

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**Wednesday, November 15, 2023**

The Board of Trustees of the Sanitary District of Decatur, Illinois met in regular session November 15, 2023, at 5:30 pm at the District's Office, 501 Dipper Lane. Present for the board meeting were board members Rob Jacobsen, Megan Baskerville, Kurt Younghouse and Phil Cochran. Staff present at the meeting were Kent Newton, Executive Director/CFO; Don Miller, Director of Engineering; J.D. Malone, Director of Maintenance; Tim Gorden, Chief Operator; Hailey Beals, Administrative Office Coordinator and Ed Flynn, General Counsel for the District. The audience included Steve Arant with Black & Veatch, and staff member Tishia Greve.

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

There were no Public Comments.

**13271** Mr. Jacobsen moved that the items on the Consent Agenda including Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 18, 2023; Payroll and Checks including travel expense reimbursements as submitted; and Pretreatment Permit – Advanced Disposal Valley View Landfill 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. Motion seconded by Mr. Younghouse. Mr. Cochran posed a question about how we treat PFAS, and Mr. Newton answered saying there is currently no treatment method for PFAS at wastewater treatment plants. **Trustee Baskerville, Jacobsen, Younghouse and Cochran voted Aye, and the motion passed.**

Mr. Newton reviewed the Executive Director's Report that was included in the packet. Mr. Newton stated that the District had our Thanksgiving Luncheon today, and several retirees joined us. Mr. Newton thanked Kelly Carstens, Christina White, Holly Gulick and Hailey Beals for putting it together. Mr. Newton discussed the IAWA PFAS subcommittee; at an online meeting this month he learned that the USEPA is going to be requiring the 400 largest treatment plants in the country to begin participating in a PFAS research project looking for PFAS sources. The District is on that list and is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest treatment plant in the state of Illinois, with the first 3 being in Chicago. We will be suspending our current testing for PFAS sources until we hear more from the USEPA but will continue our plan to sample biosolids application sites.

Mr. Miller presented the Engineering Report that was included in the packet. Mr. Miller stated that we are expecting the Grit Classifiers to show up before the next board meeting. Mr. Miller declared that the Fermentation Reactor project is progressing, and we're waiting for equipment to arrive. Mr. Miller touched on the Lost Bridge force main. Mr. Cochran inquired about the Administration Office Complex project, and Mr. Miller stated that we're having bi-weekly meetings with Architectural Expressions. Mr. Newton also stated that Black & Veatch sat in on the meeting that discussed the new lab design.

Mr. Malone reviewed the Maintenance Report that was included in the packet. The maintenance group completed 410 work orders in the last month. Mr. Malone congratulated Brian Casch for obtaining his CDL license, and also congratulated Sam Mattox and Blake Dotson for getting their first student through the course. We now have two more employees going through the course, Lance Smith and Tanner Randall. Mr. Malone thanked and congratulated Jamey Oliver, for accepting the position of Information System Manager, he is

going to supervise the I&C staff, the Systems Integrator position, and once Vincent McCauley retires, the M.I.S. position. Mr. Malone stated that he got the F550 ordered, but it will be 6-8 months before we see it. Mr. Malone discussed the near miss at our Digester Complex #4 and the steps being taken to reduce the risk at all four digester systems.

Mr. Gorden presented the Compliance and Innovation Report included in the packet. Mr. Gorden stated that Disinfection season ended on October 31. Mr. Gorden discussed the Land Application, which started on November 1, with us so far distributing 3.75MG. Mr. Gorden also stated that they got a new pump, so we are rolling through the distribution. Mr. Gorden announced that Operations is fully staffed, with two people going through training. Mr. Gorden stated that there have been several violations for Primient, in Pretreatment, for BOD. Primient has \$329K in fees for this month alone. Mr. Newton stated that the fees are so high because they are in an Executive Order, and once they go over a certain amount of violations, the fines increase as the number of violations continue to increase.

Steve Arant gave an update on the Nutrient Program.

**13272** Mr. Jacobsen moved that Ordinance No. 23-05-Tax Levy for FY 2024-25, be passed and that the President and Clerk be authorized and directed to sign said ordinance. Motion seconded by Mr. Younghouse. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**13273** Ms. Baskerville moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur accept final change order number 1 to the contract with Burdick Plumbing for the Sludge Transfer Pump Replacement project decreasing the contract amount by \$2,166.45 to a new contract price of \$301,407.55 and that the executive director be authorized and directed to execute said change order. Motion seconded by Mr. Younghouse. **Motion carried unanimously.**

There was no New Business, Closed Session, Attorney Report, or Public Comments.

Mr. Jacobsen apologized for not being present for the Labor Management Meeting.

**13274** Mr. Jacobsen moved that the board adjourn. Motion seconded by Ms. Baskerville. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2023, at 5:30 PM.

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Clerk