

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018
www.hammondsd.com

The Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana held a regular meeting at 4:01 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Administration Building located at 5143 Columbia Avenue, Hammond, Indiana.

Commissioner Button called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. He stated that the Board held an Executive Session at 3:45 p.m. to discuss personnel and litigation matters in accordance with Indiana Codes. Commissioner Button stated that since neither President Dimopoulos nor Vice-President Dye are here at the moment he has been asked to run the meeting, so he will be acting President.

Commissioners Present: Button, Hawkins, Moore

Commissioners Absent: Dimopoulos, Dye

District Personnel: Marty Wielgos, District Manager
Matthew Muta, Deputy District Manager
Rachel Montes, Business Manager
Joe Allegretti, Attorney
Jeff Massey, HSD
Donald Woodard, HSD
Rick Sutton, HSD
Jack Smith, Sewer Department
Kaleigh Boyle, HSD
Shannon Ferguson, HSD
Jonathan Albers, HSD

Others Present: Mike Hickey, AB&H Donohue
David Nellans, Munster Town Council

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Button stated that the first order of business was the consideration of the August 28, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes.

Moore **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** to approve the August 28, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Button, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 3-0. A copy of the August 28, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

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District Manager's Report

District Manager, Marty Wielgos, asked for a moment of silence for remembrance of 9/11 today.

Commissioner Button asked all to please observe a moment of silence.

Marty stated that he wants to turn it over to Jack- Jack has had a lot going on over the weekend, so he asked him to fill the Board in on that, specifically the Summer Street alley because that is really the most important one.

Sewer Department Superintendent, Jack Smith, explained that he has some pictures that he is going to pass around so the Board can actually see what is going on. Last week, Sewer Department had Mr. Hartlerode out televising our 18-inch sanitary main that runs down the alley which is about 8 1/2- 9 feet deep and they were calling for contractors to come out. He called for three of them to come out and take a look at it and see what they could do. Dyer Construction said they could not get to it until November, Rex Construction said that he could not do anything until the following Monday. Well, what ended up happening is Thursday night a water main broke in the alley which stayed running for twelve hours until they got the notification at 8 o'clock Friday morning. With that being said, it completely washed out the entire alley and partial yard. One of his guys were back there (they went back there to check on the flashers) and fell into a hole up to his neck. They were able to get him out, but they were in the process that they needed an emergency repair, so they got a hold of Grimmer Construction to go ahead and do that. They were able to come out right away and start on that project. In the meantime, they brought out three of their vacators and kept the main down so they did not have twenty homes that would have had basement backup.

Commissioner Moore commented that Jack had an exciting weekend.

Marty added that he authorized the emergency repair because as the Board can see from the photographs, it was pretty bad and thank God that Jack caught it in time so that it did not cause any backups. There was a lot of water coming out of that main. We do not have a cost estimate yet and he verified with Jack that that is correct.

Jack responded that when they got the first price from Grimmer Construction it was at \$70,000 and that was at a non-emergency rate. Since this was deemed an emergency, they shut their other crews down and they came over here to assist the Sewer Department with the repair.

Commissioner Button questioned if the photos that Jack provided are individual photos and in total is a complete packet.

Jack replied yes.

Commissioner Button asked if the collapse was a sewer main and also if they had to replace a –

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Jack answered a manhole. He explained that the manhole was shot.

Marty added that is what we had to do under an emergency and as soon as Jack gets the numbers in. he will share that with the Board. Just so the Board knows, ironically enough, the Sewer team noticed a sinking happening in that alley and we were under the assumption that was our force main. Ironically enough, from that time to a day later, the water main breaks in that same area. The water main had nothing to do with what happened to our issue.

