

MINUTES  
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING  
AUGUST 13, 2019  
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The Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana held a regular meeting at 4:00 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 4:00 p.m.

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

Commissioners Absent: N/A

District Personnel: Marty Wielgos, District Manager  
Matthew Muta, Deputy District 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 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 July 23, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

Dye **moved** and Button **seconded** to approve the July 23, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the July 23, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

**District Manager's Report**

District Manager Marty Wielgos says that he is happy to report that this past Friday, Local 399 took a new vote on the previous contract that the District had offered that they had previously turned down, had been ratified by the union. He says the union notified Joe Allegretti late Friday. Marty says that he is presenting today and asking for ratification from the Board, the 399 contract. Marty Wielgos goes on stating that if the contract is ratified, they will get a 2% raise

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starting yesterday (August 12<sup>th</sup>) through the end of the year and also a 2% raise going in to 2020. Marty says this is a little less than a year and a half contract and that they will begin negotiating the new 4-year contract early next year. He continues saying that this is what the whole thing did and what they've always been talking about. He says the last time he stripped everything out of it and said this is the best way for them to get it done. Marty reflects saying several months ago the union voted and turned it down, but asked and re-voted on Friday, where they accepted. Marty asks the Board to give authorization for them to sign it and accept it. He states the pay increase will start August 12<sup>th</sup> and for this pay period, since they are already in the middle and this is the start of the second week, they will have one week of the old pay and one week of the new 2% increase and so on moving forward.

President Dimopoulos says that is great news and is glad they could work it out and put it behind them. He says it took a while, but it all worked out.

Commissioner Dye thanks Marty for his hard work. Marty thanks the Commissioner and says there were a lot of people involved while stating that Jeff Massey, Matt Muta, and Joe Allegretti helped and is glad to have this going.

Marty Wielgos says he is also happy to report two things. He says that he needs to report that they were trying to work with their neighbor, Hammond Machine, who is just north of the District, about their wanting to expand. He says Commissioner Dean Button has been involved in that as they know there is a bike trail they are putting there, which is part of the reason the District acquired all the railroad property along with further expansion for the District to the north. Marty says unfortunately, Hammond Machine moved too slowly. Commissioner Button had deadlines with some of the federal money that he was getting and then some of the money that the District was putting in, along with the City of Hammond. Marty says there are 3 different pots coming in for this. District Manager Marty Wielgos explains that it just moved slowly, he put Matt Muta as the point person in those talks and it wasn't moving. He also explains that Commissioner Button kept insisting during and after 2 or 3 meetings that they were getting close to the deadline and they need to do something if they're going to move the bike trail and there needs to be some new environmental needs to be done and he needed to work out how that's going to look depending on what they're going to need. Marty says then he got an email from Hammond Machine saying they weren't going to pay anything for environmental needs and for the District to do their thing. Marty says that's when he had Matt contact Commissioner Button and tell him to go with the original plan. Marty says he got a call on Thursday or Friday (he doesn't recall which day) from their good friends at Hammond Machine asking where they are at and saying they want to expand. Marty Wielgos says that he told them with all due respect, they are passed that and that gate has passed, gone and closed. He says he then called Joe Allegretti and let Joe know. Marty says he wanted to inform the Board and that it's unfortunate as Marty says he was always trying to help any business that they could, as the District, if the District's property bordered somebody who wanted to expand and it made sense to the District as well that they were willing to do that. Marty says they can't wait around for that to happen and Commissioner Button had federal dollars that had a clock. Marty says Commissioner Button

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kept telling them very politely that they had to get something moving and unfortunately it didn't happen. Marty Wielgos continues on saying he doesn't think they are very happy and that they're already encroaching on some of the District's property anyway. He says that needs to be addressed somewhere down the line, but he just wanted the Board to be aware.

Marty says the other thing is that the District had taken bids for the removal of all the trees and brush on this railroad property, with Homer who has done work there before. Marty Wielgos says they are very good and very price competitive, and is also having them do all the cleanup and removal off 175<sup>th</sup> and Columbia. Marty states that contract was agreed to and signed in May and because of a lot of bad weather and a variety of other things they didn't get to it. Marty says he got on the phone with Matt today and they came out today. He says they are going to clear all the brush out within a day or so on the bike trail and that they are also going to remove all the trees in the sightline that they need for NIPSCO to move onto that property with new telephone poles. Marty says that is all going to be done without upsetting the NIPSCO schedule. He says they then will come back and do the rest of the clearing on the railroad property and then move to 175<sup>th</sup> and Columbia. Marty says those projects which have been a little slow are moving along and that he's excited about that. Marty says the District has a lot going on but they are all good things. Marty says he has nothing else.

#### **PERSONNEL REPORT**

President Dimopoulos says that he would like to adopt the report that was presented at the beginning of the meeting.

Button **moved** and Dye **seconded** to approve the Personnel Report.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

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

#### **FINANCE REPORT**

Business Manager Rachel Montes says she had nothing to highlight but would take any questions.

There are no questions.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

There were no Department Reports.

#### **CONSULTANT REPORTS**

Mike Hickey, from AB&H Donohue & Associates says that they should all have the Status Report which is dated August 5<sup>th</sup>. He states that on August 9<sup>th</sup> they did the Quarterly Status Report and a copy was put in front of everyone. He says they sent it out after the Status Report

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and that it is just the quarterly report, they have to send the EPA to talk about Consent Decree Activity and that he always tries to give everyone a copy of that. Mike Hickey says that in terms of the Long-Term Control Plan, they have a public hearing scheduled for August 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at the Sanitary District. He says they will work on getting the presentation together and be ready for that, as it's only a couple weeks away. Mike Hickey says he's happy to take any questions.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**The Board considered Resolution No. 21-2019: RE: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 399, Covering the Period from August 12, 2019 through December 31, 2020**

Dye **moved** and Moore **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 21-2019.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of Resolution 21-2019 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

**The Board considered Resolution No. 22-2019: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana for Engineering Assistance in the Preparation of a Revised Final Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP)**

Button **moved** and Dye **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 22-2019.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of Resolution 22-2019 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

**BANK RECONCILIATION**

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

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

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Moore, Hawkins

Nays: None

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

**The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 08-13-19.**

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Button **moved** and Dye **seconded** for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 08-13-19.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the Claims Approval Docket 08-13-19 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**

President Dimopoulos says there is a new resolution.

Commissioner Button says that they were presented with this **Resolution No. 23-2019: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana, Amending Salaries and Wage Rates for the Hammond Sanitary District for the Year 2019**

Button **moved** and Moore **seconded** for the approval of the agreement.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays:

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of Resolution 23-2019 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

**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: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 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: Jonathan Albers