

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, September 27, 2023

The Board of Trustees of the Sanitary District of Decatur, Illinois met in regular session September 27, 2023, at 5:30 pm at the District's Office, 501 Dipper Lane. Present for the board meeting were board members Dan Smallwood, Rob Jacobsen, Megan Baskerville 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; Ashley Bailey, Director of Compliance & Innovation; Hailey Beals, Administrative Office Coordinator and Ed Flynn, General Counsel for the District. The audience included Diane Grossenheider and Steve Arant (electronically), with Black & Veatch, and staff member Tishia Greve.

- 13261** Mr. Jacobsen moved that the items on the Consent Agenda including Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 16, 2023 and Payroll and Checks including travel expense reimbursements as submitted 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 Ms. Baskerville. **Trustee Smallwood, Baskerville, Jacobsen and Cochran voted Aye, and the motion passed.**

Ms. Grossenheider presented the Nutrient Program quarterly plan of action.

Mr. Newton reviewed the Executive Director's Report that was included in the packet. Mr. Newton let the Board know that copies of the audit report were received today and are able for trustees to review prior to taking action at the October meeting. Mr. Newton is expecting a representative from MCK at the meeting next month to answer any questions from the Board. Mr. Newton stated that this is the first time the audit report has been ready on time in 4 years. Mr. Newton discussed the projected property tax levy. Taxes decreased \$6.06 for the average homeowner for the current year and are projected to increase by \$5.49 next year resulting in the 2023 taxes still being lower than the 2021 taxes. The additional funds will be for Bond & Interest (Debt Service) Fund. Mr. Newton clarified that the section of his report titled Contracts should be labeled Energy Contracts and outlined current market conditions for our expiring contracts. We have already signed a 12 month natural gas contract with our current provider and plan on working with our energy consultant on a 12 month electric contract as soon as next week. Mr. Newton discussed the District's investment policy allowing investments in corporate bonds and the Board's comfort level with discussing this type of investment with our investment advisors. Mr. Newton announced he will be at WEFTEC Monday and Tuesday next week.

Mr. Miller presented the Engineering Report that was included in the packet. Mr. Miller stated there has been some updated activity on the Lost Bridge road repair. Mr. Miller stated there has been some unanticipated difficulties with the Fermentation Pilot Project, so we are making some modifications and working through the issues. Mr. Miller announced that we had the Administrative Office Complex kickoff meeting this month. Mr. Miller stated we are working through some pre-procurements for the primary clarifiers. Mr. Miller gave an update on the Damon Ave Pump Station. Mr. Miller let the Board know about the meeting that was held with ADM and the City regarding intergovernmental activity. Mr. Miller discussed that the televising contractor discovered cracking in a section of the McKinley Ave interceptor. Plans are underway to get the situation resolved. This is not an emergency issue at the time so normal procurement will proceed on an expedited basis.

Mr. Malone reviewed the Maintenance Report that was included in the packet. Mr. Malone stated the maintenance group completed 640 work orders in the last month. Mr. Malone has been involved with IEMA and FEMA, and we are eligible for federal funds from the storm devastation that occurred in June. Mr. Malone has proposals to purchase 3 new vehicles. Mr. Malone also intends to purchase a new mower that will be able to handle the slopes on the District's property. Mr. Malone congratulated Sam Mattox and Blake Dotson for completing the entry level driver's training certification. Brian Casch also just started the training for the CDL license. Mr. Malone stated there are 3 other employees who need to go through driving training.

Ms. Bailey presented the Compliance and Innovation Report included in the packet. Ms. Bailey congratulated Austin Gruber, Pretreatment Administrator on the arrival of his new baby girl. Mr. Gruber will be taking paternity leave. Ms. Bailey is also expecting to deliver her baby soon. Ms. Bailey discussed the District picking up the fourth-year option and change order for the land application contract. The District will go out for bid in 2024 and likely will see a large increase due to economic conditions and transportation now being subject to prevailing wages. Ms. Bailey stated that feasibility and NARP progress reports had been submitted to IEPA. Ms. Bailey touched on the fecal coliform exceedance that occurred in August. The District notified the IEPA on regular monthly reports that industrial pass through was the suspected cause. Ms. Bailey stated we have had high concentrations of ammonia, nitrates, and BOD due to low flow and industrial loadings exceeding permit limits. This has caused an unusually distinct smell at the plant and caused a struggle for the Operations Department. Ms. Bailey also stated that because of the industrial facility fires IEPA has been onsite to test for PFAS.

13262 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur issue a change order to the Biosolids Application Contract with J. Oros Environmental, Inc. increasing the per gallon applied rate to \$0.038 per gallon and setting a maximum application rate of 21 million gallons for the 2023 application season, and that the Executive Director be authorized and directed to execute said change order. Motion seconded by Ms. Baskerville. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13263 Ms. Baskerville moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur issue a purchase order to Landmark Ford for the purchase of (1) 2024 Ford F250 4x4 (State Contract #BOSS-4B-23568) in the amount of \$48,596.00 and (2) 2024 Ford Transit T150 Cargo Vans (State Contract #BOSS-4-B-28544), in the amount of \$106,042.00 (\$53,021.00 per van) – and that the Executive Director be authorized and directed to execute said purchase orders. Motion seconded by Mr. Cochran. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13264 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the Sanitary District of Decatur issue a purchase order to Vandevanter Engineering, the sole source for the new Flygt Pumps, for the purchase of the following replacement pump of pump #3 at the Finley Creek Pump Station (1) Flygt NP-330.185 Submersible Pump and (1) Flygt 4447106 6 Inch x 8 Inch Discharge Base Elbow, in the amount of \$74,392.56 – and that the Executive Director be authorized and directed to execute said purchase orders. Motion seconded by Mr. Cochran. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13265 Mr. Cochran moved that the board adjourn. Motion seconded by Ms. Baskerville. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm.

Clerk