

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 12, 2019
www.hammondsd.com

The Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana held a regular meeting at 4:06 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 4:06 p.m. He stated that the Board held an Executive Session prior to meeting 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
Joe Allegretti, Attorney
Rachel Montes, Business Manager
Jeff Massey, HSD
Dan Zander, Dyer Construction
Jack Smith, Sewer Department
Rebecca McKinley, GIS Department
Kaleigh Boyle, HSD

Others Present: Mike Hickey, AB&H Donohue

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Dimopoulos stated that the first order of business was the consideration of the February 26, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

Dye **moved** and Button **seconded** to approve the February 26, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the February 26, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes are attached to and made a part of the minutes.

District Manager's Report

District Manager, Marty Wielgos, stated that they had a good meeting with Hasse Construction last week. They talked about the project and went over a lot of details and staging and a variety of other things. It lasted a little over an hour and he thought it was very productive. They are moving forward and should be staging here within the next week or two to get ready for the final start of construction. A couple of things that he thinks is always good when you do a project like

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 12, 2019
www.hammondsd.com

this and as large as it is that when the original design was done according to Rick's words it is the Cadillac of everything that they could possibly dream of. His reason as to why he wanted to do that was because as you get into the project there maybe things that pop out where you can say you want to do things a little differently to save some money. Some of that did pop out in the meeting with Dan and some staff late last week on the electrical side (because it is about a 95% electrical project) and they are going to look at that possible change to save some money. He wanted to see if saving some money could allow them to add another transformer to the project, so he is going to back up a little bit. Rick bought a new transformer to replace the old one where the power comes in to the Plant and part of the problem when we lost power (and are now having problems with some of the agencies) was the switch gear- the switch from the power from the east or the power from the west- had not worked. It failed s that is when we had no power to the Plant because they came in on the same pole on the same transformer. The idea was a wish list that we had two transformers- one with the power supply from the east and the other with the power supply from the west. The transfer is a lot easier and we kind of have backup with the transformers because instead of having one transformer you have two. By doing it that way, you can power the whole Plant by either source. By doing it the way that it is planned, it was only designed to—He asked Jeff Massey or Dan Zander to jump in because he is getting into the gray area.

Dan Zander explained that if you have what happened when we lost power with the lightning arresters because both power sources have the same transformer and same switch gear, so this transformer would basically allow one power source to come into that transformer and one would come into the other and you would have main to main switch gear which we could operate. If you lost the power form the east, you would go up there thrown the switch on the main and bring it in from the other one and would not have to wait on Nipsco to do that.

Commissioner Hawkins verified that HSD would be in control of the transfer switch.

Dan replied yes. He went on to explain that if power was lost from both sides which would be a whole other thing, but it would definitely be a very rare occasion if that did ever happen.

Marty added that what he is looking at based on some information that Dan received back from one of the contractors is that instead of buying the Cadillac of shelving which is stainless steel we can actually buy aluminum and save a substantial amount of money. So he thought if they could save that money maybe it is enough to do the transformer or start towards that because he is sure there are other savings that may come up. That is what they are working on now- to get him a cost on a second transformer and they are looking at that. It is a little more in depth that that because when they lost the power last time they had a violation which he indicated in the last board meeting from the agencies. IDEM believes that we should have more transformers. None of that is in our permit so we are not obligated to do that. They are interpreting it differently than we are. Penalty was dropped down from a \$10,000 penalty and they responded to Joe saying they liked what they see that we are adding all of these generators and maybe the penalty could down a little more. In the staff meeting today, he is a little cautious on that because he really does not

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 12, 2019
www.hammondsd.com

want to do that. That is really not the answer to what the problem was- the transformer which is what failed the first time. That is where the issue is- with what failed. We will have more control over it because we had no control over what happened the first time- zero. It was all Nipsco. It all came in to one line where the switches were and Nipsco does not like switching it, so they kind of cut everything down until they do the final repair in switching. This will all separate that. He is hoping that with what he already knows on the savings that is out there that when he gets the estimate on the other transformer and from his understanding the switch gear will be in a lock box that you will need the key to open the lock box, you will hit a button and it switches. Not like what we have today where you actually have these poles and have to pull these big arms down to switch it over to the next power supply. He was excited to hear part of that, but wanted to inform them because it is very preliminary and will update them as they move forward.

