

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS

BOARD MEMBERS

Miguel (Mike) Rivera, President
Steve Flowers, Vice-President
Alojzy (Ben) Moricz, Member
Tia Cauley, Member
Jawann Jones, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes
(Via Telephone Conference)
Thursday, February 17, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m.

Reported for Fissinger & Associates
By: Lisa Pena

CALL TO ORDER: 4:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

MR. RIVERA: We can also stipulate that the Members delegate the President the authority to execute all warrants, documents, minutes, et cetera on behalf of the Commission eliminating the need to collect signatures from the Members participating electronically.

ROLL CALL: Present in Chambers: Mike Rivera, Steve Flowers.
Present Via Phone: Ben Moricz, Tia Cauley,
Jawann Jones.

Staff Present: Present in Chambers: Alysia Dunbar, Ken Myers, Winna Guzman, Damien Johnson.

Present Via Phone: Rene Cid, Joe Allegretti.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 3, 2022

Motion to approve February 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes made by Steve Flowers. Second by Ben Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

1 CHECK WARRANTS:

2 Sanitary District, Wastewater Division

3 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Check Warrants for the
4 Sanitary District, Wastewater Division.

5 Warrant Number 020722 SW for the amount of
6 \$90,656.04.

7 Motion to approve Warrant 020722 SW made by Ben Moricz.
8 Second by Steve Flowers.

9 Questions/Comments: None.

10 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
11 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

12 MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 021722 SW for the
13 amount of \$194,550.66.

14 Motion to approve Warrant 021722 SW made by Jawann Jones.
15 Second by Ben Moricz.

16 Questions/Comments: None.

17 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
18 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

19 Payroll Warrants

20 MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 020422 Sanitary
21 Board Payroll 1/15/22 to 1/28/22.

22 Motion to approve Warrant Number 020422 Sanitary Board
23 Payroll 1/15/22 to 1/28/22 made by Steve Flowers. Second by
24 Ben Moricz.

25 Questions/Comments: None.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 020422 Wastewater
Payroll 1/15/22 to 1/28/22.

Motion to approve Warrant 020422 Wastewater Payroll 1/15/22
to 1/28/22 made by Steve Flowers. Second by Ben Moricz.

1 Questions/Comments: None.

2 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
3 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

4 MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 020422 Utilities
5 Payroll 1/15/22 to 1/28/22.

6 Motion to approve Warrant Number 020422 Utilities Payroll
7 1/15/22 to 1/28/22 made by Steve Flowers. Second by Ben
8 Moricz.

9 Questions/Comments: None.

10 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
11 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

12 Sanitary District, Solid Waste Division

13 MR. RIVERA: Next we have the Warrants for the Sanitary
14 District, Solid Waste Division.

15 Warrant Number 021722 SS in the amount of
16 \$1,733.56.

17 Motion to approve Check Warrant 011722 SS made by Steve
18 Flowers. Second by Ben Moricz.

19 Questions/Comments: None.

20 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
21 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

22 MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 020422 Solids
23 Payroll 1/15/22 to 1/28/22.

24 Motion to approve Check Warrant 020422 Solids Payroll 1/15/22
25 to 1/28/22 made by Ben Moricz. Second by Jawann Jones.

Questions/Comments: None.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

REPORT OF FIELD OPERATIONS:

MR. RIVERA: Next item is Report from Field Operations,
Mr. Ken Myers.

1 MR. MYERS: I have no report. If you have any questions
about anything?

2 MR. RIVERA: Are there any questions for Mr. Ken Myers?
3 Thank you, sir.

4 REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE:

5 MR. RIVERA: Next is report from Solid Waste, Rene Cid.

6 MR. CID: I have no report at this time. If you have
any questions?

7 MR. RIVERA: Are there any questions for Mr. Cid? Thank
8 you, sir.

9 REPORT FROM FINANCIAL CONSULTANT:

10 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Report From Financial
Consultant, Bill Biller.

11 MR. MYERS: There's a Cash Report.

12 MR. RIVERA: There's a Report in the packet. I'm sure
13 you all have read it.

14 REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL:

15 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Report From Legal Counsel,
Mr. Joe Allegretti.

16 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Nothing in particular. We do have a
17 meeting Monday with the representatives of Cleveland-Cliffs
which is one of the three industrial customers that have
18 remonstrated against our rate case.

19 The purpose of the meeting is to try to get some
cooperation and an understanding and give them an
20 understanding of our rate structure and what our needs are
and actually advise them how well they, in fact, have it.

21 I will report how that went at the next meeting.
22 That's all. Thank you.

23 MR. RIVERA: Are there any questions for Mr. Allegretti?
Thank you, sir.

24 NEW BUSINESS:
25

1 Resolutions

2 MR. RIVERA: Next item is New Business. We have
3 Resolution SD 22-02, a Resolution of the Sanitary District
4 Board of Commissioners Authorizing the Write-Off of Certain
5 Delinquent Sewer Charges and Penalties.

