

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF THE METRO EAST
SANITARY DISTRICT, ST. CLAIR AND
MADISON COUNTIES, ILLINOIS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2017 AT 1800 EDISON
AVENUE, GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS AT 9:00
A.M.**

President Brinza called the meeting to order and the Clerk recorded the attendance.

The following was the attendance:

Present: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.
Absent: None.

Also, attending the meeting were Executive Director Stephen Adler, Attorney James Craney, Attorney Don Weber, Superintendent Randy Presswood, Superintendent John Maeras, Superintendent Rick Fancher, Lansdowne Office Manager Cindy Worthen and Payroll Clerk Kim Hogue.

Others present at the meeting were:

Charles Etwert, Chief Supervisor of Construction and the Works of the Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District Council
Charlie Juneau, Juneau Associates, Inc., P.C.
Pat Nichols, Teamsters Local Union No. 50
Kevin Engelke, Teamsters Local Union No. 525
Brett Wessel, Teamsters Local Union No. 525
Linda Knogl
Kathy Goclan
Walter and Amanda Greathouse

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Knogl voiced concerns about the weeds in the ditch along Highway 162 in Granite City where the three large culverts are located and the area by Total Recycling on Missouri Avenue.

Executive Director Adler stated that Nameoki Ditch is the only ditch in Granite City that MESD maintains. He offered to assist Ms. Knogl in locating the entities responsible for the maintenance of the areas in question after the meeting.

BIDS - DIESEL FUEL AND GASOLINE:

Advertisement for bids for diesel fuel and gasoline, appearing in the Belleville News Democrat on July 14, 2017 were received before 9:00 A.M. today.

The following bids were received:

Heritage Petroleum LLC:

Fixed Mark-Up over Rack Average on Day of Delivery B5ULSD Premium Dyed	\$0.3450
Fixed Mark-up over Rack Average on Day of Delivery RFG NL 87	\$0.3850

Piasa Motor Fuels, LLC:

Fixed Mark-Up over Rack Average on Day of Delivery B5ULSD Premium Dyed	\$0.095
Fixed Mark-up over Rack Average on Day of Delivery RFG NL 87	\$0.095

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Motion Commissioner Sawicki; seconded Commissioner Hawkins to accept the bids as presented and award the diesel fuel and gasoline bids to the low bidder Piasa Motor Fuels, LLC.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

**PRESENTATION OF THE SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS FLOOD
PREVENTION DISTRICT:**

Charles Etwert gave the following presentation:

Commissioner Hawkins asked, "Have all of the sand boils been repaired?"

Mr. Etwert replied that there are no known sand boils at this time. However, a sand boil can occur during a high river and the Corps of Engineers is aware of this. The Corps now agrees that sand boils can be controlled if managed correctly and are not a major catastrophe."

Commissioner Hawkins said, "The reason I asked is because in 2008 I met with Senator Durbin's right hand assistant, Kathy Andrea. Ms. Andrea was the head of the American Bottoms Conservancy. Ms. Andrea and I took a tour of the levee district. When we got to the Wood River area we saw water coming from the sand boils. Water and sand were flowing from one sand boil. It was very frightening, because it could have caused the levee to fail.

After Hurricane Katrina, I wrote to Senator Durbin, Congressman Shimkus and Congressman Costello. The reason I did this is because I live in the lowest part of Madison County, where flood insurance is very important. I have had flood insurance since 1973 and the cost is One thousand, five hundred dollars (\$1,500) annually.

The Senators and Congressmen got back to me and gave me the engineering reports showing that our levees were not safe.

The reports showed that water topping the levees was not the problem, sand boils were the problem. So, I brought this to the attention of the Madison County Board, of which I was a member.

Later, I voted in favor of forming the Southwestern Illinois Flood Prevention District, which Senator Haine was instrumental in forming."

Mr. Etwert explained that the Flood Prevention District was formed to make improvements to the levee system, not to maintain and operate the system. However, the

Flood Prevention District plans to work with the levee districts and provide information on generating additional funds to maintain the improvements.

Executive Director Adler voiced concerns about the pump repairs needed at the North Pump Station and the possible consequences if these pumps are not repaired before the next heavy rain. Although, the Corps of Engineers agrees the pump repairs qualify under PL 84-99, it is taking a very long time to receive the funding.

Commissioner Sawicki said it will take approximately six months for the pumps to be repaired and put back in the pump station.

President Brinza thanked Mr. Etwert for attending the meeting.

Mr. Etwert left the meeting at 9:43 A.M.

REPORT OF ENGINEER:

Mr. Juneau reported:

The Lansdowne Interceptor Sewer Improvement Facility Plan was mailed to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. We need to meet with the Attorney to move forward on the Special Service Area.

The sewer break near the Madison Pump Station has not been repaired. Repairs must be completed by August 15, 2017 per the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) violation notice and response.

Superintendent Presswood added, "The City of Madison's 42" sewer line was repaired last Friday, August 4th. A 22 degree pipe needs to be ordered for the Lansdowne force main."

REPORT OF LANSDOWNE OFFICE MANAGER:

Ms. Worthen reported:

The collections were very good last month.

Illinois American Water Company shut off water at ten residential homes this week for past due sewage treatment bills. Eight of the customers paid and their water was turned back on.

Last meeting, I reported that D's Car Wash and Hollywood Show Club requested adjustments. I am waiting on additional information from the MESD staff members that took the water sample at D's Car Wash to determine if an adjustment should be given. Hollywood Show Club paid the full amount and agreed the flow meter is their responsibility.

