

MINUTES  
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING  
MAY 25, 2021  
[www.hammondsd.com](http://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 prior to the meeting to discuss personnel and litigation matters in accordance with Indiana Codes.

Commissioners Present: Dimopoulos, Dye, Garay, Hawkins, Miller

Commissioners Absent: N/A

District Personnel Present: Marty Wielgos, Chief Executive Officer  
Joseph Allegretti, HSD Attorney  
Jeffrey Massey, HSD  
Matthew Muta, Deputy District Manager  
Robert Szczudlo, 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 is the consideration of the May 11, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.

Dye **moved** and Miller **seconded** to approve the May 11, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Garay, Hawkins, Miller

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0.

**Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Chief Executive Officer, Marty Wielgos, stated that he is proud to report if he has not already let the Board know at the last meeting that they have come to an agreement with the City of Whiting on some of the past capital improvement projects that they have been working with them on. Currently going back at least a couple years even with the former administration there in Whiting. They finally got positive results with the new Mayor. As he has indicated to the Board, they finally got the document back signed by the City of Whiting and all of the Sanitary Commissioners in Whiting and back to them. Just to recall, they ended up with just a little over \$600,000 out of the \$900,000 that they requested. It is a big win in his opinion for the District. Moving forward with

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all of these projects with the customer communities that include Whiting, Highland and Griffith, they will have Mike Hickey send a letter out to them describing what the new project is and telling them in detail what their share of the cost will be and he will put in there that if they would like him to make a formal presentation to their Sanitary District Boards of any one of those three communities, that he will make himself available to talk about them projects. That is the problem that they were having in the past is that was kind of falling into the loophole because that was a requirement under their current contract to do that to them, so he has come up with a plan that will solve closing that loophole and make it better for all of them. As the Board knows, the Town of Griffith and the Town of Highland have already true-upped with them on those past projects. They have already paid the District for those. Whiting was the only one hanging out there. The other thing that he just wanted to talk about briefly with Whiting is that his plan since he has had a very goof first start working relationship with the new Mayor there, he has actually invited Marty to lunch so they can get to know each other a little bit better. He said he would do that. The thing is once they come to an agreement with their other two customer communities meaning Highland and Griffith on what the new rate will be and how that structure will take place, he plans on having a meeting with the new Mayor of Whiting to show him what is happening and to talk about under the old Administration that he was told that the City of Whiting was always willing to pay their fair share. He was told that on numerous occasions. So now if he has these new documents that actually show what the new share should be, he is putting a lot of faith and trust into the fact that the new Mayor will say, Marty, they will take a look at that and with the District giving them the documentation that supports that, he will take it back to his Board. He told Commissioner Hawkins that he was involved in a lot of those negotiations with the other Administration. He asked Commissioner Hawkins how many times he heard them say, hey Whiting is always willing to pay their fair share.

Commissioner Hawkins replied that he heard that every time they met. The meetings were always very friendly, very open, but nothing happened which tends to happen sometimes. He is glad to hear this strategy that he is planning with Whiting because it is one of the missing things in the cost-of-service study. Yes, they are smaller, but they should pay an amount akin to what Highland and Griffith have. He told Marty it is a good idea.

Marty responded that other than that, he does not have anything else to report.

### **PERSONNEL REPORT**

President Dimopoulos commented that they did receive a Personnel Report today and asked for a motion to accept it.

Dye **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** for approval of the Personnel Report.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Garay, Hawkins, Miller

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0.

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**FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

Marty wanted to highlight that he and Rachel had talked about the line of credit that they had. He asked her what they agreed to do with that.

Rachel answered that they were canceling it. They never used it.

Marty explained that they never used it. The million-dollar line of credit that they had taken out through Tech Credit Union and that was—if the Board remembers, he took that line of credit out based on the fact that they were not quite sure how all the cards were going to fall with the \$500 flood reimbursement program. They did not realize at that time how many people they would have applying for assistance and then at the same time, they just started to work with Owana and her department to see if they could get some federal funds which she was so gracious and came up with a very large number so then they did not need to draw from the line of credit. Rachel came to him the other day and said they were asking if they wanted to renew it and he said there was no reason to renew it, so they are actually going to cancel it.

**CONSULTANT REPORTS**

**MJHY, LLC**

Mike Hickey stated that he would just give them a Long-Term Control Plan update. Last week EPA sent Marty a comments letter on the FCA (Financial Capability Assessment). There were three comments. Two of them they just wanted clarification on itemizing some of the projects, had they been started or not and if they had been financed or not. Actually, all of the information was in there, but they maybe didn't know where to find it, so he will put together a couple new tables and make it clearer. The third one has to do with the FCA guidance and Max said they would deal with that after Memorial Day. He just wanted to let them know that they did get a comment letter.

**The Board considered the Bank Reconciliation Document dated April 30, 2021.**

Hawkins **moved** and Miller **seconded** for the approval of the Bank Reconciliation Document dated April 30, 2021.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Garay, Hawkins, Miller

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0.

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**The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 05-25-21.**

Dye **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 05-25-21.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Garay, Hawkins, Miller  
Nays: None  
Motion **carried** 5-0.

**President Dimopoulos called for Old Business**

There was not any old business to discuss.

**President Dimopoulos called for New Business**

Attorney Allegretti explained that it is commonly known that many of our nearby municipal utilities and municipalities have taken advantage of a statutory process for soliciting a guaranteed energy savings performance contract. They have heard and staff has discussed the success that the municipality of Hammond has had with their experience with this. The statute requires a procurement process in the form of a RFQ and staff is requesting the Board authorize the publication consistent with the statutory requirements of an RFQ for a guaranteed energy savings performance contract. He is asking for a motion for that.

Dye **moved** and Miller **seconded** to approve the publication of a guaranteed energy savings contract on behalf of the Board and their CEO.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Garay, Hawkins, Miller  
Nays: None  
Motion **carried** 5-0.

**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**


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

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Garay, Hawkins, Miller  
Nays: None  
Motion **carried** 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

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Sam Dimopoulos, President


  
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Michael Dye, Vice-President

  
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Michael Hawkins, Sr., Member

  
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Owana Miller, Member

  
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Heather Garay, Member

ATTEST:

  
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Rachel Montes, Secretary  
Kaleigh Boyle, Assistant Secretary

Board Minutes Prepared By: Kaleigh Boyle