6 MR. FLOWERS: Let me ask you this. Delinquent sewer
7 charges, are they for people moving? Do you want to address
8 that?

9 MS. GUZMAN: Good evening, Commissioners. Winna Guzman,
10 Water Department.

11 This is a requirement of the State Board of
12 Accounts. This is for unpaid water and sewer charges as well
13 as penalties. And as you can see it requires \$2,792.93 total
14 of charges ending as uncollectable due to vacancy. And we
15 verified that the premises are vacant. I think there is just
16 one bad debt.

17 So we're recommending Commissioners approve this
18 resolution. So basically to write these off and they're no
19 longer in an active state. This is per requirement.

20 MR. FLOWERS: Thank you.

21 Motion to approve Resolution SD 22-02 made by Steve Flowers.
22 Second by Ben Moricz.

23 Questions/Comments: None.

24 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
25 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

19 Agreements

20 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Agreement with J.M. Bennett and
21 Associates, Inc.

22 MR. ALLEGRETTI: It's the same agreement we had with
23 Bennett last year. And he's the City's Financial Adviser.
24 And he is also our de facto financial adviser.

25 Also participates in our rate making process and is
an important part of the financial operations of the City.
And we're happy to have them.

Kind of a little restructuring with City Hall.

1 Half of his normal annual contract is with Sanitary and half
2 is with Storm Water.

3 MR. RIVERA: Thank you.

4 Motion to approve J.M. Bennett & Associates Agreement made by
5 Steve Flowers. Second by Tia Cauley.

6 Questions/Comments: None.

7 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
8 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

9 MR. RIVERA: Next item is the Agreement with Bosak Ford
10 for the 2021 Tahoe. It's for five years 75,000 miles.

11 MR. JOHNSON: This is Bosak Ford for a vehicle at the
12 Mayor's Office. It's vehicle maintenance that includes five
13 years and 75,000 miles on the vehicle.

14 MR. RIVERA: Thank you.

15 MR. ALLEGRETTI: I am just going to say that this is
16 consistent with the City's policy for City-Owned vehicles.

17 The City tries to maintain its vehicles through
18 warranties and extended warranties through the dealership as
19 a cost saving measure rather than through repair shops not
20 affiliated with the vehicle brands. And this is consistent
21 with that policy.

22 Motion to approve Bosak Ford Premium Maintenance Agreement
23 made by Steve Flowers. Second by Ben Moricz.

24 Questions/Comments: None.

25 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

Rate Sheets

MR. RIVERA: Next item is the Rate Sheet for Altorfer
for the year 2022.

Motion to approve Altorfer 2022 Rate Sheet made by Tia
Cauley. Second by Ben Moricz.

1 Questions/Comments: None.

2 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
3 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

4 Invoices to be Paid

5 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Invoices to be Paid. The
6 first one we have is Synagro December 2021 Invoice.

7 MR. MYERS: Commissioners, I can speak on those two
8 invoices for Synagro, the one from December 2021 and the next
9 one being the January 2022 Invoice.

10 I'm not sure the reason why they're bringing them
11 up separate. But these are invoices for maintenance for
12 transportation. They were probably put on here separately.
13 But the Agreement that we have extended their contract to the
14 end of March of 2022.

15 The Controller's Office needed us to have approval
16 of these so we could complete the payment. It's consistent
17 with their existing contract.

18 These invoices are physically in your Check Warrant
19 Packages because they wrote them up separately because the
20 Controller's Office needed that rotation to the existing
21 Agreement.

22 Motion to approve Synagro December 2021 Invoice made by Steve
23 Flowers. Second by Tia Cauley.

24 Questions/Comments: None.

25 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

MR. RIVERA: Next one is also from Synagro, January 2022
Invoice, \$25,902.53.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: Does that need an explanation from
Mr. Myers maybe?

MR. RIVERA: I think he just did.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: Explain it's the same explanation for
both of them.

MR. MYERS: We received this from Synagro who is under

1 contract right now. Their contract ends end of March 2022.
2 But because of the paperwork being with the Controller's
3 Office which is a part of the package the Agreement was
4 extended, their rates, until the end of March.

5 Again this is a routine fee that we get monthly for
6 hauling and disposing water solids.

7 Motion to approve Synagro January 2022 Invoice made by Steve
8 Flowers. Second by Jawann Jones.

9 Questions/Comments: None.

10 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
11 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

12 MR. RIVERA: Next item is IDEM Annual Invoice for Base
13 and Flow Fee in the amount of \$11,500.

14 MR. MYERS: Commissioners, it's in your packet. IDEM
15 submitted an invoice for an annual fee that we get charged
16 for our NDES permit for our plant.

17 The fee is established by IDEM based on a flat rate
18 and then based also on the volume of discharge even though
19 our yearly discharge is less than that.

20 So it's other rates based on the volume by million
21 gallons a day. But that's an annual fee that we pay each
22 year.

