

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019
www.hammondsd.com

The Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana held a regular meeting at 4:12 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Administration Building located at 5143 Columbia Avenue, Hammond, Indiana.

President Dimopoulos called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore,

Commissioners Absent: N/A

District Personnel: Marty Wielgos, District Manager
Matthew Muta, Deputy District Manager
Rachel Montes, Business Manager
Joe Allegretti, Attorney
Jeff Massey, HSD
Dan Zander, HSD
Becky McKinley, GIS
Jack Smith, Sewer Department
Jonathan Albers, HSD

Others Present: Mike Hickey, AB&H Donohue
David Nellans, Town of Munster
Chris Spolnik, Town of Munster

President Dimopoulos stated that before they all get started, he would like to wish Commissioner Button a happy birthday. Everyone wishes Commissioner Button a happy birthday.

President Dimopoulos stated that the Board held an Executive Session at 3:45 p.m. to discuss personnel and litigation matters in accordance with Indiana Codes.

President Dimopoulos stated that the first order of business was the consideration of the August 27, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

Dye **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** to approve the August 27, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the August 27, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

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FINANCE REPORT

The Board considered the August 2019 Finance Report.

Moore **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** to approve the August 2019 Finance Report.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the August 2019 Finance Report is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Marty Wielgos says that as they can see, construction is moving along. He says the District had their staff meeting today and there was a new revelation about NIPSCO's part of the participation with the separation of the two feeds that the District has. Marty says that he thinks most of the board knows that these two feeds come in and come very close to each other before they come into the plant, which according to NIPSCO, in order for them to do the separation they need to cut power off to the plant entirely. District Manager Marty Wielgos says he is going to let Jeff Massey and Dan Zander talk about it in a moment, but NIPSCO is saying they are going to need to cut power to the plant for five Saturdays in a row for a long-extended time on each of those Saturdays. Marty said he questioned the staff today because he said that isn't going to work. The staff said they went and priced out generators from Caterpillar to have enough here to run the plant during that entire time for about one month. Marty says the revelation of the cost of that would be roughly \$145,000, which unfortunately they do not have in the budget. Marty says he is going to hand it over to Jeff and Dan to fill in the blanks and to discuss why the District is hearing about this now, within the week, when they've been talking about this project for months and within the week they are hearing this from NIPSCO with them saying 'this is what we have to do.' Marty says that personally, that doesn't work for him, it's too risky, and that they would be relying on equipment that's being brought in to run the entire plant when they don't know what kind of weather there is going to be or what may potentially happen. Marty continues on saying that if something goes down, they are in big trouble and none of this makes any sense as they have two feeds. Marty gives the floor to Jeff Massey.

Jeff Massey explains that what they have is a feed coming into the plant from the west from the Columbia Avenue system and one from the east from Roxana or East Chicago. He says the problem is the one coming from the east comes all the way through the plant and ties back into Columbia Avenue so it feeds all the way from one side of the plant to the other. He states the problem is that both of these services are on the same pole. Jeff explains that one side of the pole is from Columbia Avenue and the other side is the feed from Roxana. Jeff says when you get to Columbia Avenue, they are both there together on one pole, so in order for them to separate these two, they need to kill both at once before they get on there for worker safety. Jeff says they are both 34,500 volts and they cannot safely separate them off with them both being energized. They are close enough together that if someone is working on it, they could touch one or the other. They are wanting to kill the power off so they can separate mainly that pole on Columbia Avenue, so

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they can put two new poles in on Columbia and put each of those lines on a separate pole system. Then they are going to bring a whole new pole system down along the north side of the plant in order to keep those lines separated and have true dual feeds coming into the plant. Jeff says that as of right now they come together and cut through a set of switches that only NIPSCO can switch, and they then come into one common transformer. Jeff says that in conversations with this they never thought that it would be this long of an outage or that they would have this kind of a problem. He says now that NIPSCO has actually gotten their engineers involved and their line crews involved, they're feeling that its going to take this kind of time. They are estimating it is going to take, for at least one day, 20 hours of an estimated power outage and probably with everything being fair, even more than that. Jeff Massey explains that this is for the line of Columbia Avenue to get two new poles set and then to break those two apart. He says over the next consecutive 5 Saturdays they will continue to separate the lines down and all the way back to the District's actual connection.

