

**REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE
METRO EAST SANITARY DISTRICT
ST. CLAIR AND MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS
HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 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, 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:

Enable Pipeline has started their work on our property in Hartford. The pipeline runs from the back of Roxana dump, through a farm field, across our property, all the way to SIUE towards the baseball fields, and ends up behind the Amazon building in Pontoon Beach. This is a big job.

From Hartford all the way down to McKinley Bridge, there are four sections that Ameren Illinois has contracted Meridian Pipeline to install zinc ribbon around corroded underground pipelines. They will be using our grounds for their construction equipment.

We have four new hires and one replacement in Washington Park due to Mr. Hudson's passing. Two of the new employees are assigned to Madison County Garage, and two are joining the pump department. The main employee who works on pumps he suspects will be retiring within the next year or so. Additionally, the main mechanic will likely retire after this contract. One of the new hires has extensive skill in diesel mechanics, which will be very valuable to us in the future.

A Madison County employee will be temporarily assigned to Washington Park to assist them with mowing during the summer months. Mowing season is now in full swing.

REPORT OF ENGINEER

Charlie Juneau reported the following:

The 2024 System Wide Improvement Framework (SWIF) report is due Spring 2024. Mr. Juneau is preparing a report and adding a section on updates for relief well testing and documentation. He will be meeting with Jusitn and Mike to go over all equipment MESD has been purchased for the testing.

Mr. Juneau met with a third Electrical Engineer, WRF Engineers LLC, to have them prepare a proposal for design, bidding, and construction engineering services for the replacement of the electrical control panels at the North Pump Station. The project is estimated to cost over \$1 million. He requested they submit a proposal detailing the inventory of the work to be done, review all the as-built drawings of all electrical and lighting equipment, evaluate the condition of all the existing electrical lighting equipment and the electrical control panels, and provide a cost estimate for the project, including a breakdown of engineering costs. The initial design phase (Phase 1) is estimated to cost \$9,900. Although he did not receive the proposal in time for today's agenda, he distributed copies for the board to review for next month's meeting.

- President Oney asked why the temporary gate repair by Keller Construction is still on his report. He thought this was included in the capital improvement projects that are to be completed.
 - o Mr. Juneau responded that he thought the gates had been repaired.
 - Superintendent Roehr responded that although the repair by Keller was completed, there is still a bend in one stem, causing it to open only partially.
 - Mr. Juneau responded they will get on that right away.

MINUTES

The Regular Minutes for March 19th, 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 March 2024 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded by Commissioner Jackson 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 March 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

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

Motion Commissioner Darwin: seconded by Commissioner Jackson 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 3rd, 2024, through March 16th, 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

The Payroll for the period of March 17th, 2024, through March 30th, 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

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 updated the Board on the following cases:

Irby v. MESD has been completely resolved. The insurance company paid the settlement. Releases have been filed and the case has been dismissed.

Economy v MESD was resolved for \$12,000. The District paid \$2,000, and insurance covered \$10,000. Release has been signed and returned, and the case is set to be dismissed.

Adler v MESD case, which was set for trial yesterday, has been continued. Currently, there are motions for summary judgment pending, where we are telling the court there is no genuine issue of material fact, and as a matter of law, there is no case. Attorney Ysursa, who is representing MESD, has presented strong arguments that Judge Smith will need to consider before deciding to let the case continue forward.

Dunham v MESD lawsuit is presently pending. Before this Board took place, an arbitrator ruled MESD did in fact violate the CBA by hiring temporary employees. The issue then turned to determining damages. In a supplemental arbitration in January, the arbitrator held that the affected employees were not entitled to any compensation because they had mitigated their damages by obtaining additional jobs, with some earning more money than they would at MESD. The attorneys did a very nice job in wrapping up this case.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS

Board discussion and/or approval/ratification of agreement to provide wastewater treatment services.

- President Oney explained that the City of Granite City has sold the Regional Treatment Plant to Illinois American Water, so the intergovernmental agreement with the Granite City Regional Treatment Plant no longer exists. An agreement had to be made with Illinois American Water, which bases charges on flow and does not take BOD and TSS into account. This agreement will be effective through the end of December.
 - o Commissioner Brinza asked if the rate was the same.
 - President Oney answered yes, but it is based on flow.

Motion Commissioner Jackson: seconded by Commissioner Darwin approving ratification to wastewater treatment services.

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 9:20 A.M.

Clerk 