

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

The Board of Trustees of the Sanitary District of Decatur, Illinois met in regular session Wednesday August 20, 2025, at 5:33 pm at the District's Office, 501 Dipper Lane. Present for the board meeting were board members Dan Smallwood, Phil Cochran, Steve Horve, Rob Jacobsen, and Megan Baskerville. 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 Deihl of Black & Veatch (electronically), and staff members Brian Casch and Kevin Johnson.

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

There were no comments from the public.

13386 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the items on the Consent Agenda including Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 16, 2025; Payroll and Checks including travel expense reimbursements as submitted; and Pretreatment Permit for Qualawash Holdings, LLC; 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, Horve, Cochran, Jacobsen and Baskerville voted Aye, and the motion passed.**

Mr. Newton reviewed the Executive Director's Report that was included in the packet. Mr. Newton informed the Board that on shred day, we shredded ~325 Cuft of documents. We had projected 160 Cuft. We will have one or two more shred days prior to moving to the new building. Mr. Newton let the Board know that he has been in touch with Farm Progress and we will be receiving tickets and parking passes; and if any members of the Board would like to go, let him know. One of the items that came out of DCC's awareness survey was the request for discounted septic cleanouts for unsewered residents of the District. Mr. Newton stated that he's already reached out to other sanitary districts to see if they have implemented a similar program. While Bloomington is the only response we received, this has created an initiative to push regular septic tank maintenance. Also, it drives a need to identify where the septic tanks are located using our GIS map and seeing if these residences can tap into the city sewers or an interceptor. It has been some time since we've added new sewers, and it seems that more properties towards the exterior of Macon county versus the center are in need. Mr. Cochran started a discussion about how much can be learned from the survey based on the low number of responses and the amount the District was spending on outreach. Mr. Newton explained some of the limitations of the survey and that public outreach was a requirement of many IEPA initiatives.

Mr. Miller presented the Engineering Report that was included in the packet. Mr. Miller touched on last month's issue regarding the Administrative Workforce Center, specifically the roof. That issue has been resolved. The cabinets for the lab are in motion and we are now about 12 weeks out, and we are hopeful that the delivery schedule will correlate with the installation. Mr. Miller thanks the members of the Board for coming for a tour of the new building, and he thanked Kevin Johnson for his work with the project. Mr. Miller and Mr. Newton elaborate on the interactive display that will be visible when you walk into the lobby of the new Admin building. Mr. Miller also presented the Board with a potential plaque design to document those involved in the project. Mr. Newton discussed the potential custom modular board table that

is versatile. Mr. Miller is pleased to say that we are finally completely finished with the Damon Avenue pump station, as the project started in 2022.

Mr. Malone reviewed the Maintenance Report that was included in the packet. The maintenance group completed 754 work orders in the last month. With that, there were 1669.71 corrective hours and 84.1 reactive hours. The guys have been heavily focusing on project work, primarily working on the dewatering wells in the back end of the plant, and PM catch-up. The new dump truck is complete and has our logos displayed and is parked outside. We ended up receiving the Ford F550 early, and it is now going to have the service body installed. Mr. Malone stated that we have set out our live animal traps due to the large number of groundhogs around the plant. Mr. Malone mentioned the pump that replaced the dredge has installed out at Wyckles for land application. Mr. Malone mentioned how we were having several equipment failures at the CSO facilities. The 7th Ward the pumps got locked up and so he called I&C. Mr. Malone brought some show and tell of some plastic that caused the pumps to lock up and the repairs will take about 6 weeks to complete. The failing of the pump at 7th Ward allowed us to be preemptive towards the other CSO's – Lincoln Park and St Louis Bridge. We have had General Energy on site a couple of times and they have been doing their soil boring plans and have identified the interconnection switchgears with Ameren that they can connect too. For the solar panels to work, Ameren has to give the go ahead and we have been informed that this could take up to 6 months. All appropriate channels have been pushing Ameren to get this higher on their priority list. Mr. Malone discussed issues with the upgrades to the Beehive software.

Ms. Bailey presented the Compliance and Innovation Report included in the packet. Ms. Bailey informed the board that we had another meeting with the EPA on our proposed AOC. The meeting went okay- there will definitely be some back and forth before anything is finalized. On a positive note, the SSO that we thought was our issue, actually ended up being a city lift station. Brandi Rosenberger passed her Class I license test, while Chad Bledsoe and Brian Wise passed the Class III. Congratulations to all of them! Also, we finally received the Peak Performance Gold award for not having any violations on our permit in 2024. Tillamook has somewhat improved on sending slugs. The primary focus lately is Primient, as they had a really bad month. Tillamook has installed the EQ Tank and has also decided that they will be installing a DAF. Austin Gruber, our Pretreatment Administrator, is looking into a new software for our pretreatment analysis. The Integrative Planning meeting is on hold for now.

13387 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur enter an engagement with Tri-Merit, in the amount of \$76,000 not to exceed 2% of the credit received; and that the president and clerk be authorized and directed to execute said amendment (contingent on final contract language agreement between the District and Tri-Merit). Motion seconded by Ms. Baskerville. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13388 Ms. Baskerville moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur accept amendment #4 for the Nutrient Program Management agreement with Black and Veatch, increasing the contract amount by \$6,477,000, to a new total contract amount of \$14,004,060; and that the president and clerk be authorized and directed to execute said amendment. Motion seconded by Mr. Horve. **Motion carried unanimously.**

There was no New Business, or Attorney Report.

13389 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the Board go into closed session for the purpose of discussing matters that are statutory exceptions to the requirements of the Open Meetings Act as

outlined in Sec2c – 1, a personnel matter concerning specific employees. Motion seconded by Mr. Cochran. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13385Mr. Jacobsen moved that the board adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Horve. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2025, at 5:30 PM.

Clerk