Jeff Massey explains that NIPSCO told the District this information just this last Friday when they had a meeting with them. Jeff says that's when they looked at the idea and thought about what they can do because they can't leave the plant down for 20 hours or more as a biological plant can't handle that kind of power outage. Even small outages 5 Saturdays in a row would upset the plant pretty badly, so they can't do that. Jeff says they thought of having some kind of generation, so they called CAT to see what the prices would be and he was totally stymied by the price, but they're talking six mega-watts of power, maybe more to run the plant. They are talking about generators that are on 53-foot semi-trailers, 8 feet wide, and 93,000 pounds without fuel. Jeff says it would take 3 of these to run the plant. He says that's why he thinks the price is as high as it is. Jeff says Marty wants to have a conversation with NIPSCO tomorrow, which is a good idea, to see if there's an alternate plan that does not have the plant shut down for that length of time.

President Dimopoulos asks why doesn't the District have NIPSCO pay for the generators since they are hearing this last minute. District Manager Marty Wielgos says that since they presented this last Friday, and the fact that they have been talking about this project for over a year and a half, that to him its not really about price but more about the risk. Marty says that he would rather approach it on the risk side with them because the Sanitary District is a utility, and it's not just about Hammond. It is Munster, Whiting, Griffith, and Highland that could run into a bunch of unexpected trouble by just having generators at the District. Marty says NIPSCO needs to rethink their plan and figure out a better way to do this, because the one they presented isn't going to work.

Jeff Massey says he would like to add another note. He says that NIPSCO is paying for everything else in the project. Jeff says that NIPSCO is paying for the poles to be put in, the new lines to be put in, and also the man power. Jeff explains originally it was at no cost to the District at all, and now there is the generator issue. Jeff goes on to say that he agrees with Marty whole-heartedly in regards to the generators because if they do go that route and one of the three should quit, they are in pretty bad luck there. President Dimopoulos says there has to be a better way to do this and District Manager Marty Wielgos agrees. Marty explains that's why he told NIPSCO he wants a meeting ASAP and they said they are going to try and do it sometime tomorrow morning so he

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can explain to them that the current plan they suggested as of last Friday, is not acceptable. Marty says he is going to explain to NIPSCO the reasons why and they will see what happens.

Commissioner Button asks why are Saturdays the only days they can do this. Dan Zander answers him and says that is the only day they can get enough man power because they are so busy with their crews. Dan explains that they are talking 20-30 guys working on the line for the weekend. Commissioner Button asks if there is a risk that they won't be able to come here because they have some weather, storm damage, or the District can't shut down because they have to bring water into the plant. Commissioner Button says days of the week don't make sense to him because of those reasons. Commissioner Button also adds that he assumes the price of the spare generators is based on the five weeks that they would keep them at the District. Dan Zander confirms that is correct. Commissioner Button goes on to ask why NIPSCO can't work continuously until the work is done. Dan Zander says that NIPSCO told them that was not an option because they don't have the man power to do so. He explains that NIPSCO doesn't have enough guys to work on it continuously throughout the week with everything else they have going on. NIPSCO said it would have to be done on the weekend where they can grab all the guys on their crews. Jeff Massey adds that they are bringing mostly everyone they have and mostly everyone is linemen. Commissioner Button adds that NIPSCO does hire contractors because at the Data Center they are using contractors there. Marty says that was a good question from Commissioner Button and that he is going to ask them that question. Marty also says at the end of the day he is going to make it very clear to them that the plan they presented is just not practical. Commissioner Button adds that the District's history has always been that they are not doing shutdowns when there is bad weather coming, as they just don't shut down. He continues on saying they need to figure out a way because that has been the history for as long as he's been around. Jeff Massey adds that they did make that clear to NIPSCO that if there is rain or there is a situation going on that it takes precedent over what NIPSCO needs to do. Commissioner Button adds to that saying you can't plan that on a Saturday and Jeff Massey says he's right as you can't plan it on any day because you just don't know.

District Manager Marty Wielgos says that's all he has.

PERSONNEL REPORT

There was no Personnel Report.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

There were no Department Reports.

CONSULTANT REPORTS

Mike Hickey, from AB&H Donohue & Associates says that he has two things to talk about. The first is the Long-term Control Plan and the updated timeline. Mike Hickey points out the poster hanging on the wall that describes the updated timeline. He says they held the public hearing on August 28th and just wanted to report on that.

Mr. Hickey goes into his status report and says that on page 2 he mentioned that they reviewed Midwest Central Lift Station study which is also known as the 45th and Calumet Station report.

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He says he wants to update everyone on what they found as he passes out a map to everyone so they can follow along. Mike Hickey begins to explain that you can see where the 45th and Calumet lift station is as it's in the center of the map and states that station has two 500 gpm pumps. He continues on saying in the report it was stated that the capacity of the station was two times 500 gpm and he thinks it is a little more complicated than that. He references the map he handed out and says if you look north of the station you can see there is about a mile of force main so he thinks a hydraulic analysis of the pump station should be performed so they can know what the real capacity is, as he thinks it is something less than the two times 500 gpm due to some head loss through that pump station.