Jack agreed that is correct. They went out there and had a 311 that came through (he answers all 311s), so he sent Tom out that morning to investigate what was going on and we came across about 23 foot of tile that was collapsed and the manhole was shot. With that being said, we were able to clean it to keep the flow going in the meantime until we were able to try and get contractors- get the three bids or whatever we were doing. Right after that, the alley started caving in so we put flashers there and then that Thursday the blacktop completely fell in and hit the water main and caused the 4-inch water main to run all night long. Homeowner never called it in and he knew about it that night.

Commissioner Button asked about the timber that is—

Jack jumped in that is holding up the 4-inch water main.

Commissioner Button asked if that was repaired and slung from—

Jack answered again yes- that was repaired Friday at about noon.

Commissioner Button questioned if that was repaired prior to the sewer work.

Jack responded correct. The houses needed their water service back, so Water Department went in there and made their repair. Nipsco came out about 3 o'clock and moved all the blacktop off of their gas main and then they were able to go in and barricade everything off until Saturday morning for Grimmer to start their process. In the meantime, Friday and Saturday, they sent their vactors out to try and keep the cost down because he knows it is double time and a half for contractors to come on a Sunday, so they stayed out there Friday and Saturday and then Sunday was okay.

Marty stated that he had one question for Commissioner Hawkins. He asked Dom what has been brought in from the Town of Munster for their vactors.

Don replied that they have not been in since May. They only dumped loads here February, March, April and May- maybe about 60 tons and he has not seen them since then.

Marty said that his question is and it is very possible that they are dumping somewhere else, but he would like Commissioner Hawkins to see if he can find that out for us because if there is not a

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regular maintenance schedule happening then at the end of the day it is causing problems for the District and our pumping stations especially the pumping station that we have in Munster and we are trying to avoid that the best that we can.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Moore **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** to approve the Personnel Report.

Ayes: Button, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 3-0. A copy of the Personnel Report is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Business Manager, Rachel Montes, stated that she had nothing to highlight, but would take any questions.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Safety Report

No highlights or questions on the Safety report.

GIS Report

Becky was not there, but Commissioner Button would like to thank her for her report.

Sewer Maintenance Report

No highlights or questions on Sewer report.

CONSULTANTS REPORTS

The Board considered the AB&H Consultant Report

Mike Hickey stated that the board should all have a copy of his status report. He explained that he gave the Board a handout before the meeting. EPA and IDEM had some questions on the CSO Operational Plan that HSD had submitted, so they answered their questions, so he is giving the Board a copy of the transmittal register and that went out on August 20th. The second thing they prepared was for the pilot testing protocol for the cloth media disc filters and that was submitted on August 31st to EPA so they are trying to get the ball rolling to do that pilot testing so that is related to the Long Term Control Plan

Marty added that the Board is getting ready to sign a contract to do the pilot testing and he had asked since we are paying a fee for Aqua Aerobics to do this that all of the data that is gathered from the test remain the property of the District. At the end of this (if it works the way that he

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hopes it does) and it actually works and will benefit us in the South then Aqua Aerobics will have the opportunity to purchase that data from us so that they can use that in their sales pitches to Sanitary Districts across the country because of the fact that they do not from his understanding have that unit running and doing the things that we are going to have it doing remotely and because of the size of the District and the volume of the water coming into it. We are one of the first. He asked Mike Hickey if that is a true statement.

Mike Hickey replied that they have tried it in Cincinnati, but we are first or second so we are very early in the game.

Marty went on to say that in order to recoup those initial costs he thinks that it is only fair that all of that data that is gathered from this test remain property of the District and if Aqua Aerobics because of the success that he believes it is going to have will then be given the opportunity to purchase that data.

Commissioner Button asked if Marty is suggesting that our attorney prepare some sort of confidentiality agreement.

Mike Hickey added that they have a contract and Joe Allegretti is going to review it. They are going to be out here next week and he wants to have Joe at that meeting.

