

MINUTES  
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
AUGUST 29, 2023  
[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 4:08 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 4:08 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, Miller, Rubio

Commissioners Absent: N/A

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

Others Present: Natalie Cook, Donohue

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Dimopoulos stated that the first order of business is the consideration of the August 15, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.

Dye **moved** and Miller **seconded** to approve the August 15, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Chief Executive Officer, Marty Wielgos, stated that actually everything is running very well. They are doing some maintenance work here at the main office building. You may see some of it as you wander through the building and even outside. It was long overdue. They have actually been addressing it since he has been here- doing a little bit each year, so that things are being addressed and it is coming along really well keeping everything updated. For the most part,

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everything is quiet. They continue to do two things that he is very concerned about. One being security of the plant. As you know, if you read the things that are happening nationwide. Some of the new targets of terrorists are not so much blowing things up, but shutting things down like wastewater treatment plants, water filtration plants, the power grids are being targeted especially he is seeing a lot of activity towards California. They continue to put cameras up where they think they are direly needed. The property that was acquired from the railroad several years ago has all been cleared and taken care of. Now, they are looking at fencing all of it in. When they started to look at that moving forward, they realized that there were some of their business partners on the north end that had encroached on to what is now District property. Years ago, that was the railroad property. They have identified who they are and as soon as he has a final number on who those folks are, Attorney Allegretti is going to send out a letter letting them know they are encroaching by this amount and they need to sit down and figure out how they can rectify that issue, so the District can put the fence up and finally capture all of that property. As you know, the railroad property was a huge parcel of land running east and west and the District pretty much got the whole chunk of that. For future growth of the plant, it is now taken care of. Other than that, getting back to security systems. Bob for the last couple of years has been working on- there are a lot of buildings in the plant and most of those buildings are left open so that the operators can get in and out of them easily without having to key in and key out. It makes the most sense. They are looking at an electronic system that is probably going to be fingerprint operated, if not with some kind of kiosk that you put up to open the door. He wants those doors locked, but easy access in and out for a lot of reasons, but most importantly getting back to security. Anyway, they are keeping that in the back of their mind as they move forward with everything else. He had a very good meeting with the Town of Munster last week to go over some very old issues that go back almost 25-30 years, so they met and are working through that. They brought the Council President of Munster with them for that meeting and also Councilmember Schoon. It was a good meeting as he said, but the good thing was that the Council President is also involved with the Lake County Parks and sits on that Board or has something to do with that. Marty said that he had talked about the class A and they are very interested in talking to the District about using the class A in all of the Lake County parks, so that would be great. These meetings start one way and then turn and take a different direction- a positive direction. Other than that, he has nothing else to add.

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

President Dimopoulos said that they did have a Personnel Report submitted to them during the executive session.

Miller **moved** and Rubio **seconded** to approve the Personnel Report.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0.

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**The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 08-29-23.**

Dye **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 08-29-23.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0.

**President Dimopoulos called for Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

**President Dimopoulos called for New Business**

There was no new business to discuss.

**President Dimopoulos called for Reports from Commissioners**

President Dimopoulos commented that he has a report. It has nothing to do with the Sanitary District, but he thought it was a very cool thing. Last Friday, he went to the Pavilion at Wolf Lake for the concert. If anybody hasn't gone to that, that is an awesome weekend show. Doesn't matter what the band is. It is free. Parking is free and you park right up front. The Pavilion is open. The bathrooms are open, so no port-a-potties. The show was great. He saw a Kool & the Gang cover band. They were good. It was a really great experience. There were families there who had little tabletops that they opened up and put food down and drinks. Other people brought their chairs and had their cocktails. It was a really nice event. Hammond has a lot going for it and that is one of the really great jewels of the City and all of the potential behind it and now people are finally realizing that potential and there are all of these things that are happening there. If you haven't gone, there are more shows coming. The Frank Sinatra guy (he forgets his name) is next Saturday and then there is another band that does rock the following Saturday. There are a lot more shows coming up. If you have not gone, you should try and make an effort to go. It is really nice. Doors open at 6 pm and they were home before 10, so it is not an all-night thing.

Commissioner Rubio added that there are food vendors there as well and they are from the entrepreneur program from the HDC. They pick two food vendors per concert, so typically one does food and one does desserts and they are able to showcase their talents.

**President Dimopoulos called for Public Expression**

There was no public expression.

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

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

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller, Rubio

Nays: None


Motion **carried** 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 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  
(attending and voting via teleconference)

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rachel Montes, Secretary

Kaleigh Boyle, Assistant Secretary

Board Minutes Prepared By: Kaleigh Boyle