

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
April 21, 2014

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: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, 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

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Villar that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 7, 2014 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Villar that the reading of the minutes of the closed meeting held on April 7, 2013 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, 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 Silva and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2014-50, “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.....\$60,717.62”, be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-51, “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...\$420,235.14”, be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2014-52, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the Construction Fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$894.53 to Reliner/Duran, Inc. for 24” drop bowl, 24” force line hood, SS pipe bracket and anchor assemblies in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s General Bond Resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that Resolution 2014-53, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing a personnel change in the Purchasing Manager’s position...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Merighi and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-54, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing a one year contract with Kraft Power Corporation for maintenance of the combined heat and power unit...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that last week he attended the DEP public hearing on our permit fees. There was a six page letter plus attachments in your package. Dennis stated he led the charge and rounded up a lot of Authorities about this matter. The DEP took our fee from \$17,000 to \$92,000. Several other larger facilities such as Camden went up by \$142,000; Passaic Valley went up by over \$100,000. In the groundwater permit class went from \$1.7M to \$3M. I hammered them on many points as to where this money is going. Another point is they had \$4,000,000 outstanding from people who have not paid their permits. Enforcement will not catch up with them until around 2022 since they are looking to seven or eight years down the track. There is also an appeal process where if you don’t like your permit fee, you can contest it and I think we may well exercise that if we don’t see some changes. We hit them on a lot of good points and one thing that is near and dear to the assistant commissioner who was there, Michele Putman is very involved and interested that when we are coming into a storm, we have extra resources such as more pumps and generators. Dennis stated that he hammered on that point of redundancy and resiliency, that they are two big things since we want to buy a couple of more generators this year and most likely the money for this will come out of our capital budget and we won’t be able to do that since they are hindering and hurting our resiliency and redundancy plan. We hit a lot of good points. Dennis stated that he spoke of his past experience as Chamber President that larger businesses, Progresso, is going up 250% on

their permit fees. Progresso is writing a letter as well along with several other Authorities and the Authorities Association, AEA, and they read a letter into the record and provided written testimony. We will have to see what the outcome is. If we don't see some improvement in the permit fees as we follow that contested path, you are allowed to pay the minimal fee or your fee from last year and given their record it will be so far down the track. It was a good meeting.

Dennis reported that he and the Chairman met with Field and Stream and a video crew two Saturdays ago. We also had people from the National Wild Turkey Federation and also from the State Fish and Wildlife and the Quail Project. They are interviewing the gentleman who is the head of the State Quail Project. We sat on the back of the Field and Stream pick up with the logo on the side and we talked about what we are doing here as well as other places to try to bring the bob white back since it has dropped off precipitously over the last 20 years or more. We are looking to create a pine savannah here and follow up on our being good stewards of the land and property. We just finished planting in the north section 15,000 of the eastern white cedar. We talked about a number of good projects we have going on here.

Dennis also reported that he has been speaking for about four years about the manure project where the Department of Agriculture of New Jersey has a grant from the Federal Department of Energy to build a project to do with cow manure but also at the same time to take in food waste and food processor's waste, fats, oils and grease and things of that nature. We keep getting real close and then fall back and we are getting close again and I got an e-mail from the director's assistant to the State Commissioner or Secretary of Agriculture saying that we are this close to doing this project. It's a couple hundred thousand dollars in parts and manpower to fix up the other digester, to put a receiving pit in to accept these different wastes, put them in the digester, make more gas and make more energy but also take in income for tipping fees. Dennis stated that he was just talking with Progresso and they currently have a can crusher that can squeeze out whatever is in the damaged cans and haul it away. We could take that for six cents a gallon which is a cheaper price than they can do it. We can do that today and take it into the primary sludge well.

Dennis reported that we had a person come down from the County who is associated with the State Police Emergency Management Center. We have ID cards saying that we are essential employees so if there are storms and you are not supposed to be driving on the roads, with those cards we can. Their name, address, birth day and driver's license number are registered with the state police. If they stop you and they see your card and they see state emergency management center and state police they don't even bother to ask them. If they want to they can call in and get that information. I showed it to the chief when we were getting ready for one of the hurricane meetings and the sergeant knew about it. She was down here last week, we have new employees, one starting as a shift manager and two at the farm so we can get their cards and make the changes we need.

