

Board Minutes for the Board of Sanitary Commissioners Meeting of March 20, 2024

THE BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS conducted a regularly scheduled meeting.

Board members present; Stephen Brand, President; Adam Leach, Vice President; Tim Overton, Board Secretary; Aaron Clark, Board Member; and David Smith, Board Member.

Department managers and staff present; Rick Conrad, District Administrator; Joe Rhett, Legal Counsel; Deana Cox, Financial Manager; Chuck Jones; BWQ Director; John Anderson, District Engineer; Jason Donati, Sanitation Superintendent; Thom Noble, Director of Engineering; Tim Stover, IT Administrator; Jason Ingram, WPCF Superintendent; Melanie Lanich, Insurance; and Maggie Bales, Executive Office Manager.

Public present: None.

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 March 6, 2024. Mr. Overton seconded the motion. The motion was passed (5-0).

Consideration of Claims: Mr. Brand entertained a motion to consider the register of claims totaling \$1,421,803.07. Mr. Leach stated a claim on page fifteen of seventeen to J.G. Case in the amount of \$47,604.50 for the Aultshire drainage improvement. He stated that the project is almost complete aside from paving. Mr. Leach stated a claim on page sixteen of seventeen in the amount of \$88,880.00 to Bowen Engineering for stormwater on call projects. He stated this is mostly structures related to Northview phase two. Mr. Leach stated a claim in the amount of \$ 51,219.75 to Geosyntec Consultants for a water model of our collection system as required for the long-term control plan. He stated it is a mandate from IDEM and/or EPA. Mr. Leach stated a claim in the amount of \$372,924.00 to Bowen Engineering out of our ARP funds for the Hoyt Avenue projects. He stated this project is still ongoing and closed. Mr. Leach stated a claim in the amount of \$149,572.90 to E&B Paving for finishing the Riverside drainage and infrastructure project. Mr. Brand stated a claim on page seven of seventeen for the purchase of a new arrow board for lane control from Indiana Sign and Barriers in the amount of \$4,000.00. He stated a claim on page nine of seventeen for an annual clothing allowance for our employees for the amount of a little over \$6,000.00. Mr. Brand stated a claim on page eleven of seventeen in the amount of about \$18,000.00 for credit card transaction fees. He stated a claim on page fourteen of seventeen for the participation of the Housing Summit. Mr. Smith moved to approve the consideration of claims. Mr. Leach provided second. Motion passed (5-0).

District Administrator Update – Mr. Conrad provided an update on the events of last week. He stated that we are all aware of the tornados that touched down in Selma and Winchester last Thursday night. Mr. Conrad stated that disasters often bring out the best in people and that was definitely the case here with a quick response from Thom Noble and his crew. He stated that the crews were eager to go out as news broke about the tornados. Mr. Conrad stated he also saw this with Board President Stephen Brand where he has been working to coordinate efforts with the community leaders to make sure MSD was able to get equipment and personnel out there wherever it was needed. He stated his appreciation to all of those with MSD that helped and forwarded along the appreciation that he has been receiving from others for the work that was done. Mr. Conrad stated that goes to all of the hundreds of others emergency responders who have been helping people get through this. He stated that we hope that the citizens of Selma and Winchester are able to regain some sense of normalcy here soon.

Department Head Update – Thom Noble, Director of Engineering. Mr. Noble stated that at about 10:30 pm on Thursday night he began texting Rick Conrad to offer anything MSD could do to assist. He

stated that he began communicating with the town board member from the start. Mr. Noble stated that we were able to send all seven of our construction crew members along with two mini excavators and two skid steers. He stated that the primary goal at that time was to get power restored to the town. Mr. Noble stated that he coordinated with Tommy Humbert from County Highway, after that he and Troy Landers asked if we could send our mini with the thumb and we borrowed a grapple bucket for one of our skid steers and sent that out to help load trucks. He stated on Monday that equipment went out along with a Peterson truck from Sanitation. Mr. Noble stated there were other communities helping, Yorktown, Daleville, and private contractors. He stated it is amazing how many people step up when it is needed. Mr. Noble stated yesterday we sent a Peterson and the same equipment again, last he heard was that the outlying areas not directly on Jackson Street in Selma had been picked up. He stated that to his knowledge everything moving forward is going to be dealt with the insurance companies and personal properties. Mr. Noble stated a thank you to his crew, the county workers, the private contractors, and the other municipalities. He stated he is proud to work for an organization where there was never a question or let me think about it. Mr. Noble stated that from the start it was what we could do to help. He stated that this means a lot to him personally. Mr. Clark stated a thank you to the crews that volunteered their time to go help. He stated it is amazing how quickly it turned around and restored power. Mr. Overton expressed his appreciation to Mr. Noble and his crew. He stated that when a disaster happens there are two kinds of people, some run to the fire and some runaway. Mr. Overton stated that the crew ran to it. He stated that earlier it was mentioned that AEP was able to restore power earlier because of the work MSD was able to do. Mr. Leach stated a good job to everyone involved and he is happy we were able to help. He stated that he is happy that we have the people, equipment and expertise to provide that type of service. Mr. Smith stated he is proud of everyone on our crews and gave a thank you to everyone involved. Mr. Brand stated appreciation for the focus on safety and gave credit to the county and John Cantino and those who coordinated to keep everyone safe. He asked that a thank you be relayed to Mr. Noble's team and Mr. Donati's team.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

