

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF WATERWORKS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Joseph Ochoa, President
John Bakota, Vice-President
Henry Ventura, Member
Anthony Askounis, Member
Ray Lopez, Member

STAFF:

Joseph Allegretti
Alysia Dunbar

Reported by: Fissinger & Associates, Ltd.
By: Peggy S. LaLonde

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present in Chambers: John Bakota, Anthony
Askounis, Ray Lopez

STAFF Present in Chambers: Obed Perez, Winna
Guzman, Allan Lee, Bill Biller, Joseph
Allegretti

MR. BAKOTA: Call to order the meeting of
the Board of Waterworks of May 2, 2022. Let the record
show that Mr. Ventura and Mr. Ochoa are absent, and I
will be conducting the meeting tonight.

First item, approval of the minutes
of April 18, 2022. Do I have a motion?

MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to approve.

MR. LOPEZ: Second.

MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions on
the motion? (None) All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

Payroll Warrants: WARRANT 042922,
amount of \$12,800.35, Utilities Payroll, dates of 4-9-22
to 4-22-22.

MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

1 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

2 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions on
3 the motion? (None) All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

4 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

5 WARRANT 042922, amount of
\$41,983.04, payroll dates of 4-9-22 to 4-22-22.

6 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to approve.

7 MR. LOPEZ: Second.

8 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions on
9 the motion? (None) All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

10 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

11 Accounts Payable, WARRANT 050222 WB,
12 amount of \$125,027.54.

13 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to approve.

14 MR. LOPEZ: Second.

15 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions on
16 the motion? (None) All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

17 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

18 WARRANT 042022 WB, amount of
\$50,129.17.

19 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

20 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

21 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions on
22 the motion? (None) All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

23 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

24 Next is reports. Filtration Report:
25 Obed Perez.

MR. PEREZ: We installed our fire
suppression system in the electrical room. We were
waiting for parts and now it's done, finished, up and
running. I'm currently looking into in our meter being
calibrated. It's a requirement and we should be getting
that done soon.

Concerning our plate settler, it's

1 been running for quite some time. Right now we are in
2 the process of acquiring the proper chemical and proper
3 dosage of that chemical. We have Bertrack coming in to
4 give us a recommendation what to use and the dosage.
5 Now I am working on getting a second opinion from
6 USALCO, how much dosing and whatever chemical they
7 recommend.

8 I am also looking to get a second
9 quote on cleaning of the intake.

10 Concerning our conventional plan, we
11 are looking to get that high service meter fixed. It
12 hasn't been working for a little bit and I believe by
13 this month it should be worked on.

14 Concerning our second quarter,
15 samples have been collected and turned in. And there is
16 good news, we have a new operator, Cesar Guillen.

17 MR. BAKOTA: Any questions?

18 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you.

19 MR. BAKOTA: Next, Water Report: Winna
20 Guzman.

21 MS. GUZMAN: No report at this time.

22 MR. BAKOTA: Distribution Report: Allan
23 Lee.

24 MR. LEE: We have 110 B-box broke and
25 today I think 30 of those are in the process of bidding
26 out. We have 81 valves that are buried under the street
27 and we are in the process of working to bid 20 of those.

28 We are down to 29 hydrants that
29 aren't working, and I think we were coming out today to
30 replace five of those. There is 87 hydrants that need
31 some repair work, but they do work, they just leak a
32 little or they need some parts. They are still
33 functioning. 40 of those will be repaired this summer
34 in-house and we're waiting for the rest of the funding
35 for the rest.

36 Inventory, we are still about where
37 we were, about 7/8 of the inventory. We have got to
38 wait for more funding for that.

39 We are in the process of painting
40 all the hydrants and we are also flagging and tagging,
41 all that should be done by this summer. So that's going
42 to be nice.

43 We've had 81 emergencies so far

1 since the first of the year.

2 Here's one for my buddy over here.
3 We have inventory of all the hydrant parts, the meter
4 shop, and the testing room. Of course we are waiting on
5 funding for parts for the hydrants to fix them, but
6 we'll be having classes next week on the new meter bench
7 and getting a quote to automate the test bench. Also
8 going out on bid, that big job on 143rd and Magoun,
9 replacing the 12 and 4-inch valves. That's being put
10 together to bid out. Also we have 14 jobs of
11 restoration that didn't get repaired last year and going
12 to be bidding those out to get fixed. That's where we
13 are. Had a new guy start today.

14 MR. BAKOTA: Experienced?

15 MR. LEE: Seems like he knows how to use
16 a shovel, that's one good step.

17 MR. BAKOTA: What is that automated
18 bench, what is that?

19 MR. LEE: So takes the error out of the
20 testing, you know, so any dummy can do it.

21 MR. BAKOTA: Thank you. Next, legal
22 counsel, Mr. Allegretti.

23 MR. ALLEGRETTI: No report.

24 MR. BAKOTA: Financial Report: Bill
25 Biller.

MR. BILLER: No report.

