

MINUTES  
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSISONERS MEETING  
APRIL 12, 2022  
[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 4:02 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, Rubio

Commissioners Absent: Miller

District Personnel Present: Marty Wielgos, Chief Executive Officer  
Matthew Muta, Deputy District Manager  
Rachel Montes, Business Manager  
Joseph Allegretti, HSD Attorney  
Jeffrey Massey, HSD  
Dan Zander, HSD  
Thomas Ramker, HSD  
Jack Smith, Sewer Department  
Kaleigh Boyle, HSD  
Jessie Amezcua, HSD

Others Present: Mike Hickey, MJHY  
Natalie Cook, Donohue  
Ken Schoon, Town of Munster

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Dimopoulos stated that the first order of business is the consideration of the March 29, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes.

Hawkins **moved** and Dye **seconded** to approve the March 29, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Rubio  
Nays: None  
Motion **carried** 4-0.

**Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Chief Executive Officer, Marty Wielgos, stated that he would like to start off and he is sure he speaks on behalf of all of the Board members and staff here at the Sanitary District. He addressed Councilman Schoon of Munster and expressed how sorry he was to hear about his wife. They know it is a very difficult time for him and they just want him to know, they have her in their

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prayers.

Councilman Schoon thanked him.

Marty stated that they have had some really good conversations with Leopardo as he has kept the up to date. Those are going really well. He thinks the Board had a chance to do some questioning at their last meeting to get some answers and a brief presentation on some of the projects that they picked. They had another meeting this past Friday and that one went really well. They are moving it along very quickly. He sat down with staff earlier today and they talked about Kennedy Avenue. Kennedy Avenue is one of two manned stations. Kennedy Avenue has a round the clock shift of three personnel and so does Robertsdale. They will never look at automating Robertsdale just because it is so far north and if they had a problem up there, it would take too long because of different train tracks you have to cross over to get somebody up there. Kennedy Avenue is not the same situation and for many years they have looked at automating Kennedy Avenue. They had a good, long conversation about that today to see what the possibilities were to do that. He will say for the record, that if they do automate Kennedy Avenue, those three employees that are employed there to operate Kennedy Avenue would be shifted here to the Plant because there are plenty of things for them to do here as operators. They are currently one operator down right now and probably by the end of the year with somebody retiring they will need two and have three to pick from. He is excited about that project because it is something that he has talked about for many years. Everything else that they have is automated including the Plant here. They have live bodies that watch it and make adjustments where needed and it works well. He thinks this is something that staff is very excited about, he is very excited about. He talked to Mr. Hickey today- this is something that they can put into the Leopardo project because the cost savings that they would save in manpower at Kennedy Avenue are currently just under a half a million dollars- that is salaries, wages he should say. That will be taken out of that cost center and surely be put into the Plant where they need or would have those costs because they are short on some personnel, so the little under a half a million dollars in savings on wages could be the key to getting it financed under Leopardo because of the fact that is what they look at- the savings and then they can get the financing done, they will not have to bid it out and it does not affect their bond capabilities which he wants to keep as flexible with Rachel as possible in case they get hit with something big unexpected that has to be repaired, that needs to be done immediately and that is when they bond out for it, to get it done. Depending on all of these different pieces of the puzzle, customer communities, monies owed, automation, he sees it all slowly coming together in a very positive way for the District. This is going back to the time when he and Commissioner Hawkins sat on the Board and all they seen on their financial statements was page after page of red, red, red and they made some hard decisions and changed it to where they are today, but he actually sees with some further implications, changes and upgrades that they can do even better including selling their gas. That is the most exciting one that he can think of. Other than that, if the Board has any questions for him, he would be happy to entertain those.

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

There was no Personnel Report.

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**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Business Manager, Rachel Montes, stated that she did not have anything to highlight, but would take any questions.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Safety Report**

No questions or comments.

**GIS Report**

No questions or comments.

**Sewer Maintenance Report**

No questions or comments.

**CONSULTANT REPORTS**

**MJHY, LLC**

Mike Hickey commented that the Board should have a copy of his status report. As far as the Long-Term Control Plan, he is still waiting to get the revised Financial Capability Assessment from Karl Cender. He will send him an email and see what is going on. Other than that, he has nothing else to report.

**Donohue**

Natalie Cook said that they are starting on the CSO Notification Plan. It is due on May 1<sup>st</sup>. She does not have anything else specific to highlight, but would be happy to take any questions.

Commissioner Hawkins asked Natalie to refresh him on what the American Structure Point Project is.

Natalie answered that the American Structure Point Project is the manhole inspection at Summer—she said she is unfortunately blanking on that, but she will get him some more information on that. She explained it is a Streets and Sanitation project that they are looking at capacity through a force main.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**The Board considered Resolution No. 14-2022: 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 for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2022 from the Operation and Maintenance Fund (606) to the Replacement Fund (460).**

Dye **moved** and Rubio **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 14-2022.

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Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Rubio  
Nays: None  
Motion **carried** 4-0.

**The Board considered the Bank Reconciliation Document dated March 31, 2022.**

Rubio **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** for the approval of the Bank Reconciliation Document dated March 31, 2022.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Rubio  
Nays: None  
Motion **carried** 4-0.

**The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 04-12-22.**

Dye **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 04-12-22.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Rubio  
Nays: None  
Motion **carried** 4-0.

**President Dimopoulos called for Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

**President Dimopoulos called for New Business**

There was not any new business to discuss.

**President Dimopoulos called for Reports from Commissioners**

President Dimopoulos commented that the Munster Robotics team is going to the State Finals on Saturday. If they win, they go to the International Finals in Houston to compete against 18 countries, so they will see what happens.

**President Dimopoulos called for Public Expression**

There was not any public expression.

**President Dimopoulos called for a motion to adjourn the meeting**

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

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Rubio  
Nays: None

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Motion **carried** 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

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Sam Dimopoulos, President

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Michael Dye, Vice-President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Hawkins, Sr., Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owana Miller, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica Rubio, Member

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rachel Montes, Secretary  
Kaleigh Boyle, Assistant Secretary

Board Minutes Prepared By: Kaleigh Boyle