1. Resolution 2024-04 Transfer of Funds – Rick Conrad. Mr. Conrad stated resolution 2024-04 is to combine the budgets of Engineering and Sewer Maintenance Departments. He stated that at the last board meeting the change was approved to combine those two departments and this is just a follow-up to combine those budgets. Mr. Conrad stated that we will be moving from 611-85 to 611-81 with no net change in any money. He stated that this is strictly organizational change to improve communication and no changes in positions either. Mr. Leach stated for clarification that there is no new money, no new people, no one is losing their job, no one is losing their rate of pay, no pay changes, this is just strictly organizational. Mr. Brand entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2024-04 as presented. Mr. Overton moved to approve. Mr. Smith provided second. Motion passed (5-0).

2. Consideration of Baker Tilly Scope of Work – Rick Conrad. Mr. Conrad stated that this consideration is to approve a scope of work from Baker Tilly to investigate federal tax credits for a future solar project that is being considered for an area near White River and East Jackson. He stated that the project that is being investigated has changed a couple of times so his understanding is that this may need to be tabled. Mr. Conrad stated that the hope is to find some inflation reduction act credits for a project that is upcoming. Mr. Clark stated at initial review having a real final scope of work for our project and then comparing it to the fees we would assume for chasing after these tax credits, he would definitely take this under advisement and even considering tabling at this time. He stated that tabling it would allow us to get a better idea of what our project is going to look like and how much of the materials that we could potentially get tax credits back. Mr. Clark stated that if it does not weigh out and we pay \$40,000 to \$70,000 for this service and that would be our maximum tax credit he does not think it would be worth

paying for the service. He stated that he would be open to receiving other bids from other entities that may work in this type of service. Mr. Overton agrees to explore other options and make sure we do not pay out the same amount we will receive in tax credits. Mr. Leach stated he agrees with the other board members. Mr. Smith stated he is in agreement as well. Mr. Brand stated he is in agreement and thinks that every purchased service should be quoted competitively. He stated that he thinks the rule of the free market is that competition creates quality and reduces costs, and this is a good opportunity for us to do that. Mr. Leach made a motion to table consideration of Baker Tilly scope of work until such time as we are able to generate additional information in regard to scope in relation to fee and or other potential offers. Mr. Brand provided second. Motion passed (5-0).

Additional Board Topics:

1. Mr. Clark gave a reminder, as mentioned earlier, for those who use the online bill pay for a transaction using your credit card, beginning July 1, 2024, we will have a credit card processing fee. He stated as mentioned by Mr. Brand before, MSD and its rate payers have absorbed that in its entirety. Mr. Clark stated that the fee would be for those who use credit cards individually. He stated that one way to avoid that would be to use the automatic bill pay which would allow those users to have that reduced from their bank accounts without fee.

2. Mr. Overton stated that he echoes that. He stated that he has a credit card that gives sky miles and thinks that MSD should not absorb the cost to pay sky miles. Mr. Overton stated that some credit cards have enormous fees and thinks it is reasonable that we do not subsidize other people's travel plans.

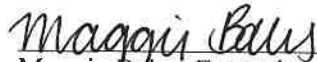
3. Mr. Leach gave appreciation to Jason Ingram's crew for putting up with some storm surge. He stated that the Water Pollution Control Facility is easily forgotten about as it runs in the background quietly making sure things are moving and what is put into the river is better than when it was received. Mr. Leach stated that it is a 24/7 no days off operation, they do not shut down for holidays. He stated that he appreciates the work they do.

Public Comments:

Adjourn: Mr. Brand stated our next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 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 March 20, 2024. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed (5-0).

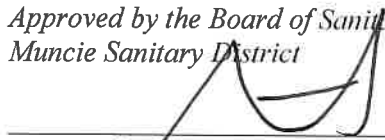
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Respectfully Submitted,



Maggie Bales, Executive Office Manager

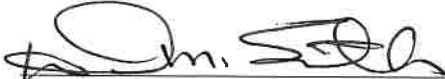
*Approved by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners
Muncie Sanitary District*




Stephen Brand, President

Tim Overton, Secretary

Adam Leach, Vice President



David Smith, Board Member



Aaron Clark, Board Member