

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEMBERS

Miguel (Mike) Rivera, President
Alojzy (Ben) Moricz, Vice-President
Tia Cauley, Member
Loreto Gonzalez, Member
Steven Flowers, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 3, 2020, at 4:30 p.m.

Reported for Fissinger & Associates, Ltd
By: Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR

Call to Order: 4:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Miguel Rivera
Telephonic: Tia Cauley
Loreto Gonzalez
Ben Moricz
Steve Flowers

Also Present: Anthony Herrera, Secretary
Telephonic: Joseph Allegretti, Legal Counsel
Dr. Abdul Zehraoui, Director of Utilities
Keith Selvie, Director of Public Works

MR. RIVERA: I will now call to order the meeting of the Board of Sanitary Commissioners. Today's date is September 3, 2020. This meeting will be conducted via phone conference. We can also stipulate that the members delegate the president the authority to execute all warrants, documents, minutes, etcetera on behalf of the Commission, eliminating the need to collect signatures from the members participating electronically.

The next item is a motion needed to approve minutes held August 20, 2020.

Motion to approve minutes of August 20, 2020, made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Ben Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

1 Next item is Check Warrants for
2 Sanitary District/Wastewater Division.

3 WARRANT 090320 SW - \$109,106.66

4 Motion to approve Warrant 090320 SW, in the amount of
5 \$109,106.66 made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Ben
6 Moricz.

7 Questions/Comments: None

8 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
9 (All signify aye.)

10 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

11 WARRANT 090320 SR - \$89,600

12 Motion to approve Warrant 090320 SR, in the amount of
13 \$89,600.00 made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Ben
14 Moricz.

15 Questions/Comments: None

16 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
17 (All signify aye.)

18 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

19 WARRANT 090320 SC - \$89,747.44

20 Motion to approve Warrant 090320 SC, in the amount of
21 \$89,747.44, made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Ben
22 Moricz.

23 Questions/Comments: None

24 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
25 (All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

WARRANT 082120 - Sanitary Board payroll
Dates of 8/1/20 to 8/14/20

Motion to approve Warrant 082120, Sanitary Board
payroll, dates of 8/1/20 to 8/14/20, made by Steve
Flowers. Second by Ben Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.

(All signify aye.)
MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

WARRANT 082120 - Utilities Payroll
Dates of 8/1/20 to 8/14/20

Motion to approve Warrant 082120, Utilities Payroll,
dates of 8/1/20 to 8/14/20, made by Loreto Gonzalez.
Second by Ben Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

WARRANT 082120 - Wastewater Payroll
Dates of 8/1/20 to 8/14/20

Motion to approve Warrant 082120, Wastewater Payroll,
dates of 8/1/20 to 8/14/20, made by Loreto Gonzalez.
Second by Steve Flowers.

Questions/Comments: None

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

Next warrants are from Sanitary
District/Solid Waste Division.

WARRANT 090320 SS - \$23,336.72

Motion to approve Warrant 090320 SS, in the amount of
\$23,336.72 made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Ben
Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

WARRANT 082120 - Solids Payroll
Dates of 8/1/20 to 8/14/20

Motion to approve Warrant 082120, Solids Payroll, dates
of 8/1/20 to 8/14/20 made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by
Ben Moricz.

1 Questions/Comments: None

2 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
(All signify aye.)

3 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

4 Next item is report from Director of
Utilities, Dr. Zehraoui.

5 DR. ZEHRAOUI: You have the report, five
6 pages, I inserted in the package. If you have any
questions -- but if you want, I can go quickly on some
7 items that I have to share with the Board.

8 The first one is that we would be
providing Notice to Proceed for Kokosing in September,
9 this month, next week.

10 We did sewer cleaning, especially
all of the streets. We did inspection and we still
awaiting aerator. We finish Roxana for the treatment
11 complaints and we send in the report on time.

12 As you see for the rest that we
install, you have pictures, this is work must be done.
It's more than 30 years old. This is why we have to do
13 two valves each day and get the clarifiers out of
service. So from now on we install new bracket and
14 system is working fine. So if we need any work to be
done, we turn on the valves and we don't need to get the
clarifier off service.

15 Then on the page number 3 of the
report, you see aerator that we talked last two weeks
16 most of the time. So I show you how we install, how we
can remove, or in case we have to fix that aerator or
get the top part -- it's everything of 14,000 pounds.
17 So, you can take out for an hour, remove that. We need
to have a crane available, and you can see from the
18 picture, it's huge work to be done.

19 Something else that I want to share
with you. The rate clarification on item number 3, we
20 are working with BakerTilly to provide information
because it's time sensitive, and we have to provide
quickly information so we can file that rate case study
21 with IURC. We have that on the list. We finish number
3, but the most important is the one that has been done
22 by Hasse. So under the bridge, in the ramp to Roxana,
we have to see what has been done. Sewer has been
23 collapsed and it was 16 feet below the levee. It was
near -- maybe the bridge has been built over and the
24 start of that sewer service. It's amazing how that was
done. Hopefully we are done with this one, then we have
25 some complete repair.

1 That just conclude my report. I
2 have something else we'll talk forward, for the gearbox.
3 We have some language why we can't treat it like
4 emergency. Thank you.

5 MR. RIVERA: Thank you, Dr. Zehraouri.
6 Are there any questions for Dr. Zehraouri?

7 MR. GONZALEZ: I've got a question.
8 Doctor, do we at random have to every month recheck
9 these items -- you know -- to be on the safe side, to
10 make sure sometimes one is leaking or it's the old one;
11 but in the future can we have somebody check on them?

