

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING
MAY 15, 2018
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The Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana held a regular meeting at 3:58 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 3:58 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.

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
Donald Woodard, HSD
Rick Sutton, HSD
Becky McKinley, GIS
Jack Smith, Sewer Department
Kaleigh Boyle, HSD

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

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Dimopoulos stated that the first order of business was the consideration of the April 24, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes.

Dye **moved** and Button **seconded** to approve the April 24, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the April 24, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

District Manager's Report

District Manager, Marty Wielgos, stated that he had a couple of things. First of all, he would like to remind all of our board members that Friday, June 8th Mayor is having his retreat over at the marina. It is from 10 am to 2 pm and the Mayor invites all of you if you are available to attend. It is always very informative and a lot of information is discussed among all of the staff members

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and board members from all the various boards across the City. So if you are available, he would love to see you there.

Commissioner Hawkins asked Marty to repeat the time of the event again.

Marty responded it is June 8th at 10 am. He said that the other thing he wanted to talk about and he indicated in the executive session that he had a text message from Commissioner Hawkins last week when he was out of town. Basically we are having a lot of problems with the force main that runs on Columbia Avenue basically from 45th Avenue heading north. Rick has spent an unusual amount of time out there the last several weeks with break after break after break and repair, repair, repair. We have discussed it in some detail today so he is going to turn it over to Rick to just talk about some of his ideas and to give the Town of Munster an idea on what we plan on doing.

Rick explained that this is a force main that runs 2.3 miles total length from Twin Creek pump station eventually dumping into a gravity sewer right near Ridge Road and flows by gravity to Southside pump station. The section just north of 45th Avenue south of the hospital has been repeatedly breaking. Over the years, it has been about once a year maybe twice at the most, but nothing that was out of control. Since the 25th of February this pipe has broken nine times he would like to say, so this is somewhat of an unusual failure. It is not a cracked pipe. There is actually a hole in the bottom of the pipe (it is always on the bottom of the pipe- dead center, bottom) and it is usually a size that you can stick your fist in it. This is a difficult repair for us because the line is live and pressurized and it never stops flowing. The pump station runs 365, 24/7. We can shut the pumps off for a short amount of time, but then that force main drains back on you and you do not have enough time. You cannot cut a section of pipe out. We have not in the past. We have just been using repair clamps or sleeves if you will. Oddly enough, we have gone back at this point and right next to an old repair is a new repair. He does not know if it is stress on the pipe or if it is propagating itself. It is not a circumferential crack, it is not a small, little leak- it is a gigantic hole in the bottom of the pipe. Regardless of what it is, it is a double iron pipe that was installed 41 years ago, so it should have at least 50 years left in its life so something is attacking this pipe chemically because he does not believe it is an abrasion problem. The velocity of that pipe is 3 foot per second which is all within industry standards. It has gotten worse since the 25th of February because we thought we had it under control when we ordered half a dozen repair clamps. Little did we know that we would use them within a month and a half. At this point we are going to replace the pipe because it is an environmental and a health concern to have the raw sewage constantly leaking on the ground. We mobilized and are getting ready to replace the section of the pipe where the majority of the repairs have occurred. We closed off part of Columbia Avenue down there. We left the southbound lanes open, but in all reality there will be times within the project that the road closes down. We are going to do our best to keep it open, but the one lane that is open is where the pipe breaks so if the pipe breaks during this replacement project, we will have to close the road down. We have tried to inform Munster late last week and we have told them about the road closures and the inconvenience to their citizens, but at this point there is no going back. There is no going back at this point. The

