

**REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE  
METRO EAST SANITARY DISTRICT  
ST. CLAIR AND MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 16, 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, Attorney Tom Schooley, Treasurer Kim King, Engineer Joe Juneau, and Chouteau Township Highway Commissioner Jeff Scholebo

**PUBLIC COMMENT**      None.

**PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE**      None.

**REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Nordstrom reported the following:

Normal maintenance on the levees and ditches, including grass mowing is continuing in both counties.

The desilting job has been paused near East St Louis High School due to the ground being too wet. Additionally, the washout at the levee near Lake and State has been put on hold due to the same conditions.

Bids for a new slope mower have been accepted. ATMAX Equipment Company from Tampa Bay provided a demo yesterday. Unfortunately, the demonstration did not work out due to the steep grades, which are too challenging for a rubber tire slope mower. Although a rubber tire mower would be ideal by eliminating the need to haul equipment, the steep grades are an issue. Given this, we may need to look at a 360 dozer and modify it to function as a slope mower.

- President Oney asked if the company that submitted a bid can provide a track slope mower.

- Mr. Nordstrom responded that the company cannot provide a track slope mower. He stated there is a second bid from another company, and they are working to see if a demo can be arranged. However, after reviewing the specs, he believes it's going to have the same issue. They will need to have a conversation with Fabick or a dealer and see about getting something fabricated.
  - o Commissioner Dixon asked what the District uses now.
  - Commissioner Brinza asked if we have someone that can make parts for the current mower.
    - o Mr. Nordstrom responded that the District currently has a 1983 Terrain King, but parts are no longer available for it. The mechanic has done a great job of keeping it running over the years, and fabricating small parts as needed for repairs. Fortunately, it still operates, but if a significant issue arises, it will likely be out of commission.
      - President Oney stated that, given it's July, by the time the equipment is ordered, mowing season will likely be over. He believes there must be a national provider that offers what is needed. If fabrication is necessary, it would likely be for the next mowing season. He recommends exploring both options and staying on top of it.
        - Mr. Nordstrom assured they are actively searching for a suitable solution. He mentioned one of the challenges they are facing is that the machines are certified for a maximum 10 to 15 percent grade, whereas some areas have steeper grades.

Mr. Nordstrom continued with his report, noting the pump stations have been running for a couple of months and everything is operating efficiently.

Commissioner Darwin asked Mr. Nordstrom why there are so many work trucks parked across the street.

- Mr. Nordstrom responded that Safety Director David Smith suggested all employees become CPR and AED certified. Half the employees took the first class last week, and the second half is attending today. After today, all employees will be certified.

## **REPORT OF ENGINEER**

Joe Juneau reported the following:

Regarding the St Clair improvement at Nameoki Ditch, bids were received yesterday. Keller Construction is currently the lowest bidder, and their bid will be presented for approval at tonight's City Council meeting. He anticipates a lead time of approximately 12 weeks for the box culvert to be manufactured. The City Attorney is currently reviewing some permanent easements, which will be presented to MESD at the August meeting. The existing culvert will need to be relocated, so the current easement will require modification.

- President Oney asked for an update on the electrical upgrade.
  - o Mr. Juneau responded he knows Charlie Juneau is doing the review.
    - Mr. Nordstrom added that, yes, Charlie is currently working on the electrical upgrades, and they had someone conduct the study. He believes Charlie is still in the process of completing it.

**MINUTES**

The Regular Minutes for June 25<sup>th</sup>, 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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**

The Executive Session Minutes for June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 were presented for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Dixon to dispense with the reading of the executive session 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 Brinza: seconded by Commissioner Darwin 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

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The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded by Commissioner Jackson 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 June 2024 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Dixon 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

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

Motion Commissioner Jackson: 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

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

Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the Lansdowne 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 June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, through June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, was submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Brinza: seconded by Commissioner Darwin 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

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The Payroll for the period of June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, through July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, was submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson: 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

**LANSDOWNE ADJUSTMENT REPORT**

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Brinza 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 Schooley- No Report

**OLD BUSINESS**

Board discussion of the Eagle Park Sanitary Collection System.

- Attorney Schooley updated the Board. He noted that, as discussed at the last meeting, the appraisal for Eagle Park came back \$167,000 below the proposed sale price. During this time frame, the office received an email about starting the process of gathering information. Attorney Schooley advised not to respond until the issue of the purchase price was resolved. He later received a phone call from ILAW Attorney Jones, who informed him that Illinois American Water disposed of the three appraisals and will accept the original purchase price.

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

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Brinza to approve the Lansdowne 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



**NEW BUSINESS**

Board discussion and/or approval of Resolution 2024-R-003 and Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Granite City concerning training of drivers seeking commercial drivers license (CDL).

Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded by Commissioner Jackson approving Resolution 2024-R-003 and the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Granite City concerning training of drivers seeking commercial drivers license.

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

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

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Board review of the Executive Session minutes to determine if the minutes should remain closed.

- Attorney Schooley recommended that the executive session minutes remain closed.

Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded by Commissioner Jackson to keep the executive minutes closed.

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

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

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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 9:15 A.M.

  
Clerk