

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019
www.hammondsd.com

The Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana held a regular meeting at 4:03 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 4:03 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
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

President Dimopoulos called for everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Dimopoulos stated that the first order of business was the consideration of the September 10, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

Dye moved and Moore seconded to approve the September 10, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0. A copy of the September 10, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Marty Wielgos says that construction is moving along. Marty says that because this project is 90% electrical, you can see all of the piping coming in and out of the ground. He continues on saying they had a couple of meetings today and they decided to go with the option of two lines coming into the plant. Marty says there was some tweaks that they were going to be looking at doing over the next couple of weeks. He says that because of where they are moving with a remote, wet weather plant, that some of the pumps they were looking at putting in may not

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be needed anymore because not all of the flow is coming to the plant. Marty says some of the flow is being treated at the site and put into the river there compared to everything being brought up to the plant. Marty says that was brought up to him today and they are going to look at that option and ask Mr. Hickey to take a look at that to make sure, as Dennis is heavily involved since he designed it, Rick Sutton is no longer at the District, and Dan is overseeing the project, but he wants Mike Hickey to be a third set of eyes and evaluate this. Marty says there is some money spent on that but the remaining money that is not needed can be transferred to the addition of the extra transformer, transfer switches, and other things for that project. He says he will keep the board updated on that.

Marty says he is going to let Business Manager, Rachel Montes, talk briefly about the audit. Rachel says they had their exit conference on Thursday and they were given an unqualified opinion with not many comments. She says there were some internal control comments but that's about it. Marty adds that an unqualified opinion is the best you can get in an audit and that they were really happy with that.

Commissioner Hawkins asks about the issue with NIPSCO wanting to shut the plant down for those consecutive Saturdays they discussed at the last board meeting. Marty responds saying they had a meeting with NIPSCO last week and made it very clear to them that it was too risky on the District's part to be shut down and run the plant on generators. Marty says it was too risky because not only do they service all of Hammond, but the District also services all of Hammond, Highland, Griffith, Munster, and Whiting. Marty says that risk would be extended all the way to the District's customer communities at the same time, which was not practical and if that is the way they had to do that then the District would not be doing it. Marty says supposedly, the gentleman went back to NIPSCO and is telling the engineers there that the District's request is that NIPSCO runs a temporary power line into the plant to be able to keep the plant live while they are doing the other electrical work. District Manager Marty Wielgos says that he has seen it done a million times other places. He continues on saying the District is right across the street from the main power generation and that it's not like he is asking them to run a temporary line for blocks. Marty says he doesn't know if they are going to come back and say they can't do that and will find that hard to accept, but quite frankly, he will not accept that as an answer. Marty says he thinks his message was loud and clear and it came directly from him straight to NIPSCO. Marty says they were hoping to have some word from them today by 3 o'clock, but have not and hopes to hear something first thing tomorrow morning. Marty reiterates that it was just too risky and too many variables can happen.

PERSONNEL REPORT

There was no personnel report.

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RESOLUTIONS

The Board considered Resolution No. 25-2019: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana, Authorizing the Permanent Transfer of \$150,000 from the Operations and Maintenance Fund (H) to the Replacement Fund (R)

Button **moved** and Dye **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 25-2019.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of Resolution 25-2019 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Board considered Resolution No. 26-2019: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana for Consent Decree Services

Button **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 26-2019.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of Resolution 26-2019 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 09-24-19.

Button **moved** and Moore **seconded** for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 09-24-19.

Ayes: Button, Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Moore

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. A copy of the Claims Approval Docket 09-24-19 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

Commissioner Button says that he received a spreadsheet/template from Kevin Smith this morning about all the properties that were available for the tax sale. He says he asked Becky McKinley if she could put it on a G.I.S. map to make it easier for them and says she turned it around within an hour. He says the District runs a great operation and it means a lot to him to have a graphical representation of those parcels. He thanks Becky and says they needed an

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answer very fast and is grateful for the quick turnaround. Becky thanks Commissioner Button in return.

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 4:10 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