Marty said that he thinks it is only fair. He does not mind paying for it because he understands it, but we are paying to buy a company's product which is kind of rare, but he and his staff see an advantage to that if it works. At the same time, if he sees an advantage to recoup money for that because he believes it is going to be successful then they can pay us so they can use it in pitching it and they can take all the pictures that they want and put it in brochures because they are going to pay us. He thinks it is fair.

Commissioner Hawkins commented that is an interesting approach. He asked if they are still planning on doing this near or at the Plant.

Mike Hickey replied that they are trying to do it at Headworks. We got the protocol into EPA.

Marty stated that we kind of caught the EPA off guard with this. They really did not see this coming because they said 'oh you guys are doing basins' and we replied with there is something else that we would like to try.

Mike Hickey stated that IDEM was more on board. They talked to IDEM, but they never would have gotten the Long Term Control Plan in on time if they contacted EPA. IDEM would have approved the protocol already because they are on board, but the EPA we kind of have to convince.

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Commissioner Button commented that was going to be his question. Apparently, it did not need to be filed with IDEM, but it was filed with IDEM and they are agreeable so now this protocol has to be filed with the EPA.

Mike Hickey responded that Joe had a conversation with IDEM in May and they were very interested with this CMDF (cloth media disc filter). IDEM is intrigued by the CMDF because they have seen it before and they liked what they saw so they asked us to contact them because they had a few questions and then the next thing you know the EPA is involved and it took a month to set up a meeting because you have to get all of EPA's people so July 25th they had a meeting with the EPA and EPA had a bunch of questions so we submitted a detailed protocol and a draft of a modified language Consent Decree and that was all turned in on August 31st so it is all in the agency's court right now.

Commissioner Hawkins asked Mike Hickey about him saying that they have done this in Rushville, but not to this scale.

Mike Hickey replied that Rushville is a lot smaller and the CMDFs are at the Plant where these are going to be remote. Cincinnati they actually did some testing remotely, but not to the extent of this.

Commissioner Button asked if these cloth media disc filters fairly proprietary – there is only one company that makes them. He asked for it to be considered how to work around the sole source and he knows we have done projects with the sole source before, but we just have to make sure.

RESOLUTIONS

The Board considered Resolution No. 29-2018: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana Authorizing Approval and Execution of a Contract for Financial and Accounting Services with James Bennett.

Hawkins **moved** and Moore **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 29-2018.

Commissioner Button stated that he (the chairman) wishes to abstain from this vote.

Ayes: Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 2-0-1. Resolution No. 29-2018 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Board considered Resolution No. 30-2018: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond Authorizing and Designating Signatories for Sanitary District Deposits.

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Hawkins moved and Moore seconded to approve Resolution No. 30-2018.

Ayes: Button, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion carried 3-0. Resolution No. 30-2018 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Board considered Resolution No. 31-2018: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana Authorizing the Permanent Transfer of \$150,000 for the 3rd Quarter of 2018 from the Operation and Maintenance Fund (H) to the Replacement Fund (R).

Hawkins moved and Moore seconded to approve Resolution No. 31-2018.

Ayes: Button, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion carried 3-0. Resolution No. 31-2018 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Board considered the Bank Reconciliation for August 31, 2018.

Hawkins moved and Moore seconded for the approval of the Bank Reconciliation for August 31, 2018.

Ayes: Button, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion carried 3-0. A copy of the Bank Reconciliation for August 31, 2018 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 09-11-18.

Hawkins moved and Moore seconded for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 09-11-18.

Ayes: Button, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion carried 3-0. A copy of the Claims Approval Docket 09-11-18 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Commissioner Button called for Old Business

There was no old business.

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Commissioner Button called for New Business

There was no new business.

Commissioner Button called for Reports from Commissioners

There were no reports from Commissioners.

Commissioner Button called for Public Expression

Councilman Nellans expressed that on behalf of the Town of Munster and the Council he wanted to thank the District for all of the work that they did in his community with the force mains and all of the roads. It looks really nice and again they were right on top of it so again they are very appreciative of that.