MR. BAKOTA: New business: Resolution WD
22-09, a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the East
Chicago Water Department amending Resolution number WD
21-28 and Resolution number WD 22-08, being resolutions
establishing a salary and wage schedule for the
employees of the City of East Chicago Water Department
for fiscal year 2022.

MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to approve.

MR. LOPEZ: Second.

MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions on
the motion? (None) All in favor?

1 (All signify aye.)

2 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

3 Next is proposals: 2022 request for
4 proposals water shut off control valve (Buffalo Box with
5 rod) replacement project.

6 MS. GUZMAN: I'm going to be opening some
7 proposals that we asked for, and this is for water shut
8 off control valve buffalo box with rod replacement
9 project. First one, from Calumet City Plumbing Company,
10 Inc., Calumet City, Illinois 60409. This is the sealed
11 bid request for 2022, proposal form of water shut off
12 control valve. There is a total of 30 items. I'm just
13 going to read the unit price and the actual total. So
14 for box replacements, the total is \$139,000.00; for the
15 meter pit replacement, total \$48,000; and the total
16 price for both items is \$187,000.00.

17 The next proposal received is from
18 Hasse Construction Company Inc., 10 Lincoln Avenue, P.O.
19 Box 300, Calumet City, Illinois 60409. They provided
20 the proposal form and this is for the entire 30 items.
21 The unit price B-box replacement and meter pit
22 replacement is included in the price, which is the total
23 amount of \$227,250.00. That's the total amount for
24 everything, they did not break it down.

25 Next proposal received was R & D
Construction One, Inc., 1015 east 149th, East Chicago,
Indiana 46312. 30 items, B-box replacement total is
\$16,500.00. The meter pit replacement is \$45,000.00.
Total price of \$61,500.00.

I did receive two envelopes without
identifying what item they are submitting proposals for,
so I'll open those up. This one is from Hessville
Plumbing Inc., 3935 165th Street, Hammond, Indiana
46323. They did provide the information on the
envelope, and this is for the water shut off control
valve buffalo box with rod replacement, the proposal
form. They submitted B-box replacement total of
\$116,000.00. The meter pit replacement is a total of
\$16,000.00. For a total price of \$122,000.00.

Our recommendation would be that we
review the proposals in their entirety and come back at
the next meeting to make our recommendations. So I will
provide these to Alysia and she can make a copy or send
us an e-mail on them. So that is everything for the
water shut off control valve buffalo box with rod
replacement project. We'll provide a recommendation at
the next meeting.

So the next item would be the 2022

1 request for proposal fire hydrant and hydrant valve
2 replacement project. Start off with Calumet City
3 Plumbing Company Inc., P.O. Box 150, Calumet City,
4 Illinois 60409. Again, this is for the 2022 request for
5 proposals fire hydrant and hydrant valve replacement.
There is a total of five items, unit price for hydrant
6 fixtures \$47,000.00. The unit price for hydrants valve
7 is \$4,500.00, for total of the five items and the total
8 price will be \$51,500.00.

9 Next bid Hasse Construction Company
10 Inc., 10 Lincoln Avenue, P.O. Box 300, Calumet City,
11 Illinois 60409. Proposal form cited total of five
12 items, total of \$62,850.00, and they included the valve
13 with the price hydrant valves; so total is \$62,850.15.
14 Again this is Hessville, they did identify the project
15 on their inside envelope, and Hessville did not provide
16 proposal for this project and they noted, that our firm
17 does not wish to submit a proposal for fire hydrants and
18 hydrant valve replacement due to time constraints.

19 And the final proposal received is R
20 & D Construction One, Inc., 1015 East 149th, East
21 Chicago, Indiana 46312. The proposal form for the
22 hydrant fixtures, the price is \$19,000.00. The hydrant
23 valves are \$11,984.00. Total price of \$30,984.00.

24 And again, we'll be reviewing the
25 proposals submitted and make our recommendation at the
next meeting.

MR. BAKOTA: Thank you. Next is CBC
proposal for professional engineering services various
tasks related to the water distribution system, City of
East Chicago, Indiana.

MS. GUZMAN: This is for Christopher
Burke Engineering Ltd., out of Rosemont, Illinois. This
is a proposed agreement for professional engineering
services for the various service tasks described.
Currently we were addressing tasks 1, 2, 7 and 8, with
not to exceed amount of \$113,000.00. For task number 8,
it's a T and M rate and requesting not to exceed amount
of \$25,000, which is included in that \$113,000 not to
exceed amount. The funding source will relate to Civil
City General Fund and is reflected in ordinance No.
22-0011 passed by the Common Council March 9, 2022.
We'll assign the remaining tasks as we move forward as
well.