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pipe is failing and we have to adjust our game plan so that is what we have done. The other big project (force main break) that we had is the Kennedy Avenue pump station. So this is a sanitary line (24-inch diameter) an old concrete pipe that was originally installed in 1939. East of the railroad tracks over there picture it heading to Indianapolis Boulevard is it where it goes, we experienced some cracks in that pipe around the circumference of the pipe right near a couple of bends there were three cracks in all and we spent the better part of the last two weeks repairing that pipe. It was also a road closure project. We had Kennedy Avenue closed for two weeks. We did our best to make a temporary repair to get the lanes open part of the time like we are doing on the Twin Creek job. We are doing our best to keep the traffic open, but there comes a point when it is counterproductive and it does not really help because you're unable to get the work done. So when that happens, we closed the road down and repaired a 50-foot section of that pipe. It was a concrete pipe so it was difficult to get fittings for because it was an old 1939 concrete pipe so the outer diameter which is where we made the repair or the sleeve was an odd diameter so we had the part specially made for us and that is why it took us a little longer than normal to replace the pipe. That line has been repaired and was returned to service last Saturday and it looks very nice. It looks like we were never there.

Marty added that when Rick was telling them at the staff meeting today that line is stamped 1930. The line itself did not deteriorate.

Rick stated that the pipe itself was in remarkable condition for an 80 year old pipe. Very little wear. There was approximately 2 inches thick piece of concrete that there was no internal abrasion wear, maybe a little bit, but after 80 years of service he would have thought some more deterioration would have been present and there wasn't. The cracks were right near the bends of the pipe where they pour giant thrust blocks so the only thing that we can figure is that thrust block was held in place really well and the train vibrations, the trucks vibrations on Kennedy Avenue over 80 years caused the parts of the pipe that were not encased in concrete to vibrate a little bit. That is just a theory though. He really does not know why. He does know that there were three cracks within twenty feet of each other and it was a heck of an installation.

Rick passed out pictures to the board and explained that the first group on top was for Twin Creek and there are copies for everybody and the other papers (the big stack) are from the Kennedy Avenue job.

Marty announced that he just wanted to state that Rick and Jack, both of those department heads along with their staffs have done a stellar job with everything else that they had to do here at the Plant on attacking all of these problems and addressing them immediately with getting subcontractors out, getting the problems fixed/repared so that the inconvenience to the neighborhoods that these problems existed in were minimalized as best as they can. Kennedy Avenue was a big headache because they actually had to shut down Kennedy Avenue entirely and it was just a real mess trying to get that fixed. He just wanted to recognize the fact that Rick put in a lot of hours these last two weeks along with Jack and he thinks their departments did a stellar job.

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Commissioner Hawkins commented that he was at Kennedy Avenue a couple of times watching the guys and stopping by there and he did get to pass by there today because he had to go to East Chicago and he thinks they did a great job. The whole area is cleaned up, the yard of the pump station over there is fixed and seeded. It looked good. It looked really good. Those jobs doing that kind of work especially now that he is going to talk about Munster—all of these force main breaks, they have to dig a hole while this pipe is still live and this pipe is flowing out water. The guys from Grimmer and the guys from the District helping out and having to go into these holes filled with rotten, dirty, stinky water. Rick Sutton and Jose Porras for the Munster work have done an excellent job. They went over far and beyond what one might expect, they communicate, they are all really good. Jose lives in the next subdivision from him so they were able to text back and forth. Rick Sutton even texts. Not just uses the cell phone, but texts.

Rick said that he is a very modern person. He said he is like a millennial.

Commissioner Hawkins continued that they had a meeting yesterday morning with working people who were going to do the job. No suits. He said Joe Allegretti would not have been allowed anywhere near the place. Dean would have to take off his tie—

Rick exclaimed that the City Engineer, Dean Button, helped them with Kennedy Avenue a lot.

