking about and the 80" line also, because The 80" sit seventeen feet below the 60". USACE said that fits under the PL84-99 Which is 100% paid by USACE.

Bids one thru three, these are projects that FEMA has approved as being FEMA Eligible. FEMA will pay 75% and we must pay 25%. To proceed on with them we will have to accept the bids. The only thing is reimbursable, we will have to pay up front and submit the bills to FEMA for reimbursement.

Commissioner McCall "Do we have the funds to pay?"

President Oney "One of the bids is coming from Lansdowne and the funds are there. The other bids it will depend on when we get the real estate taxes. There are some issues with Finances here. When the Levy was passed you were told that you would be getting over three million dollars from FEMA by the prior administration. It is not near that amount. When the Levy was passed it was cut back based on that misinformation."

Executive Director Fancher "Right ow it is around \$407,000 and most of that is electric Bills. FEMA wants to get these closed out to be ready for other projects later this year"

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to accept bid one for Levee Road Repair awarded to Kamadulski Excavating for \$115,460.00.

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

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

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to accept bid two for Manhole No.4 So of Merchants Bridge awarded to Kamadulski Excavating for \$136,775.00.

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

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

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to accept bid three for reseed flood damaged areas awarded to Gelly Excavating for \$114,250.00.

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

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

Discussion of Blue Water Ditch.

President Oney commented:

Blue Water Ditch is an agreement with Cahokia, Centreville City, Centreville Township, Alorton and St. Clair. It is an old agreement; it is a pump station that IDOT required to be put in. The prior administration did these major repairs and spent around \$300,000 on it, in violation of the agreement. The agreement states there must be three fifths vote and budgets done. I can not find any minutes where this was done. Proper procedures were not followed.

I would like approval from the Board to meet with the Blue Water Ditch and try to resolve the problems that was caused by the prior administration. We need to get it resolved. I will reach out to the communities to set up a meeting to discuss this and how we will address it in the future so we will never have the kind of situation again.

Commissioner McCall “Blue Water Station mainly pumps storm water correct? Where does this water come from?”

Executive Director Fancher “Correct, it comes from the bluffs down.”

Commissioner McCall “If all of these cities empty their stormwater into this station. How is it fair to only have 5 communities pay? From our point of view and my community it is no longer going to be tolerated.”

President Oney “One thing there wasn’t the development there is now. The development was in the bottoms at the time. The sixties through the eighties you started to see the bluffs develop. There is funding source out there, the only thing is the law does not let them cover interior flooding.”

Commissioner McCall “Is this a State Law? We need to get with our representatives?”

President Oney “I met with Bill Haines years ago and addressed it with him. When it was set up it was only set up to cover the 100-year certification. It was never set up to cover the 500-year certification. We need to reach out to all the representatives.”

Commissioner McCall “Now is the time due to COVID they are passing things due to these poor communities that are being hit so hard by everything.”

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

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

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Oney, and Dixon

Nays: None

Absent: Brinza

So, adjourned at 9:50 A.M.

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Clerk