Board Minutes for the Board of Sanitary Commissioners Meeting of November 30, 2022

THE BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS conducted a regularly scheduled meeting.

Board members present; Tonya Brothers-Bridge, Vice President and Adam Leach, Secretary. Excused absence; Stephen Brand, President and David Smith, Board Member.

Department managers and staff present; Drew Hall, Legal Counsel; Deana Cox, Financial Manager; Tim Stover, IT Administrator; John Anderson, District Engineer; Jason Donati, Stormwater Educator; Harvey Wright, Sewer Maintenance Superintendent; Thom Noble, Sewer Maintenance Assistant Superintendent; Phil Reagon, Sanitation Superintendent; Melanie Lanich, Health Insurance; and Maggie Bales, Executive Office Manager.

**Public present:** Steve and Jane Smith (Smith Family Services), 1315 W Jackson Street, Muncie, IN 47303.

**Statement of Proxy:** Mrs. Brothers-Bridge stated that she has Mr. Brand's proxy voting. She stated she understands how Mr. Brand would like to vote so the meeting can move forward with a quorum.

**Consideration of Minutes:** Mrs. Brothers-Bridge entertained a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Leach moved to approve the Board Meeting Minutes as submitted for the meeting of November 16, 2022. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge seconded the motion. The motion was passed (3-0).

Consideration of Claims: Mrs. Brothers-Bridge entertained a motion to consider the register of claims totaling \$1,171,273.24. Mr. Leach stated a claim for the telephone early termination fee for the transfer to cloud based phone services. He stated this was necessary to overlap accordingly to have working phones. Mr. Leach stated a claim to Smith Family Services for the last levee mow. He stated a claim for the Storer Estates project of about \$554,057.18 from ARP funds for the continuation of work. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge stated on page nine of thirteen a claim for Bureau of Water Quality has purchased a couple of steel buildings for the mussel farm. She stated one building for \$22,490 and another for \$17,000. Mr. Leach moved to approve the claims totaling \$1,171,273.24. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge seconded the motion. The motion was passed (3-0).

Old Business - None.

## **New Business:**

- 1. Mowing of the Muncie Levee Bid Opening for 2023 Harvey Wright. Mr. Wright stated that there are two bid packets that were submitted for opening. He stated some items regarding the levee this year. Mr. Wright stated that some areas were cleaned up this year for the first time in a couple of years. He thanked Phil Tevis and Smith Family Services; they did an outstanding job and were easy to work with. Mr. Wright stated the first bid is from Coop's for \$14,500 per mow for three years, and spring clean-up of \$6,000 and fall clean-up of \$6,000. He stated the second is from Smith Family Services for year one of \$14,900, year two of \$15,500, and year three of \$16,300 with a \$7,000 spring clean-up and a \$4,800 fall clean up. Mr. Wright stated the average of the per mow is \$15,569 per year. He stated that he would like to take the bids under advisement of legal and at the next Board meeting the recommendation will be made to the Board. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge stated that it is our responsibility to have the lowest responsive and responsible bid, legal will help us sort through that.
- 2. Formal Approval of Vehicle Purchase for One Sewer Maintenance Aquatech Truck Harvey Wright. Mr. Wright appeared before the board to ask for the formal approval of the purchase of a 2023

Vac Truck that was approved in the budget. He stated that we went through the Sourcewell to purchase the 2023 VacCon with a freightliner chassis. Mr. Wright stated the total is \$687,256.38. Mr. Leach asked what the delivery date was. Mr. Wright stated the delivery date is approximately seven to eight months after receipt of order. Mr. Leach stated the budgeted amount for this was \$750,000. Mr. Wright stated that is correct, it is under budget. Mr. Leach stated that the Sourcewell is a public purchasing cooperative that we can use under Indiana code. He stated that local governments pull resources where bigger companies will give us a unit price or a general governmental discount for any product typically capital items like heavy equipment and large trucks. Mr. Leach stated it is a common practice throughout the state. He stated this gives us a guaranteed price and a guaranteed discount. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge moved to approve the purchase of the vehicle. Mr. Leach provided second. The motion passed (3-0).

