

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
July 2, 2012

Pledge of Allegiance

The regular meeting of the Landis Sewerage Authority was called to order by Chairman Gana at 6:00 p.m. The following members were present at roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana. Absent: Steven Errickson

The proper notice was given to all members in accordance with the by-laws.

Chairman Gana stated that public notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act, has been given in the following manner:

1. Posting written notice in the lobby entrance of the Authority.
2. Hand delivering notices to the offices of the Daily Journal and The Press.
3. Filing written notices in the offices of the Authority and City Clerk.

Also present: Dennis W. Palmer	Executive Director/Chief Engineer
Robert A. Schwarz	Field Engineer
A. Steven Fabietti	Solicitor
Carol A. Ricci	Executive Secretary

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 18, 2012 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted "yes." The Chairman asked if there were any general public comments or comments on the proposed Resolutions. There were none.

Resolutions

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2012-99, "Be it resolved by the Landis Sewerage Authority, that the following bills of items or demands are hereby approved and authorized for payment out of the revenue fund revolving payroll account.....\$69,707.04", be adopted. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted "yes".

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2012-100, "Be it resolved by the Landis Sewerage Authority, that the following bills of items or demands

Regular Meeting, Page 2

are hereby approved and authorized for payment out of the revenue fund bills.... \$152,417.77”, be adopted. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2012-101, “A resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the Construction Fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$2,206.92 to CET Engineering Services for professional services from 4/21/12 through 5/18/2012 for wastewater treatment plant re-rate project in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s general bond resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2012-102, “A resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the construction fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$3,447.00 to Deltronics Corporation for Oak Road pump station overhaul in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s general bond resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2012-103, “A resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the construction fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$3,040.00 to WeCare Organics for biofilter media in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s general bond resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2012-104, “A resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the construction fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$5,314.29 to Kraft Power for parts and labor costs associated with fixing an oil pan leak in the co-gen in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s general bond resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2012-105, “A resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing correction on credits, charge-offs, refunds and cancellation of accounts in the amount of \$1,064.27...” be adopted. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2012-106, “A resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the construction fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$2,400.00 to Kraft Power for scheduled service per contract for the co-generation unit in accordance with the

Regular Meeting, Page 3

provisions of the Authority's general bond resolution..." be adopted. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted "yes".

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2012-107, "A resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the construction fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$5,299.75 to Municipal Maintenance for repairs to Screw Pump 2A in accordance with the provisions of the Authority's general bond resolution..." be adopted. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted "yes".

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2012-108, "A resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the construction fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$6,045.43 to Kennedy Concrete for 265.15 tons of white local stone @ 22.80 per ton in accordance with the provisions of the Authority's general bond resolution..." be adopted. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted "yes".

Reports

Executive Director:

Dennis Palmer stated that the storm of June 30th was the issue this weekend. Dennis indicated that he had spoken with Joe Isabella of Vineland Municipal Electric Utility early on Saturday morning and 22 out of 26 feeders were down to the City. The Authority had lost power to 20 of our 26 pumping stations and as of now (Monday evening) we will have 7 or 8 that do not have power. Memos were sent to Joe and Harry at the Electric Utility stating that these are stations that do not have power. We have had extra crews working around the clock. Our larger stations have back-up generators, the smaller stations do not so we transport a generator to that station or use a diesel pump with hoses. We also have a pickup with a pony tank to carry diesel fuel to top off pump station generators. The DEP looks to Authority's to have a 72-hour self-sufficiency plan and that is what we implemented this weekend. We were able to function on our own for 72 hours without any outside assistance. Dennis stated that each Commissioner has a color coded map at their seats showing those pump stations (red) that are in alarm, green is good and there is no magenta, which means we have lost communications.

We used to have a dedicated line that came into the plant that told you there was an alarm at a pump station with an electronic dialer system. It would identify the pump station, there is no power, there is a high wet well and this would come by way of phone lines. However, if you lost power because of an accident, branches, ice storm or hurricane you

Regular Meeting, Page 4

also lost phone service. Now our information comes by way of cell phone. This storm is so bad creating a larger impact on resources in the City than a hurricane or any ice storm we have ever had. Dennis stated that this is by far the most significant event we have ever seen. Joe Isabella also indicated that this was the worse he had ever seen also. AT&T's cell towers were also damaged so we not only had stations in alarm, we didn't even know with only three stations reporting. Today, all of them are coming through as far as alarms, but we still have 7 to 8 pumping stations without power running on back up generators or mobile generators.

We are keeping track of time, resources and equipment hopefully making a claim that the county has been claimed a disaster area and in turn the governor has to declare the same and then FEMA also has to agree to that. If that is the case, we may be reimbursed by FEMA and our insurance carrier has been notified since we may be able to seek reimbursement on that level. Dennis stated that there was a memo to staff commending them for their efforts over the weekend in each commissioner's file.

Dennis stated that we signed the agreement with Hatch, Mott, MacDonald to study the Plum Street pumping station.