The Southwestern Illinois Correction Center owes Ninety-two thousand dollars (\$92,000). I talked to the Administrator at the Correction Center and he is trying to get funding from the State to pay the sewage treatment bill.

Money is coming in steadily from the Illinois Comptrollers Local Debt Recovery Program.

I am working with Attorney Craney on the Attorney Glenn Bradford accounts, small claims and old debt.

Commissioner Sawicki asked that Ms. Worthen continue to give updates to the Board regarding the Southwestern Illinois Correction Center account.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the July 19, 2017 and July 26, 2017 meetings were presented for approval.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Sawicki to dispense with the reading of the minutes, approve them as submitted and place them on file.

Commissioner McCall asked, "Can I please have an explanation as to why the motion to rescind the motion to lay off the MESD employees made during the July 26, 2017 meeting failed when the majority voted in favor of the motion."

Attorney Craney said there was no notice on the agenda to rescind the previous motion.

Commissioner McCall stated that he made a motion to correct the agenda to read “rescind the motion to lay-off” instead of “revisit decision to lay-off” and the motion carried.

Attorney Craney explained that if an item is on the agenda then the majority rules, however if it is not on the agenda then a two-thirds vote is required. According to Roberts Rules of Order and the District’s Rules of Order a motion to reconsider can only take place at the same meeting or the next meeting. A motion to rescind is different and can be done at a later date, but must be on the agenda for the majority to carry the vote.

The ayes and nays being called on the motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes, approve them as submitted and place them on file resulted in a vote as follows:

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

The Executive Session minutes for the July 19, 2017 meeting were presented for approval.

Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the July 19, 2017 Executive Session minutes as submitted, and the minutes are to remain closed from public viewing.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

GENERAL FUND CLAIMS:

The General Fund Claims and Specific Claims for the month of July 2017 were submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner McCall to approve the General Fund Claims and Specific Claims for the month of July 2017 as submitted and order them paid.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

The Various Specific Claims for the month of July 2017 were submitted for review:

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Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Hawkins to accept the Various Specific Claims for the month of July 2017 as submitted.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

LANSDOWNE CLAIMS & SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

The Lansdowne Claims and Specific Claims for the month of July 2017 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Sawicki; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Lansdowne Treatment Plant Claims and Specific Claims for the month of July 2017 as submitted and order them paid.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The General Fund, Specific Funds and Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of July 2017 were submitted for approval:

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Motion Commissioner Darwin; seconded Commissioner Sawicki to approve the General Fund, Specific Funds and Lansdowne Financial Reports for the month of July 2017 as submitted and place them on file for audit.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

LANSDOWNE REPORT:

The Lansdowne Adjustment Reports were presented for approval:

Motion Commissioner Sawicki; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Lansdowne Adjustment Reports as submitted.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

PAYROLLS:

The Payrolls for the periods of July 2, 2017 through July 15, 2017 and July 16, 2017 through July 29, 2017 were submitted for approval:

Motion Commissioner Hawkins; seconded Commissioner Darwin to approve the Payrolls as submitted.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

REPORT OF ATTORNEY:

Attorney Craney reported:

Most importantly, I am working to renew the Ordinances. I have been in touch with Ameren and have found the contact information for some of the other companies with expired easements. I hope to get some answers back this week.

I have made a comprehensive review of the Lansdowne sewage treatment collection efforts. I have found that the billing department has been able to collect a large amount of the past due accounts without any legal assistance.

A few past due accounts do go to litigation, but it will be less expensive to use a paralegal on those accounts. I am drawing up an agreement in regards to our collection efforts.

I am continuing to work with Executive Director Adler on several items.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Clerk reported that the Commissioners all received a copy of a letter from Cavanagh & O'Hara LLP concerning the July 26, 2017 Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners regarding the Motion to Rescind the layoffs.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Executive Session Minutes through June 21, 2017 were presented for review.

Attorney Craney stated that he has not finished reviewing the Executive Session Minutes and will report back to the Board at the next meeting if any of the Minutes should be opened to the public.

NEW BUSINESS:

Executive Director Adler explained that the Mississippi River is low enough to work on Pump No. 4 at the North Pump Station. The Corps of Engineers has been contacted requesting permission to put the pump back together and to perform testing. If the Corps does not approve, MESD should still put the pump back together and test it.

Commissioner McCall asked, "How much it will cost to repair Pump No. 4, if it does not work?"

Superintendent Maeras replied approximately Three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) if the problem is the same as Pump No. 1. However, something needs to be done; two of the large pumps are out at North Pump Station. The river is currently twelve feet (12') and has to be seven feet (7') or lower to work on the pumps.

Executive Director Adler said, "Commissioner McCall asked me to look into the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund's Early Retirement Incentive (ERI) program. I will report my findings at the next meeting."

Commissioner Hawkins mentioned that years ago developers needed drainage permits from MESD to build in low areas. I hope MESD will not approve any future developments in the wetlands.

Executive Director Adler asked if Mayor Hamm should be contacted about the cost of the sewer line repairs near the Madison Pump Station. The estimated cost of the repairs is around Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).

President Brinza said he thought Mayor Hamm was being included in matters regarding the sewer line repairs and if not, he should be.

A letter to the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding repairs to the pumps at the North Pump Station was presented:

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President Brinza felt the letter was appropriate and agreed to sign the letter on behalf of MESD.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

There being no further business, Motion Commissioner McCall; seconded Commissioner Darwin to adjourn.

Upon roll call, the motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners McCall, Darwin, Brinza, Hawkins and Sawicki.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

So adjourned at 10:12 A.M.

Clerk