Commissioner Hawkins continued that the principles that were going to do this work and a lot of work happened from Wednesday on and everybody got together (Munster Public Works, etc.) and he was sort of the middle man that facilitated. The meeting moved, things got done, people shook everything loose and he was in there today and he text his friend Rick and he text back right away. There is pipe laying along Columbia. Part of it has been milled. The whole thing has been milled from 45th to MacArthur. The part that the force main has been leaking at Columbia and Fran Lin the road is repaired. Very nice job. He says the pipe is all laying there on the road that they have gotten so far. It is amazing what has happened already. Grimmer Construction- he cannot say enough about those guys- the are knowledgeable, they are good and have everything has gone together good. Representing Munster on the board and the users of Munster, he wants to congratulate these guys. They are doing an excellent job.

Rick replied for him to have a little patience with them because the worst is yet to come. It is only starting. It is going to be a mess for a while.

Commissioner Hawkins told Rick he would like to talk with him about something after the meeting.

Marty added that he thinks our estimated cost to repair and these are just basic for Munster project on Columbia Avenue is about three quarter of a million dollars (\$750,000) that the District is going to pay.

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Commissioner Button asked Rick if there are only repair clamps on the Twin Creeks force main. He questioned if they removed a section yet.

Rick said that they have not. He is correct, but that is not working.

Commissioner Button just wanted to clarify. He said that if they do remove a section he would like to take a look at it.

Rick replied that he will absolutely make sure that we save some here at the District to keep for analysis. That is no problem.

Commissioner Button echoed Commissioner Hawkins's comments about Mr. Sutton and Mr. Porras. They worked at Kennedy Avenue long hours out there. He means 7 am- 11:30 pm, on the day that we turned the pumps back on and it was fully operational it was probably 7 am- 2 or 3 am. Continuously out there working. He stopped in a number of times and they were out there. He does not think that they left. They were unbelievable employees in the situation that they were to make sure that this thing got done. He mentioned it in the staff meeting earlier. We have great employees that work for us and he echoes Commissioner Hawkins's comments that they have done a great job. It goes without saying that we have a lot, but we have two guys working (salaried, he's sure- at least Rick is) numeral hours doing their job and stand behind the work that is out there so he thanks them very much.

Marty asked Jeff Massey to talk about (he brought it up in the executive session) briefly about the conversations that he has had with the Town Manager of Munster about the old landfill. Please fill the board in about where we are headed with that.

Jeff explained that he received basically permission from Dustin Anderson to start sampling the leachate that is leaving the landfill into the sanitary sewers. Tomorrow he is intending to get out there to set up samplers to start.

Marty asked when is that going to start and end.

Jeff responded that he does not know how long it is going to really take. It all depends on how variable the analysis actually comes back. If it is a pretty solid state (steady state), it will just take a little bit of time to see what it is. We are not sure what it actually looks like. If sample numbers are all over the place they will take them over a period of time and see what the samples show.

Commissioner Hawkins asked if he spoke or plans to speak with a man named Rodney Potts while doing this. He said he has a lot of knowledge.

Jeff replied that he saw that he had data that they took from wells, but he does not know what was actually discharged at the time. He will work with him and see what they can find out and see what is actually coming out at the same time. He knows that they look for certain parameters

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that was required in their closure plan and we have significantly more parameters that we worry about here. There is going to be other information that we need to obtain looking at different parameters. When they closed the landfill, they looked at specific items. They looked at metals where we need to look as far as PCBs, as far as volatiles and other organic chemicals that can cause issues here or fall within local limitations for the Sanitary District. He is going to be doing some testing of things they did not sample for just to see where they land on the scale.

Marty commented that the last thing that he has is as you all know Joe has been working with the two different railroads to acquire the adjoining property here. We have had some success with one or at least conversations that Joe has had with one of the railroads, but the other he has not heard back from yet. We are still pursuing the acquisition of that property so we are moving ahead and ready to go. Other than that, Linden we have acquired the gas station.

Rachel stated that we mailed the check.

Marty asked Matt what else we have there.

Matt replied that is it. The gas station is the last property.

Rachel repeated that we just submitted the check.

Commissioner Button questioned when they are going to have to get out. He wondered if they are going to stay in there or if they have 30 or 90 days to leave.

