

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE METRO EAST
SANITARY DISTRICT, ST. CLAIR AND
MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2010 AT 1800
EDISON AVENUE, GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS AT
9:00 A.M.**

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

The following was the attendance:

Present: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Absent: None.

Also, attending the meeting were Executive Director Shipley, Attorney George Filcoff, Attorney Todd Neilson, Superintendent Walter Greathouse, Superintendent John Maeras and Lansdowne Office Manager Cindy Worthen.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Executive Director Shipley presented a list of MESD projects:

1. Several MESD staff members, Les Sterman and I met with Jim Zerega from the Corps of Engineers.

The Corps estimates the cost to meet the 500 year flood standard to be One hundred forty-nine million dollars (\$149,000,000).

The cost for the 100 year flood upgrade is not known at this time. I have requested that cost estimate.

The levees must be 46-feet to meet 100 year flood protection standards and 52.2-feet to meet the 500 year standards.

If the river was dredged the water would not come up as high or as quickly on the levees.

Plans currently include sealing all of the existing relief wells and installing all new relief wells. Several levee walls and berms were also included in the plans.

2. The impellor on Pump #3 at the North Pump Station needs to be replaced immediately. Pump #3 cannot operate without the impellor.

Illinois Electric obtained a bid of Fifty-eight thousand dollars (\$58,000) for a new stainless steel impellor. However, it will take twelve (12) weeks to fabricate the impellor. For an additional Nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) the impellor will be available in nine (9) weeks.

I recommend paying Sixty-seven thousand dollars (\$67,000) for the new impellor, which includes the additional fee to receive the impellor in nine weeks time.

The river has been going up and down so much this year that I do not believe we should take the risk of not having Pump #3 in operation.

Hydro Kinetics also submitted a bid of One hundred five thousand dollars (\$105,000) for a stainless steel impellor or Ninety-six thousand dollars (\$96,000) for an impellor cast in bronze.

Stainless steel has been recommended by several professionals.

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Penny to declare the fabrication of a stainless steel impellor for Pump Number 3 at the North Pump Station an emergency and order a new stainless steel impellor with a nine week delivery deadline at the quoted price of Sixty-seven thousand dollars (\$67,000) from Illinois Electric.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Executive Director Shipley continued with his report:

3. I have a Lansdowne user rate study meeting scheduled later today with Charlie Juneau.
4. Also, I am meeting with officials from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to discuss the wetlands that have dried up, due to the repair of a flap gate.
5. Rita Lee from the Office of Water Resources called about Senate Bill 2520. The bill allows MESD to annex property.
6. The meeting between MESD and IDOT regarding the water IDOT is pumping into the Lansdowne system from Venice did not go well.

Mary Lamie claims MESD would receive the water regardless if IDOT pumped or not. There is absolutely no way MESD would receive that water unless IDOT pumps it into our system.

I am going to contact State Representative Dan Beiser about this matter.

7. The impellor is being installed on Pump Number 2 at Lansdowne.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENTS:

Superintendent Maeras reported:

1. East St. Louis is the only pump station in operation. The others were closed last Monday.
2. An actuator was installed on Gate #2 at the South Pump Station.
3. Two switch gears were installed at the Madison Pump Station.
4. A crew is cutting trees along Dead Creek.
5. Both slope mowers are in the garage being repaired.

Superintendent Greathouse reported:

1. The box grader is in use at Hartford Canal.
2. Tractors are still being winterized.
3. A crew is cutting trees.
4. There are fifteen (15) in the Madison County Employment and Training crew. Madison County is providing a crew leader, so they will have more supervision in the future.
5. One of the very old tractors is having a guard installed at the bottom to prevent future problems with the machine.

Lansdowne Office Manager Cindy Worthen reported:

1. I received an e-mail from Jodi McCracken at Illinois American Water Company. Illinois American is sending a sample disconnect letter to the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) to review.

I am hopeful that we will be able to disconnect water for past due sewage treatment bills the first of March. We will have to meet with Illinois American before we can start shutting off again.

2. I still have several questions regarding bankruptcy accounts that I am waiting on Attorney Larry Taliana to answer.

ENGINEERING REPORT: None.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the January 6, 2010 and January 20, 2010 meetings were presented for approval.