Mike Hickey says his second point is from the executive summary where there is a sentence that says 'the results of the study indicate that the lift station is functioning adequately under current flow conditions.' Mike Hickey says they don't think that is quite true as there was a three-day period in February 2018 where that pump station was overloaded 3 consecutive days. He says they think the reason for that there is a lot of I&I coming into this area. He references the map again and points out the red line that lineates the drainage area. He states that the red line is the 45th & Cal drainage area but the West Lakes Service area, which is shaded, also flows into the 45th & Cal. He says somewhere in there he thinks there is a lot of I&I coming in and they think that needs to be investigated.

Mike Hickey goes on to his next point which he states the report recommended the increase of the pump station size but thinks the domino effect needs to be as the pump flows into the Dyer Road Pump Station, so they need to investigate how increasing the pump station will affect the down stream areas. Mike says they had some recommendations that they had such as a hydraulic analysis of the pump station, an I&I, or an SSE to figure out where all the wet weather is coming from. He says they can then do an evaluation of the impacts to the downstream pump station. Mike Hickey says that is just a brief overview of what they found and he would take any questions. Commissioner Button asks if he will have any of this in a written form. Mike Hickey responds saying he talked to Marty and says he has a more detailed analysis that he could forward to the board tomorrow that would cover all the points he went over and more. Commissioner Button says it is hard to comment on this at this stage, but he thinks it's a great point that Mike Hickey made that they need some type of capacity evaluation because you can't just add to one pump to another capacity, nor can you add more capacity pumps or a 3rd or a 4th pump to be able to handle that. Commissioner Button continues saying that report should show the system end curve which is the increase of the capacity to see what this thing can really generate. Mike Hickey says he can forward to the board the more detailed comments tomorrow. Commissioner Button adds that Mike was kind enough to add his markups from the previous report, and one of his comments was to talk to Dan about how the temporary bypass should work so maintenance was clear on what the expectations would be on how this would operate. He says if he could think about that, he thinks that would be useful.

District Manager Marty Wielgos asks Jeff Massey if he had anything to add to that. Jeff says they have some concerns about some work that was being done along 45th with storm water lines being

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put in and the integrity of the force main over there after the ground was being disturbed underneath it as they had some pretty heavy equipment laying over the top of it. Jeff says they weren't too aware of the work that was going on and it brought up some really big questions for the District about what was really happening over there. He says Commissioner Hawkins brought some pictures and there was a picture from Grimmer on the top of the force main, but that it's still kind of questionable when you bowl over something like that and whether the force main is going to be okay or not. Jeff says that it is a cast iron main and there are still some concerns on whether it sustained any damage or anything after the work was done. Marty Wielgos says what the District would like from the Town of Munster, since that project is so big and has so many moving parts to it with the underpass, the expansion, the retail, and the restaurant, to be made aware of the plan about what's happening over there with that little pumping station being over there, so they could at least have the chance to comment as construction moves forward rather than after the fact. He says that would be better than learning about it after the fact, which they seem to be doing now, and that it would be beneficial to both communities. Marty continues on saying that it would make their understanding of what the Town of Munster is thinking about that particular pump station and what the District believes based on the knowledge they have on everything now with all the work being done over there in that corridor. Marty says this way they could at least have some input before, rather than after, which is what they are trying to accomplish here.

Commissioner Button says he would like to comment on Mike Hickey's report in regards to the Kennedy Ejector and asks if it is okay to report about the condition and what's happening there. District Manager Marty Wielgos says that it is. Commissioner Button continues on saying that he did speak with Chris Reynolds, who is the engineer with INDOT, and their intention is to construct two manhole access points on either side of the mechanically stabilized wall that approaches that bridge approaching west that goes over Kennedy Avenue and the on ramp from south on Kennedy Avenue to eastbound 80-94. Commissioner Button explains that there is going to be manhole construction on either side of those walls so that INDOT can line that pipeline between those two points. He says this makes them happier too because that will all be prepared.

Commissioner Button begins to recap and says during the late 1990's, when INDOT was constructing the approach to the bridge, they had driven a pile through the 48-inch diameter outfall to the Kennedy Ejector. He continues on saying that in March of 2018, Jack Smith's crew sent a camera in there and found that was the problem only because there were other problems in the area. Commissioner Button says they got kind of lucky they even found it. Commissioner Button says when INDOT was doing work on the bridge, they were pumping the grout underneath the slab of the bridge and they kept pumping more and more grout and it wasn't coming up to pressure. He says they then cut a hole in the top, ran a tape measure down, and found out it was a 24 feet down open void, so they opened it up even more and it was the width of the approach, 20 feet wide by 20 feet long by 24 feet deep. Commissioner Button says that all the tie backs for the wall were all just hanging. He states that it is really surprising how that all stayed and how that wall and the whole structure didn't cave in because they are independent panels that hold it up with the straps holding them together and the sand, or whatever material they use, holds that all together. Commissioner Button goes into detail talking about how he thinks the slab had a lot to do with