Dennis stated that he was going to let Bob talk about the pipeline work that is complete on Burns Avenue and we also have a number of sinkholes around town we are working on. With this extremely cold winter you get frost heave and if water gets underneath it once it has heaved and recedes has caused us to fix a number of sinkholes around town. We have a number of quotes in to do paving and that work will take place within the next week to ten days.

Carlos Villar asked if we are using the City for paving. Dennis replied that we had a discussion with Bob today to see if we can do some of them together. Those discussions are going on right now specifically the one on Oak Road.

Field Engineer

Bob Schwarz reported that construction of the sewer mains for Burns Avenue Sewer Extension project are complete. We are still waiting for testing by air and Mandrel and punch list items such as driveways and pargeting of manholes as well as final paving will need to be completed.

Dennis negotiated a final settlement of the problems at 715-719 E. Park Avenue. Everything will be taken care of by the contractor, South State and LSA will pay a portion of the bill.

Bob also stated that we received an application and plans for a body shop at the corner of Butler Avenue and Delsea Drive, formerly Mt. Roberts.

The City of Vineland is also having their kick off meeting with the general contractor on Wednesday, April 23rd regarding the co-gen facility on Lincoln Avenue at Clayville Switch.

Solicitor: No Report

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant

Dennis reported that he has been talking to Dan at the Ag-Site and like most farmers; we are behind in a lot of things. We have to get the soils warmed up and workable. Corn would normally get planted about now. We are finishing up the tree project and what is nice; when the staff can't work on the farm we also have this bob white project.

Dennis stated that he as a meeting for future funding with Jerry Velasquez at the Improvement Authority and we're going to talking about some things that we had worked

previously on between the landfills. He has never seen our plant so he will be coming over here. WE want to do some capital improvements and that is actually funded through CCIA. We can get a better interest rate and bond rating. There are a lot of benefits.

As far as the plant, we are doing some things in house, some repairs and the last thing is if the manure project goes forward, we will do the design work ourselves and also the construction ourselves.

Budget/Finance

Tom Merighi reported that income is approximately \$86,774.00 or 3.62% over budget and expenses are approximately \$208,227.00 or 8.68% over budget due to a payment to the pension fund. Accounts receivables decreased approximately \$211,229.00. The Authority continues to be affected by the economy and is keeping a close watch on its budget.

Human Resources

Dennis reported that one of the staff at the farm has resigned so we will be looking for a farm worker, someone with experience and different than the other employees who drive tractor trailers and the agator. Katherine Collinge started last week working in the front office on the plant side and Marge has moved over to the purchasing manager's position full time and she is still training Katherine in her new position. We took action tonight for Marge in her new purchasing manager's position. The new shift manager started today as well. There has been a lot of transition with new people coming in and with Clark retiring last year there were several adjustments o the plant side. We have to look at the transitioning as the baby boomers leave and a succession plan. This will present itself for the next five to eight years.

Public Relations

We sent a picture to the paper of all of the children receiving their awards and a write-up about the Earth Day Poster Contest. The 22nd is Earth Day and it usually runs on that day.

Carlos Villar stated that he saw the picture on Facebook.

Dennis stated that he also sent a story out about the bob white project and Field and Stream.

Insurance Committee: No Report

Allocations/Administration

Dennis stated that we have the project for the body shop and the City Water and Power Plant have not come in yet for allocation to tie into the trunk line. They may want it waived. When we did the project, they bonded through the power plant and we were

successful in helping them with the \$500,000 in EDA money. What we offered is that they would get 50% of the connection fees and they are getting money back. For the water and power plant we will start off with 50% instead of taking the money and giving it back.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Carol will be looking for your responses for the Chamber dinner on June 5th.

Adjournment:

At 6:20 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

CARLOS VILLAR, Secretary