MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, October 21, 2026

The Board of Trustees of the Sanitary District of Decatur, Illinois met in regular session Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 5:32 pm at the District's Office, 501 Dipper Lane. Present for the board meeting were board members Dan Smallwood, Phil Cochran, Rob Jacobsen, Emily Steele, and Steve Horve. Staff present at the meeting were Kent Newton, Executive Director/CFO; Don Miller, Director of Engineering; J.D. Malone, Director of Maintenance; Ashley Bailey, Director of Compliance and Innovation; Hailey Beals, Administrative Office Coordinator and Patrick Sullivan, General Counsel for the District. The audience included David Diehl of Black & Veatch (electronically), Jamie Wilkey of Lauterbach & Amen (electronically), and staff member Brian Casch.

Mr. Smallwood called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no comments from the public.

Ms. Wilkey presented a brief description of the 2025-2026 Audit Report for the Sanitary District.

13476 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the items on the Consent Agenda including minutes of the Regular Meeting and Closed Session of September 23, 2026; and Payroll and Checks including travel expense reimbursements as submitted be approved; Provisions to all Pretreatment Permits as outlined under the Administrative Order of Consent from the USEPA; the 2025-2026 Audit Report; and Resolution R2026-04 Review of Closed Session Minutes; Resolution R2026-05 Surplus Property; and Pretreatment Permit Renewal for Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) be approved; and that the President, Clerk and Executive Director be authorized and directed to take all actions required to execute the items on the consent agenda, and that the Closed Session minutes shall not be made public without additional board approval. Motion seconded by Mr. Horve. **Trustee Smallwood, Cochran, Jacobsen, Steele, and Horve voted Aye, and the motion passed.**

Mr. Newton reviewed the Executive Director's Report included in the board packet. Mr. Newton informed the Board that he distributed a survey to all Board members regarding updates to the SDD website. The survey is open to the public as well, as we are seeking input to make the website more user-friendly. Last week, Mr. Newton attended the IERG conference, which focuses on industry and EPA interactions. This was the District's first time participating, and the event was well-attended by Agency representatives. Mr. Newton met with the EPA's Permit Section Director to discuss the District's NPDES permit. On November 9, Mr. Newton will attend an invite-only community outreach luncheon with the president of Ameren. He also included a detailed outline with his registration, expressing frustrations about the solar project approval process. Finally, Mr. Newton discussed his written notice to the Board about allocating a portion of the investment portfolio for long-term investments. This will establish a base level of returns for 10 years and limit the chances of returning to a situation where investments are not generating any revenue.

Mr. Miller presented the Engineering Report included in the board packet. Mr. Miller had hoped to present Change Order #4 to the Board this month, however, it is not yet ready. All items have been addressed except for items 27A and 27B, which pertain to work completed after the "contractual completion date" and related construction issues. Mr. Miller is awaiting a final report from AEX before scheduling a conversation to move the project into its final stages. He also received documentation from Liaison substantiating their request for payment for additional out-of-scope services. A pre-bid meeting and walk-through for the

Nutrient Reduction Improvements project was recently held and was very well attended. An additional walk-through will be scheduled, and the potential construction timeline for the project will be extended from two years to three years. The demolition of the old Administration building is currently out for bid, anticipating demo to begin in January. Mr. Miller referenced photos of the Stevens Creek Supplemental Interceptor, which sustained damage earlier this year due to a fire that got out of control. The pipe manufacturer recommends replacing the pipe, which will be a significant and complex undertaking due to the area's location atop an old landfill and the presence of UV damage to the pipe's top section. Although the pipe was installed in 1992 and is rated for a 150-year lifespan, it now requires 31,000 square feet of UV coating. Mr. Miller is working to define how the manufacturer can provide relief for the UV coating. Additionally, Engineering staff discovered fresh burn marks beneath the pipe during a site visit and encountered nearby homeowners. The homeowners claimed the pipe was already burned when they moved in, which is contradicted by evidence in the District's possession. The District plans to consult with Patrick Sullivan regarding possible actions against the homeowners and to explore insurance claim options. Finally, Mr. Miller reported that he has received the 90% design drawings for the Brush College Pump Station upgrades.