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keeping it together along with the pier column. He continues on saying INDOT asked them to TV the line, which they've done, and there was no grout found in the line at the time. He says INDOT is going to go ahead and get the approach finished, which he is a little bit surprised of. Commissioner Button says they are going to fix the tie backs, the back fill, and underneath that slab to get the on ramp restored. He says they do have a plan, which they haven't seen yet, of two new manhole access points and a liner in between the two. Commissioner Button explains there is still not a lot of detail from them on that, but he expects the on ramp to be open in another 3-4 weeks.

District Manager Marty Wielgos asks if Commissioner Button has seen pictures of how badly the piling drove into that line. Commissioner Button says yes and that he provided that to INDOT. Marty asks if it was a large section of pipe they broke through. Commissioner Button responds saying it was one pile clearly through the opening, as it was about 2 feet open where the pile came through, and then you could see some aggregate and some rebar along with what they think was a bag of cement (quickcrete). Commissioner Button explains that it is not a long section, but they don't just want to fix that area over 10 feet on either side as INDOT is happy to do the entire width of the approach and more. Commissioner Button says INDOT doesn't really want a utility under there anyway, which he kind of laughed at because there are utilities under state highways everywhere. District Manager Marty Wielgos asks that because of how big of that crack came off in that pipe, is a liner going to be sufficient enough to keep that together with that piece missing. Commissioner Button answers him and says it will and explains that the liner thickness is based upon different criteria, but they need to see what INDOT's plan is and there could be the need to epoxy and inject in that area to seal that area up and then line it. Commissioner Button says the piling just comes through the side wall, but is not really impeding the flow, and if it is, it is barely doing so. Commissioner Button explains further that at the spring line it comes through at 2 o'clock and 5 o'clock and you can see it exposed on the pipe, but it is not encroaching into the flow hardly at all. He says the thickness of the liner is going to be important, but he is not worried about reduced capacity. He continues on saying they are going to need to see the calculations, but the liner actually improves the friction in the pipe, and even though it is slightly smaller, the capacity won't be significantly changed. Marty Wielgos says that he was more concerned about a big chunk of that pipe being broken out and if the liner, without putting some epoxy or something in there before you put the liner in, will be significant enough to last. Commissioner Button says the liner will be like a brand-new pipe and it won't even rely on the old pipe to support it, so the old pipe is just bonus. Commissioner Button explains some more that the liner is extremely hard and is epoxy injected, so it is just like putting a brand-new pipe in.

Dan Zander asks if they are going to bolt those new man hole covers down and Commissioner Button says they will for sure and that they will look at all of the details on how they tie that manhole into the outfall, and obviously they have to coordinate with the District as the same rules apply with what they talked about with NIPSCO (no outages when rain is forecasted.) Jack Smith chimes in and says to Commissioner Button that they talked about those manholes being elevated above the water table of the river. Commissioner Button confirms and says he asked for some grades and elevations, which weren't entirely clear, so they will make some estimates at that point.

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He states they will get some confirmed numbers from INDOT and they will account for any hydraulic grade line through the outfall. He says there is still a lot to be done.

President Dimopoulos thanks everyone for their input and says they will now move on.

BANK RECONCILIATION

The Board considered the Bank Reconciliation Document dated August 31, 2019.

Button **moved** and Dye **seconded** to approve Bank Reconciliation August 31, 2019.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Moore, Hawkins

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of Bank Reconciliation August 31, 2019 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 09-10-19.

Button **moved** and Dye **seconded** for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 09-10-19.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the Claims Approval Docket 09-10-19 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

President Dimopoulos called for Old Business

There is no Old Business.

President Dimopoulos called for New Business

There is no New Business.

President Dimopoulos called for Reports from Commissioners

There were no reports from Commissioners.

President Dimopoulos called for Public Expression

There was no public expression.

President Dimopoulos called for a motion to adjourn the meeting

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Button moved and Dye seconded for adjournment.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.



Sam Dimopoulos, President



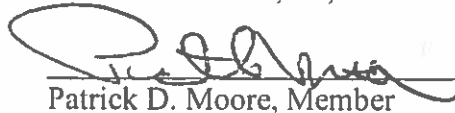
Michael Dye, Vice President



Dean Button, PE, Member



Michael Hawkins, Sr., Member



Patrick D. Moore, Member

ATTEST: 

Rachel Montes, Secretary

Kaleigh Boyle, Assistant Secretary

Board Minutes Prepared By: Jonathan Albers