23 MR. RIVERA: Thank you.

24 Motion to approve IDEM Invoice made by Tia Cauley. Second by
25 Ben Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

Request for Purchase Order

MR. RIVERA: Next item is Request for Purchase Order,
Pump and Sealing Technology. This is required to reactivate
the sludge pump in the amount of \$7,776.

Motion to approve Pump & Sealing Technology, Inc. Purchase
Order made by Tia Cauley. Second by Ben Moricz.

1 Questions/Comments: None.

2 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
3 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

4 Past Due

5 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Past Due Invoices. We have
6 two of them. The first one is for Electric Motor Services
7 for \$2,950.

8 For the record the reason for the delinquency, it
9 states here that the invoice was mailed end of year when
10 books were closed.

11 Motion to approve Electric Motor Services Past Due Invoice
12 made by Steve Flowers. Second by Ben Moricz.

13 Questions/Comments: None.

14 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
15 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

16 MR. RIVERA: Next Past Due Invoice is from G&J Auto for
17 the amount of \$179.97.

18 It states here the delinquency reason is invoice
19 was not received by Accounts Payable.

20 Motion to approve G&J Past Due Invoice made by Steve Flowers.
21 Second by Jawann Jones.

22 Questions/Comments: None.

23 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
24 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

25 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Mr. President, before we leave New
Business there was an amended agenda that Alysia kind of
prepared at the last minute.

And it contained an item that was intended to be
added to the agenda. It had slipped through the cracks
because of some Covid illness with staff members, me
included. It was scheduled to be on the agenda the first
meeting in January.

It's for the purchase of a new vactor truck in the
amount of \$471,580 from Standard Equipment who has sold us

1 all of our previous vactor trucks.

2 It's kind of the last one in stock. We promised
3 them a purchase order which we need an authorization from the
4 Board for this project.

5 It's being paid out of Solids which has a healthy
6 balance of about \$8 million. And this is an eligible
7 expense.

8 It's a bit time sensitive which we thought it had
9 been approved. And we discovered later earlier today that it
10 had not been authorized.

11 It's a nice buying opportunity. The price of these
12 vehicles, this equipment has gone up significantly. And
13 Standard is holding this vehicle for us. And we would like
14 to get an authorization.

15 We're adding this to our vactor fleet. We need
16 them for sewer cleaning, maintenance and repair. And this is
17 nice. It's a good opportunity for the District and for the
18 Solids Division. And the staff recommends that the Board
19 consider this action.

20 Well, in further explanation this is standard.
21 It's standard equipped. It's equipped like all of our other
22 previous vehicles.

23 It's brand-new. It has all the appropriate
24 features. And there a significant need for another vactor.

25 We're obligated under the terms of our Agreement
with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to
inspect and clean a certain number of miles of sewers every
year as part of our obligation.

Failure to do so subjects us to liability for
basement backups and for violation of our Agreement to
maintain our sewers. And it's necessary that we have the
equipment to be able to do the job.

The purchase price was competitively obtained. And
it's a good price. The price has gone up. And it's an
opportunity. And again I am requesting that the Board
authorize this expenditure.

MR. FLOWERS: Mr. Allegretti, what's the longevity of
this piece of equipment?

1 MR. ALLEGRETTI: We usually get rid of them after about
2 five years. Ken Myers would probably know better than I do.
3 I think that's kind of the useful life of these things. They
4 work hard everyday.

5 MR. MYERS: We try to return them, trade in five to
6 seven years. We use them brand-new. And we try to get a
7 refund, rebate on our trade-in to offset.

8 And this is a standalone purchase. We don't have
9 a trade-in. This will increase our fleet.

10 Motion to approve Vactor Truck Purchase made by Tia Cauley.
11 Second by Ben Moricz.

12 Questions/Comments: None.

13 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
14 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

15 UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT: None.


17 * Next Regular Meeting Date: Thursday, March 3,
18 2022 @ 4:30 p.m.

19 Motion to adjourn made by Steve Flowers. Second by Jawann
20 Jones.

21 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
22 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

23 * Meeting ended at 5:00 p.m.
24
25

Approval of the Meeting Minutes of
Thursday, February 17, 2022
Approved and Signed 3/3/2022



Miguel (Mike) Rivera, President


Steve Flowers, Vice-President

Alojzy (Ben) Moricz, Member

/s/ TIA CAULEY
/s/ JAWANN JONES
/s/ ALOJZY MORICZ
/s/ STEVE FLOWERS

Tia Cauley, Member

Jawann Jones, Member



Alysia Dunbar, Board Secretary


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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Lisa Pena, a competent and duly qualified court reporter, do hereby certify that I did report in machine shorthand the foregoing proceedings and that my shorthand notes so taken at said time and place were thereafter reduced to typewriting under my personal direction.

I further certify that the foregoing typewritten transcript constitutes minutes of said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Portage, Indiana, this 28th day of February, 2022.



Lisa Pena
Notary Public Porter County
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License Number 084-003483

