

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE METRO EAST
SANITARY DISTRICT, ST. CLAIR AND
MADISON COUNTIES, WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 23, 2011 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 Bob Shipley, Attorney George Filcoff, Attorney Todd Neilson, Lansdowne Office Manager Cindy Worthen, Treasurer Charles Hester and Superintendents John Maeras and Randy Presswood. Joe Juneau from Juneau Associates, Inc. was also in attendance.

REPORT OF ENGINEER:

Mr. Juneau presented a memo regarding the tree replacement at Bailey International:

Mr. Juneau, “Seven Australian pine trees were removed at Bailey International during the installation of the 24” force main. The easement requires the property be restored to the original condition. Bailey International uses ingredients from the trees in their products. Therefore, the trees must be replaced.”

Motion Commissioner Penny; seconded Commissioner Laub to authorize the replacement of seven (7) Australian pine trees at Bailey International.

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

Ayes: Commissioners Economy, Penny, Crockett and Laub.

Nays: Commissioner Hanfelder.

Absent: None.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Executive Director Shipley reported:

1. Construction has been completed on the 24” force main from the Lansdowne Facility to the Bremen Station.
2. MESD must respond to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers by March 25, 2011 regarding the periodic inspection report. Charlie Juneau is assisting MESD with the response.

Superintendent Maeras and I will be meeting with representatives from the Corps on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 to inspect some of the problem areas mentioned in the periodic inspection report.

ICON Mechanical inspected the gate at the 408 Pump Station, which is located on the Tri-City Regional Port District property. ICON has been asked to provide a cost estimate to repair the gate.

The stop logs that were listed on the periodic report as missing have been moved to the site by Union Electric. Union Electric owns the closure structure.

3. I received a violation notice from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). MESD heavy equipment operators were dredging

Lansdowne Canal and placing the excess dirt along the banks of the Canal. Some of the dirt ran onto property owned by St. Louis Auto Shredder. The dirt has an orange coloring, indicating it might be high in iron.

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) drains their ground water wells into the Canal. The water from IDOT is very orange. Previously, we brought this to the attention of IDOT.

MESD must submit a response to IEPA by March 16, 2011. Attorney Filcoff is preparing the response. We plan to remove the dirt that ran onto St. Louis Auto Shredder's property.

4. The Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District hired AMEC to study the relief wells. AMEC applied for an application with IEPA.

5. The Mississippi River is at 25 feet. All of the pump stations are in operation.

6. Attorney Filcoff and I met with Joe Juneau (Juneau Associates), Larry Rose (Allison Knapp & Siekmann) and Joe Parente (Madison County) to discuss new legislation allowing MESD to annex property.

It was agreed during the meeting that MESD boundaries should include property from the Mississippi River to Route 157.

Commissioner Penny, "Will property owners be given a choice as to if they want to annex into MESD?"

Executive Director Shipley, "No, the law gives MESD the right to annex the property."

Executive Director Shipley continued:

7. Yesterday, I received an e-mail from Robert Betts requesting a meeting on Thursday, February 25, 2011 to discuss the land swap on 79th Street.

Mr. Betts stated in his e-mail that the East St. Louis Housing Authority acquired the property MESD requested. Once again, it is not the property we requested. However, I will still meet with Mr. Betts.

8. Copies of the MESD Operation and Maintenance manuals, prepared by Juneau Associates, were given to the Corps of Engineers.

9. I would like to applaud Cindy Worthen and her staff. They have collected more in sewage treatment payments than they have billed.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENTS:

Superintendent Maeras reported:

1. As the Executive Director mentioned earlier, all of the pump stations are being manned.

Only three employees are not in the pump stations: one is driving the dump truck, one is on the slope mower and the third is the mechanic.

Superintendent Presswood reported:

1. The Link Belt is at the Horseshoe Lake Control Gates. This is the first time the Control Gates have been cleaned since being reconstructed. It was hard to see the area, but we were able to clear the debris.

