

Board Minutes for the Board of Sanitary Commissioners Meeting of June 14, 2023

THE BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS conducted a regularly scheduled meeting.

Board members present; Stephen Brand, President; Adam Leach, Vice President; Michael Wolfe, Board Secretary; and David Smith, Board Member. Excused absence: Tim Overton, Board Member.

**Department managers and staff present;** John Barlow, District Administrator; Deana Cox, Financial Manager; Thom Noble, Director of Engineering; John Anderson, District Engineer; Harvey Wright, Sewer Maintenance Superintendent; Jason Donati, Sustainability Coordinator; Phil Reagon, Sanitation Superintendent; Jason Ingram, WPCF Superintendent; Rick Conrad, BWQ Director; and Maggie Bales, Executive Office Manager.

**Public present:** Rick Yencer.

**Consideration of Minutes:** Mr. Brand entertained a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Leach moved to approve the Board Meeting Minutes as submitted for the meeting of May 31, 2023. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion was passed (4-0).

**Consideration of Claims:** Mr. Brand entertained a motion to consider the register of claims totaling \$743,985.43. Mr. Leach stated there was an addition due to a correction of a vendor. He stated the total claims is 743,985.43. Mr. Leach moved to approve the consideration of claims. Mr. Smith provided second. Motion passed (4-0).

**District Administrator Update – John Barlow.** Mr. Barlow stated the fourteenth annual Camp Prairie Creek is about to begin the registration process. He stated the actual camp goes from July 24<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Barlow stated that registration starts on June 23, 2023, at 8:00 am. Mr. Barlow stated that Jason Donati has advised those to set an alarm because the spots go quick. He stated that it is open to the first one hundred registrants for kids from first grade to eighth grade. Mr. Barlow stated that the actual camp is July 24<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup> and registration begins June 23 at 8:00 am online. He stated that registration is on the Muncie Sanitary website. Mr. Leach asked what the cost of the camp is. Mr. Barlow stated that it is free. He stated that the output of the Tough a Truck event on Friday was tremendous. He thanked Muncie Police Department, Muncie Fire Department, Muncie Street Department, all Muncie Sanitary departments that had rolling stock and equipment. Mr. Barlow stated that it was a good turnout for the public. He thanked Neighborhood Pizza, The Barking Cow, and Unc's BBQ for the concessions. Mr. Barlow stated that those were all complements of Muncie Sanitary District. He thanked Mr. Leach for coordinating the event. Mr. Barlow stated that this was the second Touch a Truck event and there is no reason after the input we have from the people that showed up and the turnout we had that we will be looking to do this again next year. He stated that the recycling toters are in and on site at the Sanitation Department on MLK. Mr. Barlow stated the schedule is to distribute those to those who signed up on July 31, 2023. He stated pending the delivery of the recycling trucks it is still planned to start August 7, 2023. Mr. Barlow stated that at the last most recent meeting, Delaware Regional Waste District has ratified our previously approved long-term contract to continue to be customers for 25 years. Mr. Leach asked if Camp Prairie Creek fills up. Mr. Barlow stated that it fills up quickly to full capacity with a waiting list. Mr. Leach stated that the Wheeling closure is still planned for three more weeks. Mr. Barlow stated that there is nothing that has changed the original schedule. He stated Wheeling is still closed and there have not been any discouraging words for extending the time of the closure.

**Department Head Update – Jason Ingram, WPCF Superintendent.** Mr. Ingram stated the WPCF is looking for bids for aluminum sulfate. He stated it is a requirement in the permit with IDEM to remove phosphorus from wastewater, aluminum sulfate is what it used to achieve that at the treatment plant. Mr.

Ingram stated a notification for bids will be placed in the Star Press on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of 2023. He stated that two bid packets have already been sent out to two different chemical companies. Mr. Ingram stated the bid packets will be opened and read at the Muncie Sanitary District board meeting on July 12, 2023. He stated some concrete repair work at the treatment plant on and around the primary digestors, gas facility roof, and boiler facility roof will begin in July of 2023. Mr. Ingram stated the concrete being repaired dates to the early 1950s. He stated two wet wells are being cleaned at the treatment plant. Mr. Ingram stated the first well being cleaned is called the north well, it has not been cleaned since the 1950s. He stated the second well being cleaned is at the wetlands. Mr. Ingram stated this well has been in service since 2018 and needs cleaning. He stated that the plant will begin the process of updating the control panel on fifteen of the thirty-one lift pump stations throughout Muncie. Mr. Ingram stated the updates will include new MicroLogix plc's, power supplies, cradle point cellular modem with antennas, new wire controls for relay, and fuse holders. He stated the last time an upgrade was made on these fifteen lift stations was 25 years ago. Mr. Ingram stated that the reason for the upgrades is that parts are getting hard to come by for the older plc's and radios that transmit data from the lift station back to the supervisory control and data acquisition system at the wastewater plant. Mr. Leach asked Mr. Ingram if the plant is better from the time you took the job to right now. Mr. Ingram stated it is getting there. Mr. Brand asked to list what phosphates are. Mr. Ingram stated that phosphorus comes from leaves and human waste. He stated that phosphates used to be high in soaps but that has been regulated. Mr. Ingram stated that it is continuous because it is natural. Mr. Brand stated that there is nothing the public can do better to help. Mr. Ingram stated he is not aware of any way to help eliminate phosphates.