Marty responded that he does not know any of these details because David Westland handles all of that.

Rachel commented that normally the Court will send us an order once they receive payment to show that the payment was received from the Court and then some details are in there.

Commissioner Button wondered about the insurance issue. He explained that we have to make sure the properties are insured when we own it. When we condemn property, when we take property it goes on our insurance roll—at least for City purposes we make sure it gets insured. For example, the Straube Building when it burned down we had it insured.

Rachel said that we do boarding.

Marty said that we do not insure.

Commissioner Button commented that he may want to look at that.

Marty answered we have.

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Joe Allegretti explained that we usually do not insure demos. He does not know what the City does.

Marty added that the Straube Building was different.

Commissioner Button repeated that when the City condemns property—he asked to have a conversation regarding this.

Joe Allegretti agreed, but said usually if we are going to bulldoze them he does not know about insuring vacant lots.

Commissioner Button answered that he is not talking about the vacant lot.

Joe Allegretti responded that we are turning it in to a park.

Marty added that it will be nice and green.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

President Dimopoulos asked if any departments had any highlights or anything to say about their reports today. Or if any Commissioners had any questions for the departments.

Safety Report

No highlights or questions on safety report.

GIS Report

No highlights or questions on GIS report.

Sewer Maintenance Report

No highlights or questions on Sewer report.

Pretreatment Annual Report 2017

No highlights or questions on Pretreatment Annual Report for 2017.

Rule 13 MS4 Report 2016-2017

No highlights or questions on Rule 13 MS4 Report for 2016-2017.

CONSULTANTS REPORTS

The Board considered the AB&H Consultant Report

Mike Hickey stated that the board should have a copy of his status report. It is a little thicker this time because this meeting was a little later than usual, so three letters went out and he attached them to their packets. If there are any questions regarding those letters, he would be happy to answer them. He said that it is kind of the one-year anniversary of the Consent Decree which is

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why some things were due. As far as the Long Term Control Plan, there is nothing new. It was submitted March 1st, but we have not heard from the EPA.

Commissioner Hawkins asked regarding the letter concerning the Post Construction Monitoring and the model that you note that you have to tweak because it is not really giving you what you are looking for. He said that what you are looking at is good, it is a good model, but you need something different. He asked why Mike Hickey does this. He asked why when he sends this letter and then another letter here, he is just wondering if he ever gets any meaningful feedback.

Mike Hickey responded that we have not gotten any. The Consent Decree is a year old and this is the fourth quarterly report that we have sent in, we have sent in the Long Term Control Plan, the PCCMP, the SORP and we have not gotten any feedback from anything yet. It is important that we meet the Consent Decree deadlines though so we have turned everything in on time.

Joe Allegretti added that the only thing that triggers a response is failure to turn something in. They will never respond or reply to what you send.

Commissioner Hawkins noted that if it was bad he thinks it would trigger a response.

Joe Allegretti replied that is assuming that they read them.

Mike Hickey added that he thinks they pile up somewhere and there may be a batch response once they get to it.

Commissioner Hawkins stated that he was just curious. He is going to ask Jeff and Don later because they have important reports in the packet and he just wonders if they get feedback on them because it is an awful lot costs, etc. etc. and he just wonders about feedback.

Marty said that is actually a good question that the Commissioner brought up. He just needs some clarification. This 16-year clock that we keep saying is ticking. His understanding was once we submitted the Consent Decree that the clock started ticking. He is wondering if that is true or not.

Mike Hickey replied that the Consent Decree is ticking.

Marty verified that even though he sends all of these reports and they send nothing back that the clock is still ticking.

Mike answered yes.

Marty said that he thought that was the case, but as all of the Commissioners know the things that we have done in the Plant and some of the things we are doing with the 11.5 million dollar bond that is really close to being finished he would assume that those are all improvements that

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we are making that qualify for the Consent Decree. We are, in his opinion, ahead of the game as far as the clock.