The Link Belt is being moved back to Canal No. 1.

2. The 850 is knocking down trees at Dead Creek. There are several large trees that need to be burned.
3. Bremen Station will need to be shut down while the contractor ties in the 24" force main.
4. The 24" pipes have been sanded at the Bremen Station. The pipes still need to be painted with epoxy paint.
5. The Eagle Park sewer line project is at a standstill.

Ms. Worthen reported:

1. Sewage treatment collections are good.
2. We received the new BOD and TSS rates from the Granite City Regional Treatment Plant and have adjusted our rates accordingly. These rates only affect about 6 commercial and industrial accounts.

Executive Director Shipley, “It was brought to my attention that the Granite City Regional Treatment Board requires MESD to take 105 test samples yearly. This year, we have only been able to take two samples. All of the entities must take a sample or none of the entities can sample. Glen Carbon has not been able to sample this year. I am going to discuss this at the next Granite City Regional Treatment Board meeting. These samples determine the rates paid, and this is not a fair assessment of the usage.”

LANSDOWNNE ADJUSTMENT REPORTS:

The Lansdowne Adjustment reports were presented for approval:

President Economy, “Page 10 of the report, why wasn’t there a lien on the property?”

Ms. Worthen, “There was a lien, but it was released when the property was sold for back taxes.”

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.

GENERAL FUND CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS LIST:

The General Fund Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner Laub; seconded Commissioner Crockett to approve the General Fund Claims and Specific Claims 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.

LANSDOWNE CLAIMS AND SPECIFIC CLAIMS LIST:

The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner Penny; seconded Commissioner Laub to approve the Lansdowne Treatment Plant Claims and Specific Claims 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.

PAYROLL:

The Payroll for the period of January 23, 2011 through February 5, 2011 was submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Crockett; 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 presented an offer from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to purchase 13.86 acres of MESD property along St. Clair Avenue (Route 3), East St. Louis, IL for Six hundred twenty-seven thousand dollars (\$627,000):

Attorney Filcoff, "I do not know the exact location of the property."

Executive Director Shipley, "This property is part of the Lansdowne Facility and includes the overflow ponds."

Superintendent Presswood, "There have been instances, where we have pumped sludge into the overflow ponds."

Attorney Filcoff, "I recommend authorizing Juneau Associates to review the offer from IDOT to determine if MESD needs the property."

Executive Director Shipley, "Also, I want to make certain IDOT does not block our access to the Lansdowne Facility."

Attorney Filcoff, "I will send IDOT a letter requesting the plans."

Executive Director Shipley, "I believe it is a fair offer, we just need some additional information. I also agree with Attorney Filcoff that Juneau Associates should review the documents."

Motion Commissioner Penny; seconded Commissioner Hanfelder to retain Juneau Associates, Inc., for a fee of One thousand, five hundred dollars (\$1,500) or less, to review the offer from the Illinois Department of Transportation to purchase property along St. Clair Avenue, East St. Louis, Illinois.

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

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Attorney Neilson, "I have been working with a Representative from Ameren Illinois to renew fifty-three (53) Ordinances. Previously, Ameren paid Ten Thousand, six hundred six dollars (\$10,606) annually. I proposed a new rate of Thirty-five thousand

dollars (\$35,000) per year. Ameren countered with Nineteen thousand, six hundred ninety-five dollars (\$19,695).”

Attorney Filcoff, “I am working on a rate Ordinance, which will set a standard rate for pipelines and overhead lines. I need to meet with the Executive Director to review the rates. Then it will need to be presented at a meeting and adopted. I think the rate Ordinance should be adopted before renewing the Ameren Illinois Ordinances.”

Commissioner Penny, “I agree, there should be a standard rate.”

Attorney Neilson, “I will contact Ameren Illinois and explain we are waiting for a standard fee to be adopted.”

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

There being no further business, Motion Commissioner Hanfelder; seconded Commissioner Penny 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 9:38 A.M.

Clerk