

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
August 17, 2020

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Chairman Reuben 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
Anthony Tobolski	Field Engineer
Stephen D. Barse	Solicitor
Carol A. Ricci	Executive Assistant

It was moved by Villar and seconded by Barse that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 3, 2020 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Barse, Villar, Errickson and Reuben 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 Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 - 80 “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.... \$77,469.51”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 - 81, “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....

\$300,785.29”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 -82, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority listing payments from the 2016 Bond Issue Construction Fund adopted July 5, 2016...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 – 83, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing entrance into an Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement known as OMNIA Partners, Successor to National IPA and US Communities...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 – 84, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing correction on credits, charge-offs, refunds and cancellation of accounts in the amount of \$1,366.85...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 – 85, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority summarizing allocation activity through the close of Allocation Round 188...be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that you’ve seen your new paychecks and the new voucher forms, we are getting fully formatted into the new Edmunds system. The new voucher system is nice because it includes both the voucher and the purchase order whereas before we had two different pieces of paper and this consolidates it. We are printing off of a new laser printer.

In the plant, we still have a couple of issues and we are working out the bugs on the old contract. It’s mostly in the SCADA system and communications. The contractor’s new excuse is one of his people came down with COVID so his personnel are under 14 days quarantine before they can visit customers. We have some signal issues and some with the traveling bridge and they are out today finishing that up.

Field Engineer

Anthony Tobolski reported that Contract No. 3A, Brewster Road Pump Station should be completed by mid-September. Contract 3B, Oak Road Pump Station should be ready for start up by the end of next week.

We had a force main break last Thursday on the 12” main coming from Little Robin Pump Station. Garrison Enterprise replaced the length of pipe that split from end to end along the bottom. This line carries all of the sewage from the Industrial Park. LSA staff was able to pump into our tankers from the farm and Garrison had us back on line within four hours from my initial call. This problem occurred twice before and we will have a completed design to replace the entire force main by the middle of next week. The design also includes replacement of part of the 10” force main that also carries sewage from the Industrial Park.

Anthony also stated that we will be opening bids for Brookfield Street and Diane Court pipe lining next Tuesday, August 25th. We’ve had four contractors pick up bid packages.

Joe Reuben asked what kind of pipe was used at Little Robin and Anthony stated it was ductile iron. Anthony stated it was splitting on the bottom of the pipe. There’s no seam and we have never seen this before. Dennis stated that it makes you wonder if it was a manufacturer’s defect or maybe grit and sand is being pushed along the bottom and its abrasive to the bottom of the pipe and it tends to follow wet weather. We had the hurricane, the Friday storm after the hurricane, we had another storm last week. The two other breaks we had earlier in the season were after very cold and a very deep frost and a really wet spring. The pipe has a problem already and when the soil gets saturated like that it loses its supportive function around the pipe and the pipe cracks at the bottom while it’s under pressure. That pipe is probably 3/10 to 4/10 of an inch thick and we’re going with high density polyethylene that will be 1 ½ inches and corrosion resistant. We’ll do it with directional drilling so we have less road disturbance. We will have to go out to bid for the project.

Tom Merighi asked how we found out there was a problem in the industrial park and Anthony responded that it was coming out onto the road. We brought the vector down and picked it up.

Solicitor: No Report

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant:

Dennis Palmer reported that we are working on the specs and TV work out in Brookfield. After about 20 years or so the pipe is almost gone out there from the sewer gases. In that case, we actually put in three manholes to let it vent but it wasn’t enough.

We're closing up the plant project. The co-gen came back and we're waiting for the turbo charger. The electric bills are much better and they have dropped significantly. During prior summers the plant alone was \$75,000 to \$80,000. This month the bill was \$80,000 and that the plant and all of the pumping stations. This is with the new blower system which is much more effective and efficient and will be even better when the co-gen comes on which will be another 15% drop.

Joe Reuben stated that years ago we were close to \$100,000. Dennis stated that the plant was about \$75,000/\$80,000 and then you add in all of the pumping stations. This month the plant was \$65,000 and the pumping stations made the difference.

Budget/Finance:

Thomas Merighi reported that income is \$144,708 or 2.3% under budget and expenses are \$352,956 or 5.5% over budget. Accounts receivables decreased \$58,130.

Tom also mentioned the memo from Tom Post. Dennis stated that the income would be above budget and more than the expenses. We took the one-time credit for the water meter problems at the Veterans Home. We work on an accrual basis. It's a credit that will be applied over the next three or four years. It's not money out of pocket. We explained that if you owe us money, we only go back two years and if we owe you credit, it goes back two years.

Human Resources:

Dennis stated that we are looking for a truck driver/farm worker. It's on Facebook and we have two resumes and an ad is going in the paper this week

Public Relations:

Dennis stated that he is speaking on Tuesday at the Bridgeton Chamber of Commerce on legislation.

Insurance Committee:

Carol Ricci stated that it is nice to be back and that you were in good hands with Nancy running the meetings. She's quite good.

In working for the renewal on major medical with Horizon, we were originally at 11% and Jim got it down to 7%. We are hoping to have that in for the next meeting since the renewal is October 1st. We are in a three-year contract with HISI for administrative end of the prescription plan. The last spread sheets indicated that we are in the black. We have to see the sheet for this month for our contribution. The numbers for Horizon are solid but hopefully we will have HISI's numbers and this will be up for action at the next meeting.

Allocations/Administration:

Dennis stated that we took action with the last resolution.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment:

At 6:23 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Barse, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

CARLOS VILLAR, Secretary