So we request that the Board approve
this, and with a not to exceed amount of \$113,000.00.

1 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to accept.

2 MR. LOPEZ: What is the total amount?

3 MS. GUZMAN: 113,000, some of the tasks
4 on there we are not addressing at this time, but would
like the approval engagement that was submitted.

5 MR. LOPEZ: Okay. Second the motion.

6 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions on
7 the motion? (None) All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

8 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

9 Next we have request for Purchase
Orders.

10 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Mr. President, we are
doing this at the request of the controller's office, so
11 if you are so inclined, maybe just read through them and
get a motion and second for the whole bunch, and address
12 anything that comes up as questions.

13 MR. BAKOTA: Okay. Do I have to read the
explanation?

14 MR. BILLER: I would think if you read
the address involved, I would think that would be
15 sufficient, the address and the amount.

16 MR. BAKOTA: All right, we'll go with
that. Request for Purchase Order. First one is USALCO.
17 This is for chemical emergency of \$10,000.00.

18 Next is emergency of broken service
rod on off position at 120 West 153rd Street, at
\$3,000.00.

19 Next, Calumet City Plumbing, it's an
emergency B-box repair at 508 144th Street, at
20 \$5,000.00.

21 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency B-box repair, 508 Grove Street, at \$2,000.00.

22 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency B-box repair, 810 West Chicago Avenue, at
\$2,000.00.

23 Next is emergency hydrant repair,
Kennedy Avenue, R & D Construction at \$2,000.00.

24 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency hydrant repair, 150th and Carey Street, at
25 \$2,000.00.

1 Hessville Plumbing, emergency valve
repair, 5615 Homerlee, at \$1,500.00.

2 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency leak repair 4321 Euclid Avenue, repair of
3 leak, \$2,000.00.

4 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency leak repair, 11200 East Chicago Avenue,
service line break at \$12,000.00.

5 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency valve repair, 150th and Carey Street, at
6 \$2,000.00.

7 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency leak repair at 11202 East Chicago Avenue,
\$6,0258.40.

8 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency leak repair 3916 Guthrie Street, at \$1,000.00.

9 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency leak repair 2000 Chicago Avenue, cut out hubs
10 at \$5,000.00.

11 9400 Calumet City Plumbing, leak
repair at 11202 East Chicago Avenue, 16-inch main leak
at \$5,000.00.

12 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency valve repair Kennedy Avenue, at \$4,500.00.

13 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency leak repair at 148th and Drummond, at
14 \$2,000.00.

15 9400 Calumet City Plumbing,
emergency leak repair at 4005 Fir Street, \$2,000.00.

16 376 Hasse Construction Company,
emergency service 150th and Magoun Avenue, \$2,000.00.

That concludes the purchase orders.

17 Do I have a motion?

18 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to accept.

19 MR. LOPEZ: Second.

20 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions on
the motion? (None) All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

21 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

22 Next we have vehicle surplus, 2010
Chevy van and attachments. Do you want to comment?

23
24 MS. GUZMAN: Yes, I would, thank you. I
am asking the Board to consider the items and the
vehicle rendered on attached list to be deemed surplus
25 and inoperable, so that we can properly dispose of all

1 items that are no longer operable and taken out of
2 production. They are no longer serviceable and as a
3 result of no value to the Water Department.

4 This vehicle will be towed directly
5 to the City of East Chicago Public Works Department
6 facility located at 5400 Cline Avenue to have the City
7 assist with advertisement and placing at auction the
8 miscellaneous items disposed of by Public Works. Photos
9 are attached to what was provided in your Board packet
10 explaining the items defined and we are requesting that
11 the Board properly deem all items as surplus so we can
12 proceed accordingly.

13 MR. BAKOTA: Do I have a motion?

14 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

15 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

16 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions on
17 the motion? (None) All in favor?
18 (All signify aye.)

19 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

20 Any Unfinished Business? (None)

21 Public Comment? (None)

22 Our next meeting will be Monday, May
23 16, here in the Council Chambers. Do I have a motion
24 for adjournment?

25 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to approve.

MR. LOPEZ: Second.

MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries. Meeting
adjourned.

**** Meeting adjourned ****

Approval of the Meeting Minutes of
May 2, 2022

Approved and signed 5/16/22

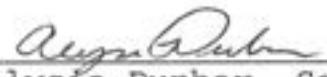

Joseph Ochoa, President


John Bakota, Vice-President


Henry Ventura, Member

Anthony Askounis, Member


Ray Lopez, Member


Alysia Dunbar, Secretary.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Peggy S. LaLonde, 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 the said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Munster, Indiana, this 3rd day of May, 2022.

Peggy S. LaLonde



Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR