

MINUTES
HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
AUGUST 14, 2026
www.hammondsd.com

The Board of Sanitary Commissioners of the Sanitary District of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana held a regular meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Administration Building located at 5143 Columbia Avenue, Hammond, Indiana.

President Dimopoulos called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. He stated that there was no Executive Session prior to the meeting.

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

Commissioners Absent: N/A

Commissioners Present via Zoom: N/A

District Personnel Present: Milan Kruszynski, District Manager
Joseph Allegretti, Attorney
Matthew Muta, Deputy District Manager
Rachel Montes, Business Manager
Jeffrey Massey, HSD
Jack Smith, Sewer Department
Sharon Szany, HSD
Kaleigh Boyle, HSD
Jessie Amezcua, HSD

Others Present: N/A

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

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Dimopoulos stated the first order of business is the consideration of the July 28, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.

Dye **moved** and Rubio **seconded** to approve the July 28, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0.

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DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

District Manager Milan Kruszynski stated that this is not going to be a normal District Manager's report with updates from all the different sections. As we all know, we are here because it has been stormy and a lot of rain which seems to be the norm now. As we continue to move through and deal with everything along the way. He is going to talk a little bit about Sewer, and the rest will be focused on Operations.

He wanted to give the Sewer department and Jeanine a big thank you. They have been taking a lot of phone calls from residents that have mainly flooded streets. As we all know, it is better to have a flooded street than a basement. That is where the majority of the complaints are coming from. We have not been able to get into a lot of basements because there has been no electricity. Thus, you can't determine if it's sewer backups or sump pump failures. There have been a lot of sump pump failures because there has been no electricity to operate the sump pump.

The next big thank you and a huge thank you goes to Jeff and Operations. The staff has been operating since you know what happened to Headworks, but even more so this week. They have operated around the clock. Jeff is here more than he is at home. Sometimes on purpose because he at least has some air conditioning here. At home, he still has no electricity at all. It has been tough, but they appreciate everything that Jeff has done as well as his staff. He is going to briefly go over Jeff's report.

Jeff reported that about 5" (five inches) of rain has fallen since the last board meeting. The CSO basin has been used and is discharging. Every time we get rain, it goes over. The repairs to the Headworks station are continuing after the July 3rd event. HSD personnel, again, continues to do an outstanding job every time it rains because we are responding to right now 21 pump stations without Nipsco power. So, we have generators at some that are permanent. The others are not. Jeff and staff keep moving them around so they can keep pumping down the stations and trying to get some of the water moving. That has been a moving target basically is what has been going on. The plant is operating well. Flow is 71 MGD (71 million gallons/day). He also continues to work on responses to IDEM regarding the Biosolids Land Application Permit renewal and the Biosolids Marketing and Distribution Permit renewal. He submitted comments to IDEM regarding the Air Pollution Permit and is continuing to work on the Municipal Streamlined Mercury Variance Application. He is also working now on the July MRO/DMR and the July land application report.

Milan asked the Board if they had any questions.

Vice-President Dye responded that he just wanted to applaud the staff for doing the best they can under very tough conditions. They are doing a great job.

Milan stated that he is also going to be asking, under new business, to please consider declaring an emergency for the 6300 block of Calumet Avenue as a 155' of main collapsed right in the

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middle in the turning lane. Jack and crew have blocked that off since the middle of the week and it is an emergency. We have asked City Engineer, Dean Button, for his help and he is helping along the way. We have asked two contractors to give us prices on doing the repair for us. The contractors asked were Dyer Construction and Grimmer Construction. The best price that came in was from Dyer Construction and they are going to do it with time and materials which will save us money rather than just doing it by contract. We will keep an eye on them because when we do that, they are going to get it done a lot quicker. They have been very responsive to the last number of main breaks that have occurred in Munster. They get in there, get it done and move on. He expects they will do the same thing here on Calumet Avenue. It is a little bit more coordinated because it is a state highway. Dean has helped us get all the right permits in order to get the lanes closed and traffic the way it is supposed to be. That should start at the beginning of next week. He verified that with Jack Smith from Sewer department.

Jack replied yes. The permits are sitting on his desk, so he does have the permits.

Milan added the locates too. It is all going to happen, but they need an emergency declared so he will need a motion regarding that. He thanked the Board for that. That is all he has to report today.

Attorney Allegretti explained that the statute requires two quotes be received and made part of the record. We have the documents in paper form so we will include those with the minutes today. The motion should be that this repair is an emergency that requires immediate action which allows the Board to bypass the standard public advertising for bids and directly get bids or quotes from at least two (2) people known to deal in the required public work. Thank you.

Milan added that on their desk they will see a document Jeff prepared for them. It shows what the range should look like, or what it was supposed to look like, over the last 30 years and shows what is really happening. As you can see it is going to continue to go up and up and up. That is what is going on with this rainfall.

President Dimopoulos said that he seen on the news that we are over 20" (twenty inches) of rainfall and typically our annual rainfall is 10" (ten inches). We are over double already, and we are only in August. We have a long way to go.

PERSONNEL REPORT

The Board was given a Personnel Report prior to meeting.

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

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0.

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DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sewer Department

No questions or comments.

Safety Department

No questions or comments.

CONSULTANT REPORTS

MJHY

Mike Hickey stated that the Board should have a copy of his status report. One thing he wanted to add to it was the quarterly CD (consent decree) status report was submitted on Monday, August 10th so that was submitted on time.

Donohue

Natalie Cook stated that she submitted a status report as well. The only thing she wanted to highlight was that they are continuing to make progress on the CMDF preliminary design.

RESOLUTIONS

The Board considered Resolution No. 12-2026: RE: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing Execution of a Professional Services Agreement with Hubbell, Roth and Clark (HRC).

Dye **moved** and Miller **seconded** for the approval of Resolution No. 12-2026.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0.

The Board considered the Claims Approval Docket 08-14-26.

Hawkins **moved** and Rubio **seconded** for the approval of the Claims Approval Docket 08-14-26.

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.

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President Dimopoulos called for New Business

Vice-President Dye stated that he would like to make a motion declaring an emergency to repair the main sewer line running in the middle turning lane of the 6300 block of Calumet Avenue just south of Kenwood Street approximately 150 feet – manhole to manhole. The contract is being awarded to Dyer Construction. He wanted to state that they did receive two competitive bids as required by Indiana Code from Dyer Construction and Grimmer Construction and those will be attached to the minutes. Staff has those. They will start next week, and it will be based on time and material costs in order to save the Hammond Sanitary District money. He would like to say that Dyer Construction has done our district very well, does very good work and does not overcharge. That is motion he is presenting and looking for a second.

Dye **moved** and Miller **seconded** for the declaration of an emergency for a sewer main repair needed on the 6300 block of Calumet Avenue and awarding Dyer Construction the contract to be based on time and material costs so they can start repairing next week.

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller, Rubio

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

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

Ayes: Dimopoulos, Dye, Hawkins, Miller, Rubio

Nays: None

Motion **carried** 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 a.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