

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, June 17, 2026

The Board of Trustees of the Sanitary District of Decatur, Illinois met in regular session Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 5:35 pm at the District's Office, 501 Dipper Lane. Present for the board meeting were board members Dan Smallwood, Phil Cochran, Rob Jacobsen, Megan Baskerville, 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 Todd Archer of Black & Veatch (electronically).

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

There were no comments from the public.

13446 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the items on the Consent Agenda including minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of May 20, 2026; Payroll and Checks including travel expense reimbursements as submitted; and Ordinance 26-04 revising Ordinance 25-05 Industrial Pretreatment Program 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. Cochran. **Trustee Smallwood, Cochran, Jacobsen, Baskerville, and Horve voted Aye, and the motion passed.**

Mr. Newton reviewed the Executive Director's Report included in the packet. After discussions with Shawn Ajazi, who will serve as our new electricity consultant, Mr. Newton recommends that the District subscribe to a Community Solar Program for all power purchased from the grid. The twenty-year agreement will provide a 10% rebate on all grid power purchased and is funded by fees collected from electric companies since 2021. Participation in this program will also allow us to state, that 100% of our power is sourced from solar. Mr. Newton presented a small memento to Trustee Baskerville in recognition of her service to the environment. Mr. Smallwood asked whether the new Community Outreach position would report to Mr. Newton and if this would phase out DCC Marketing. Jeanie Reese will report to Ms. Bailey but Mr. Newton will be heavily involved in the communication function. DCC will continue to be utilized for graphics and marketing strategy. Jeanie will assume responsibility for social media and community outreach, sharing information about our work.

Mr. Miller presented the Engineering Report included in the packet. Mr. Miller reported that we are 99 % finished with items required for completion on the AWC and anticipates having a change order ready by the end of the month. Christy Foltz has been working diligently to complete the remaining punch list items, and this evening's Open House likely provided additional motivation. Regarding Nutrient Plans, we have received the 90% design documents and expect to finalize them soon, pending final comments from Black & Veatch. Mr. Miller noted that we are ensuring all preparations are in order to secure SRF funding from the Agency, which will help keep the project on schedule. Mr. Miller also mentioned that we are continuing to explore the demolition of the old Administration building. Mr. Newton added that he consulted with BLDD Architects to determine whether it would be worthwhile to preserve the original two-story, 100-year-old section, but it was determined that full demolition is the most practical option. We are currently in the process of installing the clarifiers in the south cluster.

Mr. Malone reviewed the Maintenance Report included in the packet. The maintenance group completed 949 work orders last month, totaling 2,733.93 hours worked. We successfully finished cleaning Primary Digester #2, and the team celebrated this accomplishment. The project was particularly challenging, requiring 900 man-hours due to the extensive removal of wipes from the digester. Mr. Malone is evaluating different systems to prevent this issue in the future, including the possibility of installing a finer mesh to separate wipes in the grit chambers. The maintenance staff demonstrated excellent problem-solving skills and maintained motivation throughout this demanding task. Congratulations to Zamani Walter, who completed Phase III of maintenance training and has now finished all coursework. We remain 43rd in the queue for solar, so Shawn Ajazi will be filing a complaint in hopes of at least receiving an explanation for the delay. Despite recent storms, the team performed exceptionally well in storm response. Brian Casch and Kyle Stewart worked through a particularly long night last week, staying out until midnight and returning to the plant at 2 a.m. after a power line fell onto a car near one of our pump stations, causing a fire. Mr. Malone also reported that we are fully staffed for summer help: Alex Richard, son of Keith Richard, will assist with mowing and supporting Buildings and Grounds, while Josh Ferre will help our painter complete projects. Additionally, we welcome Brendan Fowler as our new Purchasing & Inventory Agent. Brendan brings mechanical experience and will be a valuable addition to the team.

Ms. Bailey presented the Compliance and Innovation Report included in the packet. Ms. Bailey welcomed Jeanie Reese, who recently started and is already immersing herself in understanding our processes. Jeanie is actively exploring new outreach strategies, and we are providing her with comprehensive safety training as well as informational presentations about the District's operations. She has shown great enthusiasm and initiative in her new role. Ms. Bailey and Mr. Miller met with the Agency and Hepplerbloom to establish a timeline and open lines of communication for the upcoming plant upgrades. Ms. Bailey also expressed her gratitude to Brent Deardorff for his 19 years of service to the District. As he retires, his knowledge and experience will be greatly missed. Regarding the MOU, our scope of work with Geosyntec is now complete, and Mr. Newton met with the City to discuss their related projects, giving us valuable perspective on their scope of work as well. Additionally, Ms. Bailey and Mr. Miller have been investigating our kW/BOD metrics to better understand the factors influencing these numbers, with more findings to be discussed in the future.

13447 Ms. Baskerville moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur issue a purchase order to Vandevanter Engineering (the sole source for Flygt Pump in our region) for the replacement of Effluent Pump #1 Flygt Model PL-7081.735 Submersible Pump in the amount of \$160,993.30 and that the executive director be authorized and directed to execute said purchase order. Motion seconded by Mr. Jacobsen. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13448 Mr. Cochran moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur issue a purchase order to Vandevanter Engineering (the sole source for Flygt Pumps in our region) for the repair of Finley Creek Pump #1 Flygt 3300 Submersible Pump in the amount of \$62,922.41 and that the executive director be authorized and directed to execute said purchase order. Motion seconded by Mr. Jacobsen. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13449 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur enter into a contract with Grunloh Building, the lowest responsive responsible bidder, for the Digester #2 Sump Well Replacement Project in the contract amount of \$46,336 and that the president and clerk be authorized and directed to execute said contract. Motion seconded by Ms. Baskerville. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13450 Ms. Baskerville moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur enter into a contract with the lowest responsive responsible bidder for the 2026 Roads Project Division 1-Asphalt with Dunn Company, in the contract amount of \$78,290 and Division 2-Concrete with Christy Foltz in the contract amount of \$65,870 with the president and clerk being authorized and directed to execute said contracts. Motion seconded by Mr. Jacobsen. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13451 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur _____ and direct the President and Clerk to sign the Document. Motion seconded by Mr. Horve. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13452 Mr. Cochran moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur adopt the revised Memorandum of Understanding for Integrated Planning and direct the President and Clerk to sign the Document. Motion seconded by Ms. Baskerville. Mr. Newton mentions that the Board has previously signed for this, just with different wording. ADM and Primient will no longer be participating, so the revised document specifies the MOU with the City and the District. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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

Ms. Baskerville thanks the Board and Staff for 8 years serving on the Board.

13453 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the board adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Cochran. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

Clerk