

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, August 17, 2022**

The Board of Trustees of the Sanitary District of Decatur, Illinois met in regular session August 17, 2022, at 5:30 pm at the District's Office, 501 Dipper Lane. Present for the board meeting were board members Dan Smallwood, Phil Cochran, Rob Jacobsen, and Kurt Younhouse. Staff present at the meeting were Kent Newton, Executive Director/CFO; Don Miller, Director of Engineering; J.D. Malone, Director of Maintenance; Dave Collard, Director of Operations and Compliance; Tina Brown, Administrative Office Coordinator, and Ed Flynn, General Counsel for the District. The audience included staff member Latishia Greve.

Latishia Greve shared her concerns about the amount of samples the lab is testing at the request of Black & Veatch. Discussion took place as to what could have been done differently with the number of samples being tested and whether to have selected an outside source for some of the testing.

13189 Mr. Jacobsen moved that the items on the Consent Agenda including Minutes of the Regular Meeting on July 20, 2022; Payroll and Checks including travel expense reimbursements as submitted; Pretreatment Permits – ADM James R. Randall Research Center and Rescheduling the Regular Board Meeting for October from October 19 to October 26 be accepted, approved, set, and issued; 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. Younhouse. **Trustees Cochran, Jacobsen, Younhouse, and Smallwood voted Aye, and the motion passed.**

Mr. Newton reviewed the Executive Director's Report that was included in the packet. The CDC has new guidelines, and the District will be updating their guidelines based on the CDC. The District presented the school outreach to District 61. The school district liked what was presented to them. There will be grade appropriate programs in place (K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, 9th-12th). Mr. Newton presented to the board the 3D EnviroScape Drinking/Water model for school and event demonstrations. On October 20, "Imagine a Day without Water" activities will be offered to all students in Macon County. Tours of the treatment plant for students in 5th-8th grade will be conducted in April. Mr. Newton will be contacting Millikin to see if there are students from their education or science program that could help to facilitate the outreach program. Mr. Newton discussed the substantial increase in electricity costs to the new capacity cost for the MISO region that will not be reset until May 2023.

Mr. Miller presented the Director of Engineering Report included in the packet. All the material for the Digester Complex has arrived. Mr. Miller went over the issues that had taken place at the Lakeshore Pump Station on August 16. The Front Gate, Fence, and Road Repairs project and Water Tower Painting project have both been advertised. No one attended the pre-bid meeting that was held today, August 17, for the Water Tower Painting. Bids were taken for the RAS Bypass and Valve Replacement project, however the bids were much higher than the budget for the project and alternatives will need to be considered. The District received quotes for the Fairview Overflow Structure Modifications. The project was awarded to Burdick Plumbing & Heating Co. Plocher Construction is going to supply the District with replacement columns for the 003 building. There will be no cost to the District for the replacements.

Mr. Malone reviewed the Director of Maintenance Report included in the packet. Michael Fisher has been added to the maintenance staff along with current District operator Donnie Reynolds once a replacement is hired for the operations department. A third candidate is in the final hiring process. There were 429 completed work orders for the last month. There was a force

main break just outside the Wyckles Facility. Repairs of been made. The seasonal staff have done a great job in maintaining the plant and the grounds at the outside pump stations. Jake Philo, a technician with Evoqua, has been working with the maintenance and operation's staff with the heat exchanger issues.

Mr. Collard presented the Director of Operations Report included in the packet. Requirements are still being met for disinfection. Congratulations to Brandi Rosenberger who has recently passed her Class 4 certification test and has been issued a Class 4 Operator Certificate. She has taken extra courses to speed up her on the job training. The operations department is supportive of Donnie Reynolds decision to accept a position in the maintenance department. Mr. Collard gave his perspective to the discussion that had taken place during the public comments at the beginning of the board meeting. It is an expectation that overtime can and will happen with the positions in the lab. It is made known when someone is hired for a lab position. Further discussion took place regarding the process with handling the extra sampling.

In regards, to the Nutrient Program, Ed Flynn is working on the bylaws for the watershed group. The technical referendum should be received soon from Black & Veatch.

At last month's board meeting during public comments, Mr. Flynn advised the union that before returning to the negotiating table the union would need to obtain a federal mediator. Mr. Flynn has had multiple email exchanges with the federal mediator. The federal mediator offered August 29, September 2, 9, and 13 for the dates for the mediation. Mr. Flynn stated he would not be available August 29 due to a family medical situation but would be available September 2, 9, and 13. Mr. Wilmore, AFSCME representative, stated that he was not available for any of those dates and would not be available until the last week of October. The federal mediator offered to modify his calendar and offered August 24 and 26. Mr. Flynn advised that he was available, and Mr. Wilmore continued to state he was unavailable until the week of October 26. Mr. Flynn provided a date of October 10, and there has been no response from AFSCME. The federal mediator reached out to Mr. Flynn by email and informed him that he would call Mr. Wilmore to try to have the negotiation meeting held the week of October 10.

13190 Mr. Cochran moved that the board adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Younghouse. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Clerk