

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING
JULY 28, 2020
www.hammondsd.com

The Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana held a regular meeting at 4:02 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 4:02 p.m. He stated that the Board held an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel and litigation matters in accordance with Indiana Codes.

Commissioners Present: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller

Commissioners Absent: N/A

District Personnel: Marty Wielgos, District Manager
Matthew Muta, Deputy District Manager
Joseph Allegretti, HSD Attorney
Rachel Montes, Business Manager
Jeffrey Massey, HSD
Dan Zander, HSD
Jack Smith, Sewer Department
Rebecca McKinley, GIS Department
Kaleigh Boyle, HSD

Others Present: Mike Hickey, MJHY LLC

President Dimopoulos stated that the first order of business was the consideration of the July 14, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes.

Dye **moved** and Miller **seconded** to approve the July 14, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 4-0.

District Manager's Report

District Manager, Marty Wielgos, stated that as they talked about in the executive session, they have approximately almost 900 checks delivered and out into resident's hands that experienced the backup at the end of May. Halfway there and halfway to go. Out of that total number of over 1700 that they talked about, they are not sure how many of those still qualify as far as if they are renters or other people who just do not have the right documentation. They will not know that until they actually do the interview. Every day (Monday-Thursday), we are here until 7 pm. They (Rachel and Kaleigh) pass checks out every Tuesday and Thursday so the residents do not even

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING
JULY 28, 2020
www.hammondsc.com

need to get out of their car. The residents drive up in their car and just roll down their window, turn back in the certificate they were given at appointment, have their IDs checked, sign the bottom of the check stub for our records and then they get their check and away they go. That has really been working very, very well. His estimate and prediction would be the middle of August at the very latest the end of August, we should be all wrapped up and finished. Then, everybody can go back to what they normally do. Owana and her staff have done a tremendous job. Owana is spending time here, spending time at City Hall every day going back and forth and then Rachel and her crew have done a phenomenal job with taking the calls and seeing the people. It is a time-consuming project. He and Matt have also been taking appointments with residents to try and help move the numbers along. It is getting there. As far as the Plant, he asked Jeff if there is anything that they need to let the Board know about.

Jeff replied no. Everything is running fairly well. They are working on the final switchovers of all of Columbia Avenue/Headworks pumps and new electrical system. They are working on the final programs for that and everything is going fairly well.

Marty added just for clarification purposes, he asked Jeff if they are still having some issues with generators.

Jeff said they are trying to get the new generator and everything ironed out with that. When it first turns on, it kicks all the power off of everything else that is running and has to be restarted. It is supposed to restart automatically, but there is a delay in there that is a little longer than what they want it to be so they are trying to get that worked out so if the things that are running when the power goes out and the generator has to kick on for those things to start back up automatically and it is having a little bit of difficulty with that. A little difficulty with the battery backup- some of the PLCs, but they are working really hard to get that ironed out. They have not had any real problems with it, but it is not as flawless as they wanted it to be. It still requires some interaction and that was not what it was designed to do. If the generator kicks on, it should instantly restart everything and run and it is lagging a little too much, so they are rewriting some of the programs on it to do what they want it to do.

Marty commented that with all of the upgrades that they are doing, they will have two solid, really reliable choices for where they draw power from- either from the North or the South. Way better than what they ever had in the Plant and the backup of generators so after looking at it maybe they have a little bit of an overkill, but it is better to have a little bit more than less. After it is all said and done with the money they are spending, they are going to have a really nice system and pretty much 100% automated as far as manually having to go flip something, it will do it by itself. The generator that they received from the Water Department about two years ago that they were going to install initially over at Tertiary now with all of these upgrades, they are going to take that generator and put it over on Kennedy Avenue and have it permanently installed over there. That is normally where they always continuously lose power and always have to run one of the big generators out there, so they are going to go ahead and do that. They are still having a slight problem, Commissioner Hawkins, with some of the generators in Munster. He knows over the

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING
JULY 28, 2020
www.hammondsd.com

weekend or through this past week, Jeff had gotten a call from—he asked Jeff who the call was from.

Jeff answered Anton called him. They had problems with losing power at one of the stations and the generator had an issue where the switch gear had some problems and they got in contact with Anton and he had tried getting in contact with the service people for the generator in Fort Wayne. They could not get out here so they brought one of our generators to cover for it and then they had to have one of our electricians fix that switch gear for the Town of Munster and bill it back to them which they are in the process of doing now and they are going to get that taken care of.

Marty said that he thinks what they should talk about is maybe it would be easier if we (the District) because he guesses the person who repairs the generators for the Town is in Fort Wayne and he cannot get here quick enough and of course timing is of the essence when a pump station is down. He thinks maybe they should look at creating some kind of agreement with the District that we will just take care of it- other than if it is a nonemergency. Usually if it is a rain event and it goes down, he considers that an emergency and it has to be dealt with immediately. The District has their electrician that comes out 2, 3, 4 o'clock in the morning where Anton had to call Jeff and say, 'hey, he is in Fort Wayne and cannot get out here, you guys just take care of it and bill us.'

Commissioner Hawkins stated that the Town has had three people trained by the generator guy. The Town has a couple people off due to COVID and he thinks maybe that was one of the issues, but he understands.

Jeff explained that in this case there was something electrically wrong. This was not a case where it did not just switch and there was something you could do. In fact, it was a circuit breaker that is rather expensive- there was a physically bad part in the switch gear that had to be changed so he does not think -- well maybe somebody in the Town could have, but this was not a small problem.

President Dimopoulos asked if there is or if there was a deadline that people had to have reported their damage.

Marty responded that the deadline was June 5th. That was a few weeks past the flood date. They normally go one week, but because this one was so bad, they extended it and of course we still have people calling. The reason he thinks that happens is because people start talking and saying 'hey, did you get your free \$500 from the District- all you have to do is call.' So, we have had a lot of those and he basically channeled all of those calls himself and we have had some upset people. He gets it and there has been a few exceptions that he has made where he found out somebody was out of town in Florida or some place with nobody else to check the house. They verified a lot of things and he made a few exceptions. He has not had to do a lot of those. He always checked with Owana to make sure they were in sync, especially if it was a CDBG case, because he did not want to submit something to CDBG and they do an audit and kick it out and then the District has to reimburse so Owana has been the one checking all that we have done. She double checks it before we call and tell them that they have a check ready. There has only been a

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
JULY 28, 2020
www.hammondsd.com

few exceptions, but there have been some unhappy people, but there has been a lot of happy people. Very gracious when they come here. He had a guy deliver a whole box of apples so he has been making apple pies and all kinds of stuff with it and bringing it here for everybody. Overall, just very nice people that had some really horrible things happen to them.

PERSONNEL REPORT

There was no Personnel Report.

The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 07-28-20.

Dye **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 07-28-20.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 4-0.

President Dimopoulos called for Old Business

There was not any old business.

President Dimopoulos called for New Business

There was not any 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

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

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller


Nays: None

Motion **carried** 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING
JULY 28, 2020
www.hammondsd.com



Sam Dimopoulos, President



Michael Dye, Vice-President



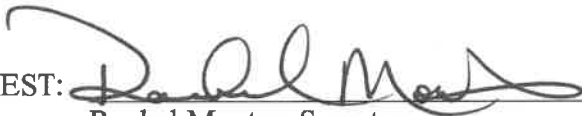
Michael Hawkins, Sr., Member



Owana Miller, Member

Patrick D. Moore, Member

ATTEST:



Rachel Montes, Secretary

Kaleigh Boyle, Assistant Secretary

Board Minutes Prepared By: Kaleigh Boyle