Motion Commissioner Crockett; seconded Commissioner Laub 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 Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

GENERAL FUND CLAIMS:

The General Fund Claims and Specific Claims for the month of January 2010 were submitted for approval:

February 3, 2010

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Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Crockett to approve the General Fund Claims and Specific Claims for the month of January 2010 as submitted and order them paid.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

The Various Specific Claims for the month of January 2010 were submitted for review:

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Motion Commissioner Hanfelder; seconded Commissioner Laub to accept the General Fund and Various Specific Claims for the month of January 2010 as submitted:

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

LANSDOWNE CLAIMS & SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims for the month of January 2010 were submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Crockett to approve the Lansdowne Treatment Plant Claims and Specific Claims for the month of January 2010 as submitted and order them paid.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The General Fund and Specific Funds Financial Reports for the month of January 2010 were submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner Penny; seconded Commissioner Crockett to approve the General Fund and Specific Funds Financial Reports for the month of January 2010 as submitted and place them on file for audit.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

LANSDOWNE FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Lansdowne Treatment Plant Financial Report for the month of January 2010 was submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Penny; seconded Commissioner Crockett to approve the Lansdowne Treatment Plant Financial Report for the month of January 2010 as submitted and place it on file for audit.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

LANSDOWNE REPORT:

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Hanfelder to approve the Lansdowne Adjustment Reports as submitted.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

PAYROLL:

The Payroll for the period of January 10, 2010 through January 23, 2010 was submitted for approval.

Motion Commissioner Penny; seconded Commissioner Laub to approve the Payroll as submitted.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

REPORT OF ATTORNEY:

Attorney Filcoff reported:

1. Executive Director Shipley, Superintendent Greathouse and I met with IDOT to discuss ownership of the triple box culvert.

IDOT plans to build a road over the triple box culvert. I am very concerned that the triple box culvert will not be able to withstand the pressure from the road.

Originally, the engineering plans showed a bridge over the triple box culvert, but new engineering plans show a road directly over the triple box culvert.

I want to review the original plans, as they indicate a road cannot go over the triple box culvert.

IDOT is going to clean and replace part of the triple box culvert. We have asked them to take over ownership of that part of the triple box culvert. However, IDOT refuses to take ownership.

I will continue to work with Executive Director Shipley on this matter.

2. I have asked the District Clerk to give me four to five expired ordinances weekly. I am currently finalizing three Ameren ordinances.

Attorney Neilson reported:

1. MESD must pay 100 percent for the disposal of all hazardous and toxic wastes. I tried to research where the hazardous and toxic wastes came from, but have not been able to locate the exact source.
2. Last fall, I sent St. Louis Pipeline (SLP) information per their request. I have not heard anything since that time.

MESD recently adopted three ordinances with Buckeye Pipeline. I will send copies to SLP.

Commissioner Penny asked, “Has an ordinance been passed setting rates for pipelines, overhead lines, etc.?”

Attorney Neilson, “No, there have been several suggestions, but nothing has ever been finalized.”

Commissioner Penny, “I think it would be beneficial to have a standard rate ordinance.”

Attorney Neilson, “Yes, it would help to be consistent.”

Attorney Filcoff, “I prepared a draft of suggested rates, but I think each right-of-way or easement needs to be looked at individually.”

Commissioner Penny, “A fair rate should be attainable by taking all of the rates, throwing out the highest and lowest, and then averaging the remaining.”

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive Director Shipley, "I would like to discuss some personnel problems in Executive Session."

Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Crockett to enter into Executive Session to discuss issues with MESD personnel.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 9:35 A.M.

President Economy called the meeting back to order at 9:42 A.M. and the Clerk recorded the attendance.

The following was the attendance:

Present: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Absent: None.

Also, attending the meeting at this time were Executive Director Bob Shipley, Attorney George Filcoff, Attorney Todd Neilson, Superintendent Greathouse and Superintendent John Maeras.

President Economy, "After discussing the matter in Executive Session, there will be no action taken at this time."

There being no further business, Motion Commissioner Hanfelder; seconded
Commissioner Laub to adjourn.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Hanfelder, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

So adjourned at 9:44 A.M.

Rosemarie Heath, District Clerk