

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 4, 2013

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Chairman Errickson 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
Nicole Curio	Solicitor
Carol A. Ricci	Executive Secretary
Kimberly A. Procopio	Special Counsel

It was moved by Gana and seconded by Villar that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 21, 2013 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Villar, Merighi, Gana, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Gana and seconded by Villar that the reading of the minutes of the closed meeting held on October 21, 2013 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Villar, Merighi, Gana, Silva and Errickson 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 Gana and seconded by Silva that Resolution No. 2013-170, “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.....\$62,067.59”, be adopted. Roll call: Villar, Merighi, Gana, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Gana and seconded by Silva that Resolution No. 2013-171, “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 Bills. ...\$149,888.68”, be adopted. Roll call: Villar, Merighi, Gana, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Gana that Resolution No. 2013-172, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the Construction Fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$1760.00 to Hatch Mott MacDonald for design and bidding on the Burns Avenue Sanitary Sewer Extension in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s General Bond Resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Villar, Merighi, Gana, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Gana and seconded by Silva that Resolution No. 2013-173, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the Construction Fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$23,147.05 to Xylem for (1) one CD 100M Godwin Diesel Pump Suction Discharge Hose in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s General Bond Resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Villar, Merighi, Gana, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

Thomas Merighi asked at what location the pump would be and Dennis Palmer explained that it is a backup portable diesel pump for emergency situations. It can be hooked up to the pump station well and pump right into the force main when there is no power.

It was moved by Gana and seconded by Silva that Resolution No. 2013-174, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing the exclusion of the public from a meeting between the Landis Sewerage Authority, its General Counsel and administrative personnel to discuss matters falling within the attorney client privilege and contract negotiations with the City of Vineland...” be adopted. Roll call: Villar, Merighi, Gana, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

Dennis Palmer also added that it should include our discussion in weighing options should the City proceed with the dissolution and whatever litigation we may take as well.

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that the pipe collapse was significant. Tom Merighi asked what the cause was and Dennis replied that gases released from the sewer when it comes out of a pressure line eventually attacked the concrete pipe. It is actually as one of the items in our bond and we are going to TV inspect and do a heavy duty cleaning of all of the receiving lines and line them with a corrosion coating or liner. It is actually targeted in our capital plan for three years from now. Luckily the road asphalt was 12” or more thick and when it was dug out there was a void larger than that desk that was hollow. Our guys

worked straight through at least 9:00 a.m. the next day from 9:00 p.m. the night before. Dennis stated that he was personally at the site going from door to door talking to people that we were concerned and that we were checking basements. We put two people in a hotel on my credit card because of the smell and we had to get it cleaned up as soon as possible. We had some people that were mad but myself and another supervisor were knocking on doors and there were five homes and then we found another the next day. It actually lifted the manhole off the frame.

Carlos Villar asked if it was on McMahan and Bob Schwarz stated it was on McMahan and Magnolia. Dennis said it was a very significant event and our guys did a great job.

I have been working with special counsel and a letter was written and sent off to the City and we are waiting for a response on that.

As Bob said, one of the key items on Burns Avenue and a lot of the things that drove some of the design was dealing with the Mall and we knew that we would be hitting Black Friday and Christmas shopping into New Years. The construction is going to be there so it's just the way the timing worked out. We had to wait to get the Conrail permit. They can take a whole year and we started on that last September and it took 9 months. It was a critical item on the path to get this project moving. We sat with Mall management and told them how we are jacking not just underneath the railroad track; we are spending the extra money to go all the way underneath the boulevard as well to minimize the impact. We are going down the South shoulder of Burns Avenue so that there can be one way traffic with a flagman controlling it to help the situation as best we can. The letters have gone out to the people living out there and the paper also did a story so people know it is coming and it's best not to surprise people.

Dennis also reported that he and Nicole have spent a lot of time on a personnel problem that is not right for discussion here.

### Field Engineer

Bob Schwarz reported that the Taco Bell on W. Landis Avenue has installed their grease traps. They plan to install piping for the sewer lines in the next 30 days.

The Wexley Way sewer extension project is complete except for air testing, televising of the sewer mains and as-built drawings plus the WQM-005 Form.

LSA had a collapse of the 18" sewer main at Magnolia and McMahan Drive on October 30, 2013. The work to repair the collapse was performed throughout the night and into the next day on an emergency basis due to the health, safety and welfare of the public. The police assisted in shutting down the roads. We are working on a plan to improve the system.