Commissioner Hawkins questioned if the switch over mechanism is something that the Plant operators can use.

Dan answered that yes it will be on our side, so we would not have to call Nipsco at all.

Jeff added that it is not 34,000 volts, so it is a reduced voltage.

Commissioner Dye asked if this has taken place at any other Plants that we know of so that we know if this is a good, permanent solution to the issue.

Commissioner Button commented that it happens all the time.

Marty added that he thinks the Hammond Sanitary District is being held to a higher standard specifically with our sister power plants within a 70-100 mile radius. He does not believe that any power plant besides the Hammond Sanitary District has a complete generator system to run a plant. He does not believe that and he does not have to leave this building to.

Commissioner Button stated that State standards require water or wastewater utilities to have separate power supply sources so that can be two separate utility feeds as is here or it can be utility feed with a backup power supply. The standard does not require two separate power feeds and a redundant generator power source so that would be more than reasonable expectations to run a facility like this. We already have what is required. A lot of smaller utilities or even our lift stations we have the primary power and then we have generator connections so that meets requirement standards.

Marty said that he agrees 100%, but however we are being held at a higher standard.

Commissioner Button stated that if they ask for generators in addition to that would be unusual for them to require a primary power supply and two secondary power supplies. They would invite that, but it is well beyond what is required.

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 12, 2019
www.hammondsd.com

Attorney Allegretti said that he would be happy to forward Commissioner Button his last correspondence from DEM.

Marty concluded that as a staff they are very caught between a rock and a hard stone. They do not want to agitate the agencies, but at the same time they feel like they are being held at a higher standard for whatever reason because they do have two separate power supplies (one from the east and one from the west), they do have generators- not to operate the entire Plant, but to get us by or limp us along, and yet they are asking us to be held at an even higher standard. He is not a fool and he knows all of his board members are not. It is kind of like being stopped by a police officer whether you believe that officer is right or wrong, you are going to say yes sir, no sir and that is where he feels like he is at at this point. The fact that they are asking them to pay a lesser fine, but still he does not know if they are asking them to admit to guilt but to pay the fine and he is having a hard time with that. He asked how the Board feels and repeated that he does not find it be fair. He finds it to be totally unfair because there is not one thing that these employees or the Plant had done that was wrong. We did everything by the book and had called them when it all happened- they did not have to come and find out- we actually told them. Don reported it immediately and they were still within the limits. They still say that they do not like that and they want something better.

Commissioner Button stated that in Marty's comments he said that he was going from stainless steel to aluminum and he is interested in hearing more about that.

Marty answered that was on the shelving and asked Dan to verify that.

Dan said it was on the conduit.

Commissioner Button stated that he would like to talk about this offline if that is reasonable and Marty is okay with him talking to staff and in particular about the electrical switching. He can meet with Dan/Jeff.

Marty responded that he would like to have all four of them meet so that he can hear exactly what is being talked about.

Commissioner Button said that Marty had asked him if he would participate in some of these meetings in the project.

PERSONNEL REPORT

There was no personnel report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 12, 2019
www.hammondsd.com

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sewer Maintenance Report

Jack Smith had nothing to highlight.

GIS Report

Becky McKinley had nothing to highlight.

CONSULTANT REPORTS

AB&H Donohue

Mike Hickey stated that they should have a copy of his status report. The update on the Long Term Control Plan is that the CMDF unit is running and there was a wet weather event so they will evaluate the data, but it did rain on Saturday and supposed to again tomorrow so the pilot testing is proceeding. If there are any questions, he would be happy to take them.

RESOLUTIONS

The Board considered Resolution No. 5-2019: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana for Planning, Design and Management Engineering Assistance.

Button **moved** and Moore **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 5-2019.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

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

The Board considered the Bank Reconciliation for February 28, 2019

Button **moved** and Dye **seconded** to approve the Bank Reconciliation for February 28, 2019.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the Bank Reconciliation for February 28, 2019 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 03-12-19.

Button **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** to approve Claims Approval Docket 03-12-19.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 12, 2019
www.hammondsd.com

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of Claims Approval Docket 03-12-19 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

President Dimopoulos called for Old Business

There was no old business.

President Dimopoulos called for New Business

There was 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

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

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

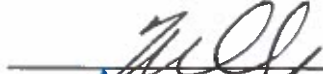
Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 12, 2019
www.hammondsd.com



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