3. Formal Approval of Vehicle Purchase for Two Sanitation Recycling Trucks – Phil Reagon. Mr. Reagon stated that leaf season will wrap up this weekend. He stated the passing of a long-time employee, Dave Horsley, who had been with the district since the early 1990s. Mr. Reagon stated he is before the Board to request approval of the purchase of two 2023 Libre recycling trucks that will be used for nothing but recycling. He explained that we received a grant for \$468,798 to cover part of these where we purchase the vehicles and then receive the reimbursement. Mr. Reagon stated for two vehicles the total is \$895,669.06. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge stated these were budgeted, planned for, we just need to purchase so we can be reimbursed through the grant. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge moved to approve the purchase of the two vehicles. Mr. Leach provided second. The motion passed (3-0).

## **Additional Board Topics:**

- 1. Mr. Leach passed along condolences to the family of Mr. Horsley. He stated it is hard to lose someone that you spend time working with and we feel his family's loss as well. Mr. Leach reminded those to mind their fogs (fat, oils, greases) the wastewater treatment plant does not like those being flushed types of things down the toilet or through the sink. He reminded those to pay attention to our guys out working the roads, it may be a pain to be stuck behind them. Mr. Leach asked that all do so safely and pay attention to those out working.
- 2. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge stated a reminder for the toters. She stated that we have had some strong wind gusts. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge stated once toters have been emptied to please get them up closer to the home so the wind does not blow them into the streets or places they should not be. She stated just as a reminder to get them pulled up as soon as possible after the trash is picked, we would appreciate it very much.

## **Public Comments:**

1. Steve Smith, Smith Family Services 1315 W. Jackson. Mr. Smith stated that he would like to thank the Board and state some highlights of what they were able to accomplish this year on the levee. He stated that during the removal phase of the downed timber we took a more sustainable approach to that. Mr. Smith stated that rather than cleaning it up and disposing of it in a landfill or a burn pile. He stated that they looked for pockets of need within the community. Mr. Smith stated in Gaston, Indiana, a rural community, there was a group of farmers with a wood dumping lot where the lower income farmers were able to pull from that for heating. He stated that we cut the wood up on our own time, delivered, and unloaded it to help that community in Gaston and the rural farmers. Mr. Smith stated that it was much appreciated. He stated many people reached out to them, especially the gentleman who oversaw the lot. Mr. Smith stated that they recycled many other cords of wood into the local community. He stated that they tried to keep the disposal to the minimum and gave out all that was possible to the local lower income community and rural areas as a heating supplement. Mr. Smith stated this is an estimated reduction of about 90% of the mass of wood that would have been disposed of. He stated that they use finish mowers on the entire project so there was an element of visual improvements. Mr. Smith stated that

they took time outside of what they were paid for the levee to cut the trees back to give it more a park feel. He stated this made it easier to mow under the trees and gave those who walk the trail a visual appeal. Mr. Smith stated that there were many small accomplishments like hiring everyone within the local community, partnered with surrounding businesses to put as much of the levee mowing money back into the local community, a lot with Bendle on equipment, Smith's on repairs, and tried to focus the community money back into the community when there was a spend opportunity. He stated that he sent an email with a brief recap of the year and stated that he appreciates the opportunity. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge thanked Mr. and Mrs. Smith for their great work and stated how they went above and beyond. She stated that the story of sharing the wood with families in need is very considerate of others and represented us well.

**Adjourn:** Mrs. Brothers-Bridge stated our next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at 11:30 a.m. in the City Hall Auditorium. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge stated she would accept a motion to adjourn. Mr. Leach made a motion to adjourn the meeting for November 30, 2022. Mrs. Brothers-Bridge seconded the motion. The motion was approved (3-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Maggie Bales, Executive Office Manager

Approved by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners

Muncie Sanitary District

Stephen Brand, President

Tonya Brothers-Bridge Vice President

Adam Leach, Secretary

David Smith, Board Member