Paving on Valley Avenue between Chestnut and Landis is complete. The City is working on Chestnut Avenue between Landis Avenue and City Line.

The Burns Avenue Sewer Extension project will be starting with a pre-construction meeting in the next couple of weeks and obtaining a schedule from the contractor as to a start date probably in early December.

Solicitor: No Report

### Chairman

Chairman Errickson wanted to take a moment and thank Dennis for a great job in the emergency. Dennis stated that his men did a great job. Steve Errickson reported that Dennis had called him as soon as it happened that night. Steve also thanked Bob Schwarz for doing a great job and to make sure that the Board thanks all of the staff for working all night long into the next day. These are the kind of things you find out how great an organization is when you have an emergency. When everything is smooth and routine it's one thing, but when we have a major catastrophe and everybody steps up, that shows the character of an organization. We have a great organization here. From the whole Board, please let them know and Dennis responded that he will put out a memo.

Issues and Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

### Engineering/Plant

Dennis reported that we received a report from our plant engineer on his estimates of costs for our future bond for the treatment plant and it is in the range he was anticipating. For the collection s system it was higher than anticipated. Some things are extra and I have a phone call in to discuss that.

### Budget/Finance

Dennis reported that we took action on the preliminary budget at a previous meeting and we sent it to DCA and we are waiting for their response. We will be working on putting together the public hearing which will be at another meeting.

### Human Resources

Dennis reported that we have everything in place after Clark's retirement on September 1<sup>st</sup>. The Superintendent has had his 45 day review and he is doing the same for the men below him and we are now moving into the 90 days for final review. The men are all doing well in their new positions with their new responsibilities.

Dennis added that we are starting negotiations on the union contract. Nicole and I have been discussing some of the background. We have two separate contracts, one for the plant and one for the farm and we can probably consolidate them. It helps simplify things.

#### Public Relations

Dennis stated that he will be speaking to the CEO Club and we continue to get decent press coverage and there will be a story coming out from the press of Atlantic City by Tom Barlis. Tours continue. We had Rowan University and 46 of their engineering students which was the largest class to come from Rowan. We had Rowan University environmental science or biology class is coming on Wednesday morning. We had two students from Burlington County College focusing on co-generation and a civil engineer from Widener coming on Friday. Dennis also stated that he was out with Rotary giving out dictionaries at two schools last week. The kids get so excited that someone actually cares about them to come and give them a dictionary to keep. The letters they write back are very endearing.

#### Insurance Committee

Carol Ricci reported that should be mentioned that there are problems with insurance coverage as far as the collapse of the pipeline is concerned. Carol stated that she has been doing the hand holding with the customers that were affected with the spills in their homes. We have been working diligently with our restoration and cleaning services to get cleaned up. It is not a pleasant situation. Five homes were affected. We removed all of the debris from their homes, disposed of it in the Authority's dumpsters since it is contaminated and cannot be placed by the curb. We had a few people that were pretty excited and it is understandable. This will all fall under the general liability portion of our coverage. We are covered by Title 59 which means that if they have sewer backup riders on their homeowner's insurance, either \$5,000 or \$10,000, their insurance comes in first place and we will be responsible for the deductible and if it surpasses those amounts we will be picking that up as well as all of the cleaning costs.

As far as the pipeline is concerned, Carol stated that we do insure the pipeline; however this was not caused by an outside party or incident. This is basically wear and tear on the sewer line likening it to putting new breaks on a vehicle; it's not covered under your warranty. Carol stated that she did throw it out there just make sure since you never know unless you test the water and after speaking with several people from Glatfelter and their engineer comes down and meets with Bob to visit the site, the pump station and we have pictures, they will determine if there is any monetary compensation. Carol Ricci seriously doubts that there will be.

Dennis stated that you have to put the carrier on notice. Carol said that you don't want any problems down the line. Hopefully we will have these customers situated. The adjusters have been coming in and out.

Allocations/Administration: No Report

Old Business: None

New Business: Dennis reminded the commissioners attending the AEA Fall Conference that the date is November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> in Atlantic City.

Adjournment:

At 7:05 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Gana and seconded by Silva that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Villar, Merighi, Gana, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

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FRANCIS A. GANA, Secretary