

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2025
www.hammondsd.com

The Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana held a regular meeting at 3:59 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 3:59 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, Rubio

Commissioners Absent: Dimopoulos, Miller

District Personnel Present: Milan Kruszynski, District Manager
Matthew Muta, Deputy District Manager
Rachel Montes, Business Manager
Jeffrey Massey, HSD
Sharon Szany, HSD
Jack Smith, HSD
Robert Szczudlo, HSD
Kaleigh Boyle, HSD
Jessie Amezcua, HSD

Others Present: Mike Hickey, MJHY
Natalie Cook, Donohue

Others Present via Zoom: N/A

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-President Dye stated that the meeting today will be conducted with an amended agenda.

Hawkins **moved** and Rubio **seconded** to approve the amended agenda.

Ayes: Dye, Hawkins, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 3-0.

Vice-President Dye stated the first order of business is the consideration of the July 29, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.

Rubio **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** to approve the July 29, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.

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

FINANCE REPORT

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

No questions or comments.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

District Manager Milan Kruszynski stated that he is going to start with the Sewer Department. In July, they cleaned 11.60 miles. From January through July, the total they have cleaned is 74.81 miles of sewers. There is a sewer main repair at 1127 Summer Street- it is actually in the alley. They had to go in and retrieve one of our TV cameras that got stuck because there was a plumber who was doing work on the sewer before we got in there and they left a sewer rod in the sewer and that is what our camera got stuck on. They also did a main repair at 7309 New Hampshire Place. Actually, that is going to begin tomorrow. Vactor #6 (a 2017 Freightliner) has a problem with one of the header modules which is part of the emissions system and shut the truck down. We have Austgen Fleet out and they did an inspection and an analysis. There is a back order on that part. It may take until mid-September or mid-October to get the part. Apparently, they are having problems with the part nationwide.

Milan said he will move to the IT department. Bob has been busy. He will be moving our fire alarm phone lines to Securitas' cellular network. The panel is currently being monitored by them but their hard line. They are going to get better communication and the mobility application process. They also will not call Jeff every day to let him know that there is an issue. Jeff is bothered every day by at least one or two phone calls about alarm systems going off. AT&T will be flipping us to the new fiber circuit in the next couple weeks. It will be the same speed, but slightly lower cost. The fax and elevator lines will be moved to our AT&T's fiber circuit. This will happen after AT&T flips to the new circuit. He is also working with Verizon to get better signal to noise ratio with their network before we start moving pumping stations to the new private network. Bob and Jessie also started using the new SCADA platform built by Austgen Electric. They currently have the tertiary process working and will be looking at the chlorine and SO2 process next. They also have three other processes that will move soon. Also, they are going to be installing cameras in the Dewatering building to monitor the conveyor belt sides of the presses. The access controls have been installed on the Chlorine and SO2 building. They just need to bring an output into the new PLC that will be installed soon. Today they will be starting to provide an electronic copy of our board meeting agenda prior to each meeting. This will put us in compliance with what the State wants us to do. Sharon right now sends the minutes that you approve at this meeting to our IT guy at City Hall (Ray) and he puts them on the website. When she gets the agenda on Thursday or Friday from downstairs, she will have him put it on the

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website as well. There will be a few days separation, but the agenda will also now be on the website.

Moving on to the Safety department, there have been no safety incidents in the last 13 months. He joked that is going to get us some shirts. He thanked Matt.

Vice-President Dye asked if the vactor truck operators wear safety vests when they are out and setting up.

Jack answered, "you better believe it." He said if you get caught without a safety vest, you are getting a write up. Safety first.

Milan went on that our Cintas Day was very successful. Cintas is our uniform company. Over 30 employees attended. They had raffle prizes and breakfast pizza. Cintas plans on doing this as a biannual event.

In maintenance, they did a lot of loading out of biosolids to the landfill and to Wealing Brothers for land application. They are cleaning the basin across the street- cell 1. They are also taking care of removing the remaining brush and trees in cell 2 of the basin. They are changing lights around the administrative building. Changing, cleaning, repairing and fixing the brick veneer on the Sewer building which used to be the old administrative building. There is a repair being done on the sanitary pump #2 at Robertsdale. The Southside storm side floor is deteriorating and delaminating. They are not letting anybody drive in there anymore. They are looking at getting a structural engineer to evaluate the floor. Understand that there is- underneath the station, there is always water. There are issues from underneath and issues from up top, so that must be evaluated to figure out what will happen next. Mowing and cleaning of the outlying stations and the plant is being done by staff.

The report from Operations is that the plant is running well. There have been no operating issues. July 30th and 31st, we had a half inch of rain across the district. When that happened the CSO basin got some liquid in it and there was some residual that was left at the bottom that has been cleaned out. He expects after the rain today that will happen again, so that will be another process of letting that dry out and go in there and scrape it and take it to the landfill. Get it out of there. The lab is completing their EPA DMRQA (Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance)- their analysis that is required to maintain the laboratory's credentials. Jeff submitted the land application report to IDEM in July. Jeff is also going to be submitting the July monthly report on operations to EPA and IDEM. We are also working with the Hammond Police Department on their gun range sewers. The Little Calumet River Basin storm stations (all the stations on the Little Cal) will be inspected by the end of the month.

That completes the District Manager's report.

No questions or comments.

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DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Safety

No questions or comments.

Sewer Department

No questions or comments.

CONSULTANT REPORTS

MJHY

Mike Hickey said that the HSD management, legal and consulting team was busy last week. On August 6th they submitted a letter to EPA and IDEM requesting that we not have to disinfect the discharges through the basin, so they will see where that goes. They talked about that last month, so they have been working on that. The quarterly consent decree status report was submitted on time on August 8th.

Donohue

Natalie Cook said that she had one thing to add to what Mike reported. They are working with the screen manufacturer on reviewing the screening for the Southside pump station and making sure that it is effectively sized for current and future flow.

The Board considered the Bank Reconciliation Document dated July 31, 2025.

Hawkins **moved** and Rubio **seconded** for the approval of the Bank Reconciliation Document dated July 31, 2025.

Ayes: Dye, Hawkins, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 3-0.

The Board considered the Revised Claims Approval Docket 08-12-25.

Vice-President noted that they do have a revised claim docket before them dated August 12, 2025.

Rubio **moved** and Hawkins **seconded** for the approval of the Revised Claims Approval Docket 08-12-25.

Ayes: Dye, Hawkins, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 3-0.

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Vice-President Dye called for Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

Vice-President Dye called for New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

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.

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

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

Ayes: Dye, Hawkins, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

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Sam Dimopoulos, President

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