Commissioner Steve Lewis was at a council meeting and the issue of the Brewster Road settlement came up. Dennis indicated that he and Bob Schwarz had a meeting with both the City Engineer and the County Engineer that was scheduled for 10 a.m. today but because of the storm it has been postponed. Brewster Road has been a disaster for the Authority for probably 40 years. The contractor did a very poor job in building the pipeline and backfill. It was built in 1962. Dennis stated that the soils are swampy, there is high ground water, lots of clay and it is very deep, approximately 20 to 24 feet. Normal design specs require at least a 95% compaction. If you are at 20 feet, 95% compaction means within specifications, it could settle a foot. That is if things go well. Dennis said that over the years we had done many things to counter the problem such as digging down 6 feet, bringing in crushed stone and then paved over that. This seems to have helped. Other sections are milled out and we level the asphalt so it's safe for the motoring public. If we dig all the way down to the pipe, it would be \$500,000. This would all be at the cost to the Authority. Bob Schwarz stated that the original contractor went bankrupt and another contractor went in and consequently because he couldn't finish the job we had to create the Linwood Avenue pump station because it was supposed to be a gravity line.

Chairman Gana asked how we were going to correct the situation. Dennis stated that we can continue to level it out so it's safe for the public. We could also do an over excavation down a certain number of feet and we do not want to get down to the sewer laterals and the water lines, bring in crushed stone or concrete, pack it in and pave it because it lasts

Regular Meeting, Page 5

longer. There is also timber in the ground and people think that it is rotting and causing the collapse. Dennis stated that when wood is in the ground within the ground water it does not rot when it is kept wet. Wood rots at the point where wet and dry happens. Dennis indicated that he called Councilman Albrecht and the Council President last week and stated we know we have a problem. The council members were happy that Bob and I were going to be proactive and attend the next Council meeting next Tuesday. There is no easy answer to this situation since this area contains some of the worst soils in town.

Steven Lewis asked if it would pay to go to the worst section of the road, dig down completely and see what is happening to get a better idea of what to do and film it so in the future, you can show the documentation. Bob indicated that the more disturbance you, the more vulnerable you are to having future events that create additional problems. Bob stated that it is almost cost effective to keep fixing the portions of the road that go bad than spend the \$500,000. Dennis stated that as you mill the road and put more asphalt down, you almost build a bridge of asphalt and it helps the situation. Dennis stated that we try to be as responsive as we can to this situation.

Dennis reported that last week we had the pre-bid walk through for the trunk line project in the boro. Several contractors responded and there is a lot of interest in the project.

Field Engineer:

Robert Schwarz reported that plans for the new Shop-Rite on West Landis Avenue have been approved by the NJDEP and it is his understanding that an August 2012 ground breaking will occur. It will take approximately one year to complete the project.

Bob also stated that 15 sets of plans and specifications have been acquired for the boro trunk line project. A site walk through with various contractors took place on June 27th to discuss the project. Bids are due on July 11, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. at the Authority's office.

In reference to Brewster Road, a meeting was to be held for today, July 2, 2012, however the storm altered the meeting plans. It will be re-scheduled at the discretion of the County Engineer. Also involved is the City Engineer. We will be discussing our options for reducing the depression in the road surface.

Bob informed us that various sub-contractors are performing extensive work for the gas company replacing gas lines throughout the City. LSA is being requested to mark the sewer lines and laterals in the street.

In reference to the storm, Bob stated that LSA staff did an excellent job in maintaining the sewer system under very distressed conditions. There are no known overflows or back

Regular Meeting, Page 6

ups into any properties. Seven pump stations are still operating on emergency generators or assistance with other means. We are using a lot of fuel and overtime to stay on top of the situation. We will continue to maintain the system as required.

Major Petroleum is looking to open a two bay car wash on Main Road at between Oak and Wheat roads. They have submitted their plans.

Solicitor:

Steven Fabietti reported that last week he had a telephone conference with City Solicitor Verderose, who is seeking his review and input over the low and affordable housing litigation that we had last year. The City was part of that litigation but they stayed in the background and we took the lead. Mr. Verderose was looking for information to update the planning staff so Steven offered our prospective and the results and offered to meet with them. All of that ties in with their master plan which is the subject of the Rudy's Airport litigation.

Chairman: None

Issues and Correspondence: None

Committee Reports

Engineering/Plant:

Dennis stated that a memo went out to the engineering committee regarding the failure of a large well at the agricultural site used for irrigating crops. One contractor has looked at it and pulled the well. The shaft had snapped and there were bowls of pressure. The price was astronomical so we are looking to other companies who deal with farm wells hoping we can get a better price.

We are looking at a possible project next year for mixing the sludge tank and new screening facilities at the head of the plant.

Budget/Finance: None

Human Resources:

Our new employee has started and everything is working out well.

Public Relations: None

Regular Meeting, Page 7

Insurance Committee:

Carol Ricci confirmed Dennis' remarks regarding reimbursement for manpower and fuel costs during the storm crisis. After speaking to our insurers, this issue could fall under general liability where there is no deductible and it may also have something to do with business interruption. Carol Ricci also stated that she arrived at the Authority at 8:15 a.m. on Saturday to check damage. After riding through the Authority with Clark Shimp, she only saw two areas where there was some minimal damage to property.

She also reported that approximately one week ago we had a Medicare seminar for all of those approaching that age and are working through the age of 65 and we received a great deal of information from our agents at Cynergy Group. It sorted through a lot of the confusion there can be with Medicare.

The locking of the entrance gate to the Solar Fields is working out well. Those needing access are working with us and they understand our position.

Dennis mentioned that the employees' contribution to health insurance doubles.

Allocations/Administration:

Dennis and Bob stated that there is some interest in new accounts/business but nothing solid at this point in time.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment:

At 6:40 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Silva and seconded by Lewis that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Lewis, Merighi, Silva and Gana voted "yes."

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

JOSE SILVA, JR., SECRETARY