**Old Business: None.**

**New Business:**

**1. MSD 2021 Bond Projects Scope Addition Number 3 – John Barlow.** Mr. Barlow stated this is the third scope addition we have made to the GMAX contract with Bowen Engineering. He stated that different drainage projects have been identified that need to be continued. Mr. Barlow stated the current Stormwater budget has the money to do some of these projects. He stated the easiest way to accomplish that is to do a scope addition on the GMAX if it can be funded. Mr. Barlow stated this project is a part of a larger project that is not fully planned out yet on the Northview Edition which is north of McGalliard and east of Wheeling. He stated the one portion of this that is planned to be done on this scope addition would be the last portion of the project because it will be the discharge point that runs from Sheffield north to Glenwood to the creek. Mr. Barlow stated stormwater piping will be put in the ground, a head wall, a discharge point at the creek, and road restoration. He stated the reasoning for this is because Glenwood is on the list of City paving projects. Mr. Barlow stated the idea is to get this done prior to the paving of Glenwood. He stated this money is in the current Stormwater budget, the scope addition is for \$2,782,921.00. Mr. Barlow stated that there will be other areas of town that will be identified by our Engineering department that will need some separation and/or infrastructure work. He stated that there might be more scope additions in the future. Mr. Wolfe asked on this project if there were any GMAX savings. Mr. Barlow stated that there has been but not enough to cover this. He stated some of those savings have been earmarked for other projects in the pipeline. Mr. Leach stated that this was preceded by work done by Greeley and Hansen, looking at the Northview Neighborhood overall because it has bad drainage. He stated that the bad drainage causes bad roads so by fixing the drainage and then the roads everything will come together. Mr. Leach stated that Thom Noble, Engineering Director, has some amusing antidotes about standing waist deep in water through that area trying to clean out storm drains. He stated that he is sure Harvey Wright, Sewer Maintenance Superintendent, can share some horror stories about Sheffield being under water for some time. Mr. Leach stated that we are taking a very holistic, high-level view of figuring out what can be done and narrowing it down to this type of project. Mr. Brand entertained a motion to approve scope addition number 3 in the amount of \$2,782,921.00. Mr. Brand made a motion to approve. Mr. Leach provided second. Motion passed (4-0).

**2. Municipal Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Contract – John Barlow.** Mr. Barlow stated we have a contract, an agreement in principle like ECR for our long-term contract for solid waste disposal, recycling and HHW. He stated all the rates have been agreed to by both parties. Mr. Barlow stated that clarification and an additional appendix should be added to this to clarify some grey areas in the contract. He requested that the board table this until the addition of appendices for some clarification and to make some items clear. Mr. Brand entertained a motion to table the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Contract until a later meeting. Mr. Leach made a motion to table the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Contract per the District Administrator's recommendation until such time that those amendments and appendices have been added. Mr. Wolfe provided second. Motion passed (4-0). This item was tabled.

**Additional Board Topics:**

1. Mr. Leach thanked everyone that participated in the Touch a Truck event. He stated that there was a range of about five hundred people. Mr. Leach recommended that the next event should have a sign up or raffle to get a better count. He stated most of the food was gone and was a good time. Mr. Leach stated that the department heads made sure the vision worked. He stated he appreciates that. Mr. Leach stated that it is orange barrel season, crews are out on the road. He asked when the orange cones and barrel and workers in vests are present to please slow down. Mr. Leach stated that the same goes for the Sanitation Department for the guys who hang off the back of the truck. He stated that the trash trucks drive slowly and to resist the urge to pass them in an unsafe manner. Mr. Leach stated to please be safe and watch out for people working.

2. Mr. Brand stated as a public service announcement about how to properly dispose of paints, solvents, and things like that. He stated those should not go into the totes. Mr. Brand stated that those items should go straight to ECR on Centennial. He stated HHW (Household Hazardous Waste) disposal is available countywide. Mr. Brand stated some accomplishments. He stated that BWQ has a pre-treatment requirement for industrial wastewater, and they governed eighty-five million gallons of pre-treatment for industrial wastewater last year. He stated that was before it hit the wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Brand stated WPCF did 6.5 billion gallons last year. He stated the street maintenance has a requirement to sweep the roads twice every year. Mr. Brand stated almost 1500 tons of debris was picked up, about 3,000 lane miles swept, and leaves total between the sweepers, neighborhood cleanups, and in bags totaled 570 tons. He stated those are incredible accomplishments and a lot of that work goes unnoticed.

**Public Comments:**

1. Rick Yencer stated a couple of things come to mind. He stated he was in a neighborhood meeting the other day and there was some concern about a log jam on the river across from the Craddock Reserve, it is a railroad bridge north of SR 32. Mr. Yencer stated that as he recalls the district is responsible for keeping the river clean. He stated he does not what timetable or if you are even aware but if any of that break loose there is no levee on that side of town. Mr. Yencer stated that it has the potential to flood that area. He stated on the trash that it hopefully does not raise property taxes if you are going to have to pay more to ECR because our property taxes continue to go up for homes, businesses, and industries. Mr. Yencer stated a lot of people are still upset about that too.

**Adjourn:** Mr. Brand stated our next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. in the City Hall Auditorium. Mr. Brand stated he would accept a motion to adjourn. Mr. Leach made a motion to adjourn the meeting for June 14, 2023. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved (4-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

*Maggie Bales*

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Maggie Bales, Executive Office Manager

*Approved by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners  
Muncie Sanitary District*

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Stephen Brand, President

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Adam Leach, Vice President

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Michael Wolfe, Secretary

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David Smith, Board Member

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Tim Overton, Board Member