

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, September 25, 2024**

The Board of Trustees of the Sanitary District of Decatur, Illinois met in regular session August 21, 2024, at 5:30 pm at the District's Office, 501 Dipper Lane. Present for the board meeting were board members Dan Smallwood, Megan Baskerville, Rob Jacobsen, Kurt Younghouse, and Phil Cochran. Staff present at the meeting were Kent Newton, Executive Director/CFO; Don Miller, Director of Engineering; Ashley Bailey, Director of Compliance and Innovation; Hailey Beals, Administrative Office Coordinator and Ed Flynn, General Counsel for the District. The audience included Larry Livergood, of Architectural Expressions, and David Deihl, of Black & Veatch (electronically).

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

There were no Public Comments.

**13323** Mr. Jacobsen moved that the items on the Consent Agenda including Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 21, 2024; Payroll and Checks including travel expense reimbursements as submitted; Revisions to the Investment Policy; and acceptance of an Easement at 1 Oak Ridge Drive, Decatur 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 made light of the fact that there isn't a monetary transaction noted in the staff report, and there must be, even if its \$1.00 to make it legal. Mr. Flynn agreed and noted that \$1.00 was provided as compensation. **Trustee Smallwood, Jacobsen, Younghouse, Baskerville and Cochran voted Aye, and the motion passed.**

Mr. Newton reviewed the Executive Director's Report that was included in the packet. Mr. Newton let the Board know that we did a fund transfer of \$5M from our checking account to a trust. We will now be receiving an increased interest rate - \$10k more a month than what we currently are receiving. The asset appraisal RFP is almost complete, and Mr. Newton should have a proposal for the Board in November. Mr. Newton noted that it's a little early to be mentioning property tax. Mr. Newton stated that we had a lot of utilities contract activity going on this month - signing a 4-year natural gas contract at just a tad bit higher than what we were paying. Mr. Newton will likely extend the electrical rates for 2 or 3 years, after looking at the trends. This allows us stability. Mr. Newton noted on how AT&T wants to get out of the landline phone business, and they raised the rate from \$30.00/month to \$1,500.00/month. We have canceled the service. The elevator is currently out of service until a new telephone system is established. Mr. Younghouse asked if we have looked into getting solar, and Mr. Newton and Mr. Miller have looked into it, regarding our new facility.

Mr. Miller presented the Engineering Report that was included in the packet. Mr. Miller let the Board know that the Engineering group, the I & C group, and the inside maintenance team did a great job getting the frac tank project taken down. Mr. Miller and Larry Livergood informed the Board of the details as to why the permit for the new Administrative Workforce Center has not been approved. Progress is being made and it should be getting approved relatively soon. Mr. Miller stated that the Eastside Interceptor has some cracks, and deterioration, and this pipe needs some work done ASAP. The inspection shows what is called a gusher of water. Mr. Miller informed the Board of the known details of the boring contractor hitting a gas line that was not marked by JULIE. The City has approached the District regarding assisting them with a fiber optic pipe running across lake Decatur. Developing an intergovernmental agreement was discussed.

Mr. Miller reviewed the Maintenance Report that was included in the packet, in Mr. Malone's absence. The maintenance group completed 694 work orders in the last month. Mr. Miller noted again the coordinated effort of removing the frac tank. Mr. Miller stated that we have been attempting to make a valve change, but due to heavy rain that has been getting pushed back. Mr. Miller stated that staff have been busy getting prepared for Land Application. Mr. Miller also expressed a welcoming from Mr. Malone to Brett Stock to the maintenance group.

Ms. Bailey presented the Compliance and Innovation Report included in the packet. Ms. Bailey mentioned again that we are getting ready for Land Application, but due to various reasons it has been postponed. We have sent out the required letters notifying the landowners. We are hoping to start Monday, but with all the rain that may not happen. Disinfection has been a real large challenge for the Operators, due to heavy amounts of ammonia or nitrate in the system. Ms. Bailey let the Board know that the District has been working with Black & Veatch to get our feasibility report turned in, and our progress report for NARP. Ms. Bailey let the Board know that we met with ADM and Primient discussing our NARP. Ms. Bailey also said that we still haven't received anyone interested in being a voting member for a watershed group, so we will follow Sangamon County's path, and meet with the stakeholders, before the NARP is submitted. David Deihl gave a quick rundown of what Black & Veach has done.

**13324**Ms. Baskerville moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur approve Change Order #2 to the Fermentation Reactor Pilot contract with Burdick Plumbing increasing the contract amount by \$29,622.61 to a new contract amount of \$877,518.61 and that the executive director be authorized and directed to execute said change order. Motion seconded by Mr. Cochran.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**13325**Mr. Cochran moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur accept change order #1 to the McKinley Interceptor Repairs agreement with SAK Construction increasing the contract amount by \$7,380 to a new contract amount of \$848,745 and that the executive director be authorized and directed to execute said change order. Motion seconded by Mr. Younghouse.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**13326**Mr. Younghouse moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur enter into a contract with Bodine Electric the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the Damon Avenue Pump Station Electrical Upgrades in the contract amount of \$196,830.00 and that the president and clerk be authorized to execute said contract. Mr. Cochran asked if Bodine was the only bidder, to which Mr. Miller replied yes. Mr. Jacobsen asked why there was a \$10k increase in price, to which Mr. Miller stated that we already had put it out for bid once as part of a larger project, and there was a gap between the next lowest bidder. Mr. Flynn commented that accepting the bid was appropriate being that they are the only responsive, responsible bidder, and it has already been put out for bid twice. Motion seconded by Ms. Baskerville.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**13327**Mr. Jacobsen moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur enter into a contract with General Fence the lowest responsive responsible bidder for the 24MNT07 Fence Replacement project in the contract amount of \$158,863.00 and that the president and clerk be authorized and directed to execute said contract. Motion seconded by Mr. Cochran. **Motion carried**

**unanimously.**

**13328**Ms. Baskerville moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur enter into a professional services agreement with Farnsworth Group for the Design of the East Side Interceptor Rehabilitation

project (24ENG06) in the contract amount of \$123,600 and that the president and clerk be authorized and directed to execute said contract. Motion seconded by Mr. Younghouse. Mr. Cochran asked Mr. Flynn if he has reviewed this, to which he has responded that Farnsworth has been very thorough in their report. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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

**13329**Mr. Jacobsen moved that the board adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Younghouse. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2024, at 5:30 PM.

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Clerk