Mr. Malone reviewed the Maintenance Report included in the board packet. The maintenance group completed 983 work orders in the last month, totaling 2,286.16 hours worked—1,803.41 hours were proactive, while 482.75 hours were reactive. This past month, the primary focus was on land application to assist the Operations department, as well as on mixing activities. In the 043 Building, the maintenance and I&C staff assembled a new workstation for our monitoring technician, who previously worked out of the old Admin building which is scheduled for demolition. We have moved up to 38th in the queue for the solar project. Mr. Malone anticipates that several groups ahead of us may drop out due to frustration or the expiration of funding. Henson Robinson recently acquired Clow Controls and is now seeking to get involved with potential jobs at the District. Mr. Malone expects them to bid on any upcoming HVAC-related projects. Regarding vehicles, the District had budgeted to replace a van for the Pretreatment department. The last utility van Mr. Malone purchased cost $32,000, but prices have since risen to $63,000. As a result, Mr. Malone explored other options and secured a new 2025 Jeep Grand Cherokee from Bob Brady, which will meet the District's needs. Additionally, Mr. Malone has submitted the storm damage claim to Ameren, which he fully expects to be denied. The claim will then be submitted to the Illinois Commerce Commission.

Ms. Bailey presented the Compliance and Innovation Report included in the board packet. Land application is still ongoing, and by this evening we will have applied a total of 17.5MG to the fields—averaging about 1.2 to 1.3MG per day. Although there have been a few minor issues, the Operations staff continues to make steady progress. Last week, Mr. Miller, Ms. Bailey, and Austin Gruber visited Tillamook to discuss their Dissolved Air Floatation (DAF) project. Construction is about to begin, with the system expected to be online by January. ADM experienced power outages both today and yesterday, resulting in a significant drop in our flow. Unfortunately, they did not provide advance notice. To address this, Austin Gruber is exploring the installation of a meter that would relay ADM's flow data directly into our SCADA system, allowing for better anticipation of such events. Ms. Bailey has submitted all required nutrient compliance reports to IEPA. The District hosted the IWAOPCO Conference at the District, which was a great success. There were seven vendors present in the lobby and several speakers, including Austin Gruber. Attendees consistently expressed how impressed they were with our facility. We continue to meet with the City to discuss Integrative Planning, and Jeanie Reese has been working diligently on developing a plan to present to stakeholders.

13477 Mr. Cochran moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur accept the change request of adding $26,472 to the professional services agreement with Liaison Technology Group for installation and commissioning of the technology installed in the Administrative Workforce Center bringing the total agreement amount to $61,692.00 and that the executive director be authorized and directed to execute said amendment. Motion seconded by Mr. Jacobsen. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13478 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur approve Resolution R2026-06 Authorization Executive Director Newton to sign loan documents for project L17-8161 Nutrient Reduction Improvements, and that the president and clerk be authorized and directed to execute said contract. Motion seconded by Mr. Cochran. Mr. Newton explained that we've never voted on this, that the consent agenda was posted already once this arose. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13479 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur accept the License for Underground Pipelines, Cables and Conduits with Illinois Central Railroad Company (P-12543) for $6,000 to be paid by the City of Decatur and that the president and clerk be authorized and directed to execute said agreement. Motion seconded by Mr. Horve. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13480 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur accept change order #1 to the 2026 Roads (Division 2) project reducing the contract amount of $61,537.50, and that the executive director be authorized and directed to execute said change order. Motion seconded by Ms. Steele. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Brian Casch mentioned that he has pictures from January that clearly show an easement with zero burns, contradictory to the homeowners' comments.

There was no New Business, Attorney's Report, or Public Comments.

13481 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the board adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Cochran. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

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Clerk