Marty asked Rick Sutton if the yard work has been completed where we had to have Allen Landscaping.

Rick answered that it has not been completed, but they have released the contracts so all the dig sites along Columbia Avenue will be restored in the next month or so.

Councilman Nellans responded that is good, but at least the roads are open and they look good and things are running and it has been quiet so they are very happy.

Marty asked Rick to talk to them briefly about Dyer Road.

Rick explained that the Dyer Road pump station is nearing completion of our reconditioning of the station. All five doors have been replaced and have installed the HVAC so the only thing they have remaining is to power that equipment up. And at that point, all Munster needs to do is figure out who is dumping stuff into their sewers because somebody is dumping stuff into the sewers.

Councilman Nellans responded that they will certainly work on that, but he just wanted to thank Rick very much.

Rick added that this is a temporary measure, but it did not solve the problem. The problem is that somebody is dumping something caustic into the sewers.

Commissioner Hawkins stated that we do not know that yet.

Rick responded with well for some reason this one station is being eaten away by the sewer that is coming into it, so he does say that somebody is dumping something in the sewers and it is a correct deduction.

Commissioner Hawkins stated that he is under the understanding that this has been a traditional problem at this pump station in that area—

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Rick answered not to the extent that it is now. That is not true.

Commissioner Hawkins –

Rick exclaimed false.

Commissioner Hawkins said that is why we need to look further into this. He asked Mike Hickey if they were looking into some company.

Mike Hickey replied that they have two quotes for two firms and they are pretty much the same price to do this. They have been on hold because they were waiting for the repairs to be made to Dyer Road pump station so they have not executed it yet, but they do have two qualified firms to do this and one will be chosen by the Board and staff.

Councilman Nellans asked if they are going to pull samples.

Mike Hickey explained that they would pull samples and would put in these data zones or something to record data for x number of days and take samples and take it in strategic places to figure out what is going on.

Marty asked Jeff Massey where we are at with his investigation. You sent letters out--

Jeff answered that is right. They have not received all of the letters back yet, so there will be some follow up, but all of the commercial users who have responded are from ones who do not even discharge. They are dry warehouses or something along those lines.

Commissioner Hawkins asked Jeff if they sample Three Floyds.

Jeff said that they have. The thing with Three Floyds is that it has a pretty ripe smell to it, but the pH on it is not so bad. The problem with it is that it is still biologically active so when it comes out it will ferment in the sewers and can get stuck and continue to ferment in the sewer.

Commissioner Hawkins asked if Three Floyds happens to be a problem and due to their flow they are due to under Pretreatment regulations; is that right with the chlorine process.

Jeff answered not yet, but when they get a little bigger they will put in a new flow meter and sampling site.

Commissioner Hawkins said if he suspects a problem, can't he sample more often or direct them to install some equipment now.

Jeff stated that when it comes down to that this is an issue and it is causing a problem then we could figure how to try to treat it. The issue is how do we kill off the yeast that is in there.

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Commissioner Hawkins said that is what he is getting at. He can mandate or direct them or even ask them.

Jeff responded that if it comes out that Three Floyds is the contributing force and deriver of everything, yes that can be done.

Councilman Nellans commented that with sampling they can determine which lines coming in and can eventually sample right up to the doorstep. He again thanked them very much.

Commissioner Button asked that staff work on this with the two firms because this is urgent and he does not think we need to continue to wait. That is just his opinion.

Commissioner Hawkins agreed.

Commissioner Button called for a motion to adjourn the meeting

Moore **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** for adjournment.

Ayes: Button, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

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Sam Dimopoulos, President



Michael Dye, Vice President




Dean Button, PE, Member



Michael Hawkins, Sr., Member



Patrick D. Moore, Member

ATTEST: 

Rachel Montes, Secretary
Kaleigh Boyle, Assistant Secretary

Board Minutes Prepared By: Kaleigh Boyle