Joe Allegretti added that the DOJ sent some information formally terminating the Consent Decree. He always joked that he would not live long enough to see the end of that which makes him wrong again.

RESOLUTIONS

The Board considered Resolution No. 19-2018: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Authorizing Permanent Transfer of Money between Certain Funds.

Button **moved** and Dye **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 19-2018.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. Resolution No. 19-2018 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Board considered the Bank Reconciliation for April 30, 2018.

Button **moved** and Dye **seconded** to approve the Bank Reconciliation for April 30, 2018.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the April 30, 2018 Bank Reconciliation is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 05-15-18.

Button **moved** and Moore **seconded** for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 05-15-18.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the Claims Approval Docket 05-15-18 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

President Dimopoulos called for Old Business

There was no old business.

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President Dimopoulos called for New Business

There was no new business.

President Dimopoulos called for Reports from Commissioners

Commissioner Hawkins stated that he had a question for Mr. Massey and Mr. Woodard. The two reports that take a lot of work, a lot of effort that has to be printed and sent out on a regular basis.

Jeff said no. He said they are annual reports. He explained that Stormwater is a two-year report and the Pretreatment one is an annual report.

Commissioner Hawkins asked if he ever gets any feedback.

Jeff replied no. Typically no, but it is just checking boxes. When you send them in, you typically do not see anything back. Every five years there is a Pretreatment audit and they come in and do an audit report. Stormwater it is hit or miss if they come, but they come visit every now and then. Whenever they are doing their audits which there actually should be one this year some time, but they just kind of pop in for that thing, but every two years the annual report is due and there is a general format that it has to follow.

Marty stated that it just dawned on him that he and Jeff have talked about on several different occasions about the new regulations on dental offices. He questioned if that also includes us looking at the dental offices in Munster under your program or if it is just Hammond.

Jeff answered that it is the entire Sanitary District. He has to do Hammond, Munster, Whiting, Highland, and Griffith as well.

Marty asked Jeff to explain to the Commissioners exactly what that is.

Jeff explained that the EPA has passed a categorical standard for dental offices. It is a one-time certification for every dental office within the entire country that they have to certify that they have if they deal with dental amalgams that they have an amalgam separator. We have to first identify every dental office within our jurisdiction, send them a letter, and see if they deal with amalgams and if they do if they have an amalgam separator. If they do they have to sign that they have an amalgam separator and if they do not they have to certify that they will have one by 2020. They are going to have to do some visual checks on a certain percentage depending on how many dentists we have. He thinks he has identified somewhere close to the 250 range in between the whole Sanitary District. Those records then have to be kept and if the dental office ever sells to a different dentist that dentist has to recertify that the amalgam separator is staying in place and the amalgam is being handled separately.

Marty verified that that falls under the entire scope of his office.

Jeff responded that is correct and it is another unfunded mandate type of thing.

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Joe Allegretti commented that we have miraculously never had a mercury violation and we do not file for the mercury variance.

Jeff said that we do not have a mercury variance. We do very well.

Joe Allegretti stated that is unbelievable. Don is a genius.

Jeff added that is what we get for having the guy who developed the test doing our analysis. The guy who developed the test for the EPA is the guy we have do our analysis for us. We are probably the only one around who does not have a mercury level. In fact, the last one that we did in April we were .5 parts per trillion in our effluent. That is absolutely unheard of. Either that or it is absolutely blind luck. We sample constantly and we do not end up with mercury in our effluent.

President Dimopoulos called for Public Expression

There was no public expression.

President Dimopoulos called for a motion to adjourn the meeting

Button **moved** and Dye **seconded** for adjournment.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

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Sam Dimopoulos, President



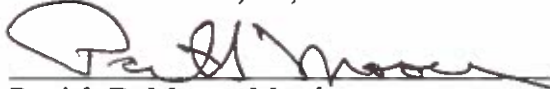
Michael Dye, Vice-President




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