

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2021
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.

Vice-President Dye 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: Dye, Hawkins, Miller

Commissioners Absent: Dimopoulos, Garay

District Personnel Present: Marty Wielgos, Chief Executive Officer
Joseph Allegretti, HSD Attorney
Matthew Muta, Deputy District Manager
Rachel Montes, Business Manager
Jeffrey Massey, HSD
Robert Szczudlo, HSD
Jack Smith, Sewer Department
Rebecca McKinley, GIS Department
Kaleigh Boyle, HSD

Others Present: Mike Hickey, MJHY, LLC
Natalie Cook, Donohue

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-President Dye stated that the first order of business is the consideration of the August 24, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.

Hawkins **moved** and Miller **seconded** to approve the August 24, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Dye, Hawkins, Miller

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 3-0.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Chief Executive Officer, Marty Wielgos, stated that the only thine he had to report today is that the Plant is running phenomenally well. They are actually getting ready for their grand tour for the new Headworks expansion that they finished several months ago, but they are slightly doing some final tune-ups on. They are looking at doing that some time early October. Other than that, employee wise, everything is good. They have a couple new hires and have a couple positions that they are looking to fill. They had one thing that was brought to their attention today. As everyone

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knows, they had five new screws put in and part of their regular maintenance plan today showed one of the cover plates on one of the bearings—he asked Jeff to jump in.

Jeff Massey explained that the coupler that connects the gear box to the actual screw and one of them has cracked horizontally. They are not exactly sure why. It really should not have, but they are going to get Thieneman and people back out to take a look at it and see why it failed. It was an existing part, so there is a question on why it had an issue. It is a very fixable thing.

Vice-President Dye clarified that it was a new screw attached to an old part that the District had.

Marty said yes. He stated that he was more relieved to hear that because he would have been very concerned had that of been all brand-new parts and that would have concerned him that something was not aligned right or something, but there was no noise detected or none of that in the SCADA monitoring system that they have showing any problem. This was just found through the routine maintenance when the guys took the plate off, they seen that it was cracked. Nothing like a major issue, but it does need to be addressed. They other thing that concerned them was that was the last screw put it, so it had the least number of hours already on it. They jumped on it today and have the engineers looking at it, so they are going to do that. Another thing that they are going to do is that when they replace the old screws with the new screws, the engineering groups said they should really look at covering them because of the fact of where they sit (they get direct sunlight all day long), they are not running, so there are a lot of outside activities that could affect them weather wise. Basically, there is a cover that is designed to go over them so that it will keep a lot of the outside activities off of the screws. They are going to move forward and get that done to protect the investment that they just made there. That will all be performed by Thieneman under the original contract that they already had to install the screws.

Vice-President Dye asked if it was a custom cover.

Jeff answered that it is a flat cover that covers the screw and then when it comes down to the bottom where the bearing structure is, there is a hatch you can open up to go down into the bearing. They are made out of reinforced fiberglass, so they are easy to remove when you need to do any maintenance on the screw. The purpose of it is to try and stop—the heat from the sun tends to want to flex the screws because they are black and are not moving, so there is heat on the top and then at the bottom they tend to be a bit cooler. Epic thinks it is better for the life of the screw to have them covered so they do not get that constant sun boiling down on them and keep the screws hot. This will allow the screws to be in the shade in some situations so they do not get so hot. They are just big fiberglass covers that they will set some cross members in and bolt down on that and then you can take them off whenever needed. They are not overly heavy, but there is a hatch to get down and do bearing work and change the oil and little stuff so you do not have to remove it unless there is a big issue with the screw.

Marty stated that other than that, he did not have anything to report.

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There were no questions or comments for the CEO.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Safety Report

There were no comments or questions.

GIS Report

There were no comments or questions.

Sewer Maintenance Report

There were no comments or questions.

CONSULTANT REPORTS

MJHY, LLC

Mike Hickey stated that the Board should have a copy of his status report. If they have any questions, he will be happy to take them. In regards to the Long-Term Control Plan, he thinks that within the next couple of months, the activity will pick up. They are waiting on some information from Griffith that he thinks they are going to get in the next 30-60 days. Once they get that, they can start finalizing the Long-Term Control Plan.

Donohue

Natalie Cook responded that the Board has a status report from them as well. She does not have anything else to add.

RESOLUTIONS

The Board considered Resolution No. 27-2021: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of the City of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana Authorizing Permanent Transfers of Money Between Certain Funds.

Hawkins **moved** and Miller **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 27-2021.

Ayes: Dye, Hawkins, Miller

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 3-0.

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The Board considered the Bank Reconciliation Document dated August 31, 2021.

Hawkins **moved** and Miller **seconded** for the approval of the Bank Reconciliation Document dated August 31, 2021.

Ayes: Dye, Hawkins, Miller
Nays: None
Motion **carried** 3-0.

The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 09-14-21.

Miller **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 09-14-21.

Ayes: Dye, Hawkins, Miller
Nays: None
Motion **carried** 3-0.

Vice-President Dye called for Old Business

There was not any old business to discuss.

Vice-President Dye called for New Business

Vice-President Dye stated that under new business, they have a Resolution before them.

The Board considered Resolution No. 28-2021: RE: A Resolution by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of the City of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana Establishing the Policy by Which Members of the Board of Sanitary Commissioners Can Participate by Electronic Means of Communication.

Hawkins **moved** and Miller **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 28-2021.

Ayes: Dye, Hawkins, Miller
Nays: None
Motion **carried** 3-0.

Vice-President Dye called for Reports from Commissioners

There were no Reports from Commissioners.

Vice-President Dye called for Public Expression

There was no Public Expression.

Marty wanted to add that he cannot compliment the City of Whiting enough under the new Mayor- Mayor Steve. Every conversation he and Marty have has been really good. Every knows that the City of Whiting has agreed to jump on into the interim agreement that they have with the

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other two communities. They have agreed to an interim rate of which they have not implemented yet because they are trying to figure out the 2021 true-up that will come due at the end of the year on whether or not, they would prefer to do an interim rate starting retroactive January 2021 and then eliminating the need to do the true-up, so that is what they are working on now. He cannot say enough about Mayor Steve and his staff because he calls Marty and they have a great conversation, he likes to be kept updated on where they are with everything and he has just been very professional. He just wanted to let the Commissioners know that the City of Whiting under Mayor Steve has really been good for them.

Vice-President Dye said that is good news considering how things were prior.

Vice-President Dye called for a motion to adjourn the meeting

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

Ayes: Dye, Hawkins, Miller

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

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Sam Dimopoulos, President



Michael Dye, Vice-President



Michael Hawkins, Sr., Member



Owana Miller, Member



Heather Garay, Member

ATTEST:



Rachel Montes, Secretary

Kaleigh Boyle, Assistant Secretary

Board Minutes Prepared By: Kaleigh Boyle