

**REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE
METRO EAST SANITARY DISTRICT
ST. CLAIR AND MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS
HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024, 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, Jackson, and President Oney

Absent: None.

Others attending the meeting were:

Executive Director Mike Nordstrom, Superintendent Justin Roehr, Attorney Tom Schooley, Attorney Robert Sprague, Treasurer Kim King, and Engineer Charlie Juneau

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE None.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Nordstrom reported the following:

The 1984 TK slope mower, used to cut all the slopes on the levee, has broken down for the last time. In the past, parts have been fabricated in house due to the difficulty of finding parts for this old of a model. This notice is to inform that the bidding process for a new machine will be starting here soon.

An actuator at East St. Louis Pump Station failed, which caused the gate to remain open about two feet. This resulted in the intake of river water. The broken actuator has been removed and is currently being repaired. As a temporary fix, a piece of metal has been used to build a wall, which has been sandbagged around to restrict flow as much as possible.

It has been a busy month keeping up with all the rain and mowing. Due to the heavy rainfall, the grass is high, and we are working to catch up.

There has been a significant amount of drift at the control gates, requiring daily use of the excavator to clear it.

Canal No 1 has been desilted which will help with flow.

REPORT OF ENGINEER

Charlie Juneau reported the following:

Mr. Nordstrom has signed off, and the USACE has filed a copy of the annual Systemwide Improvement Framework (SWIF) report, which is required yearly to maintain compliance with the 499 program. The report contained nothing new except for one reoccurring item, tuckpointing of North And South Pump Stations. Mr. Juneau suggested including this in the Capital Improvement Plan. Though it is a very expensive project, it should be addressed.

MINUTES

The Regular Minutes for April 16th, 2024 were presented for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Darwin 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, Jackson, and Oney
Nays: None

CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS

The General Fund and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded by Commissioner Brinza 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

The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Dixon 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

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The General Fund Financial Reports for the month of April 2024 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Darwin to approve the General Fund Financial Report as submitted and place on file for audit.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

The Special Funds Financial Reports for the month of April 2024 were submitted for approval:

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

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

The Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of April 2024 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Darwin to approve the Lansdowne Fund Financial Report as submitted and place on file for audit.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

PAYROLL

The Payroll for the period of March 31st, 2024, through April 13th, 2024, was submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Brinza: seconded by Commissioner Dixon 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

The Payroll for the period of April 14th, 2024, through April 27th, 2024, was submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by 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

The Payroll for the period of April 28th, 2024, through May 11th, 2024, was submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded by Commissioner Jackson 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

LANSDOWNE ADJUSTMENT REPORT

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Darwin 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

REPORT OF ATTORNEY

Attorney Sprague- No Report

Attorney Schooley- No Report

OLD BUSINESS

Board discussion and/or approval of WRF Engineers LLC proposal for electrical engineers services for existing electrical systems at North Pump Station and East St Louis Pump Station.

- President Oney stated this was discussed at the last board meeting with a cost of \$9,900.

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Darwin approving WRF Engineers LLC proposal for electrical engineer services for existing electrical systems of North Pump Station and East St Louis Pump Station.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

Board discussion and/or approval of Ordinance 2024-0-012 authorizing execution of temporary work area and road access easement agreement to Enerje, LLC D/B/A Meridian Pipeline Services.

- Attorney Schooley brought to the Board’s attention that he and the office have been working on this agreement for several months. This agreement is primarily for temporary workspace where there is very little permanent easement. The \$113,000 reimburses MESD for the \$11,512.00 spent on Juneau costs so far. This project involves Meridian installing zinc ribbon around the pipelines to prevent further deterioration.

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Darwin approving Ordinance 2024-0-012 authorizing execution of temporary work area and road access easement agreement to Enerje, LLC D/B/A Meridian Pipeline Services.

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

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

Board discussion and/or approval of Ordinance 2024-0-013 waving the fees for right of entry and agreement for Granite City Community Unit School District #9 pursuant to Ordinance 2024-0-008.

- President Oney explained this pertains to the work at the soccer fields for their drainage and tapping in to the 48-inch line.
 - o Attorney Schooley stated it is his understanding that MESD went out and inspected the area.
 - Superintendent Roehr confirmed and stated everything looked fine.

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Darwin approving Ordinance 2024-0-013 waving the fees for right of entry and agreement for Granite City Community Unit School District #9 pursuant to Ordinance 2024-0-008.

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

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

Board discussion and/or approval of Ordinance 2024-0-014 establishing rates and regulations for connection to sanitary line of the Metro East Sanitary District.

- President Oney stated this is tap on fees primarily for residential.

Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded by Commissioner Dixon approving Ordinance 2024-0-014 establishing rates and regulations for connection to sanitary line of the Metro East Sanitary District.

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

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

Board discussion and/or approval of Ordinance 2024-0-015 requesting waiver of fees for right of entry and agreement for City of East St Louis pursuant to Ordinance 2024-0-008.

- Mr. Nordstrom stated the City of East St Louis has been required by the EPA to televise every sewer line. They needed to get on our property to find a sewer lid.

Motion Commissioner Brinza: seconded by Commissioner Darwin approving Ordinance 2024-0-015 waiver of fees for right of entry and agreement for City of East St Louis pursuant to Ordinance 2024-0-008.

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

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

Board discussion and/or approval of Resolution 2024-R-002 for energy supplier agreement.

- President Oney explained that MESD goes out for bids for electric supply for the main stations. Energy Plus handled the bidding process on MESD behalf. When asked about their payment method, it was clarified that Energy Plus includes their consulting fee in the electricity price, which amounts to 0.002 a kilowatt, totaling about \$1200 last year. The electric bills have been low the last two years due to the river being low. Mr. Schreiber with Energy Plus sent the new rates last night. Shorter terms offer lower rates, while longer terms cost more due to the security of a 5-year contract. The current bid shows about a 20 percent increase. At this point, home rates went up about 40 percent, so Mr. Oney stated he is grateful MESD is in this agreement. The bids are only valid for 24 hours, so they must be accepted within that timeframe. Mr. Oney suggests the 4-year rate with Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. (CNE).
 - o Commissioner Brinza stated he cannot see the rates going down.

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Darwin approving Resolution 2024-R-002 for energy supplier agreement for 4 years with Constellation NewEnergy (CNE).

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

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

Board discussion and/or approval of emergency repair quote from The Pump Shop to replace the mid stem of the gate structure of North Pump Stations Gate #1.

- Superintendent Roehr explained this is the gate that was temporarily fixed last year. The stem attached to the actuator has bent in the middle. They will be replacing the stem so that the gate can fully open. The quoted cost for repair is \$12,000.
 - o Commissioner Brinza asked if this was put out for bid.
 - Superintendent Roehr answered, “No, due to the river levels rising at this time, this is an emergency.”

Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded by Commissioner Jackson approving the emergency repair quote from The Pump Shop to replace the mid stem of the gate structure of North Pump Stations Gate #1.

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

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

Board discussion and/or approval to move June 18th, 2024 board meeting to June 25th, 2024.

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Darwin approved moving the board meeting from June 18th, 2024 to June 25th, 2024.

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

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

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

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

So, adjourned at 9:19 A.M.


Clerk