12 DR. ZEHRAOURI: We do maintenance,
13 preventative maintenance, two times a year, before the
14 winter and into summer. This is what is suggested in
15 the manual from the manufacturer to do. So we do the
16 oil, and we change it, and any leaks, this is what
17 should be done and we do some visual inspection. But to
18 remove it, it must -- because it cost \$8,000 just to up
19 lift and check it. So this is therefore -- in 30 years
20 it has been not running just one time, just this once.
21 So we do maintenance, but to up lift and send it back to
22 the manufacturer for review, it is not recommended until
23 it is done.

24 MR. RIVERA: Are there any more questions
25 for Dr. Zehaouri? (None) Thank you.

 Next item is report from Solid
Waste, Keith Selvie.

 MR. SELVIE: Solid Waste does not have a
report at this time.

 MR. RIVERA: Thank you, sir.

 FIELD OPERATIONS: No Report

 FINANCIAL CONSULTANT: No Report

 Next, report from Legal Counsel, Joe
Allegretti.

 MR. ALLEGRETTI: I really have nothing to
report. And as Dr. Zehraoui pointed out, the plans for
long term use of the control plant is getting underway
and we are still working -- we have a meeting tomorrow
with our finance team for the cost of service study in
preparation for the rate case, which we will be filing
to modify our user charges with the IURC, but everything
is proceeding. Thank you.

1 MR. RIVERA: Thank you, Mr. Allegretti.
2 Any questions for Attorney Allegretti? (None)

3 Next item is new business. The
4 first one is the emergency. Millwright Machine Inc.,
5 which was tabled last meeting, for the amount of
6 \$36,330.00.

7 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Mr. President, I inserted
8 page why we declared emergency. But most -- you can
9 read the last part in the summary, so it summarize
10 everything. But as of now to get -- it takes eight
11 weeks to get new one, which is \$100,000. So then to get
12 -- to be checked -- is \$8,000. So to get like usage, we
13 spent \$16,000, that's for inspection. Then something
14 else we cannot take without rating. This is the heart
15 of our plant. You can see last paragraph, it shows that
16 the aeration loading killigrams per day should be
17 between zero point 1 and zero point 4, to get around
18 3,006,000 milligrams per liter. Without those aerators,
19 we cannot reach the range and this is why. Because if
20 there is no aeration, the wastewater come to the plant
21 and then go to the outflow without being treated. This
22 is the place where we need all maintenance, so that all
23 for microbia will be oxydizing or contamination.
24 Without those aerators, we cannot work. So then we send
25 it to the company.

As you can see from page 8, there's
breakdown of the prices, just to give you a hint. So
8,000 just to get it checked. If we send it, then
24,000. Then for the 28,000, we have many things. We
have like three-quarter -- there are pictures -- you can
see the damage to the shaft and to the bearings, to the
casing.

So one of the items that I want to
show, that we'll have new bearings. We provided one,
one cost 1400, that's one bearing. So times ten is
40,000 for bearing. Then have new start, new oil pump
and flow meter down in case the pumps, oil pump is not
working. This is something that we are stuck because we
damage the gearbox.

So, Mr. President and Commissioners,
I'm asking to approve it because this is most optimum
that we can get for the price. We need that second
quote, that's another 8,000.

Then we have another issue with the
second one, that aerator number 2. The bearings, you
should go up and you will hear the bearing noisy. So
the one that we install in number 4 is the one that's
the spare one, and the one which we sent is number 4,

1 but we have to have number 4 fixed because we take eight
2 weeks to repair it. Then we have to send again, once we
get number 4, we have to send number 4 to be maintained.

3 So I'm asking the Board to approve
4 this work to be done, because I stop it last two weeks
because I say no, because the Board had not approve it.
5 Then we have to get it back, send it to another company
8,000 more.

6 MR. RIVERA: Thank you, Dr. Zehraoui. Is
there a motion to accept Millwright Machine Inc. --

7 MS. CAULEY: I have a question for Dr.
8 Zehraoui. We want an explanation, Dr. Z. We don't like
surprises. I'm just not talking for me, I'm talking for
9 everyone. Because we are the ones that are in the hot
seat.

10 DR. ZEHRAOUI: I know. From now on
everything should be explained.

11 MS. CAULEY: That's right.

12 DR. ZEHRAOUI: I appreciate it.

13 MS. CAULEY: And we want to work with
14 you, but you are making it hard. And I don't mind being
the bad guy in the whole situation, because I am going
15 to be the first one to tell you. I am going to call
each and every one of them and speak to them, and I am
16 going to speak to the Mayor and tell him we are not
going to be voting for this stuff. Okay?

17 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Yes, ma'am.

18 MS. CAULEY: Because this is too much.
19 Everybody is under a lot of scrutiny and everybody is
going through too many changes. We have got to watch to
20 make sure nothing is going on that's not kosher.

21 DR. ZEHRAOUI: No. We do the right thing
from now on. Also, for me, I tell the team, if it's not
22 emergency and if it's great emergency.

23 MS. CAULEY: Absolutely. That's what I
am talking about, a real emergency.

24 DR. ZEHRAOUI: To start, but some of the
25 work we don't need to involve because it is like

1 service.

2 MR. FLOWERS: I'm looking at the
3 breakdown from Millwright and so forth. After the
4 repairs, are there some type of warranty on these
5 repairs?

6 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Yes, should be maybe six
7 months to one year.

8 MR. FLOWERS: That's not long at all.

9 DR. ZEHRAOUI: It's very heavy equipment.
10 It cannot break in one day. This takes years.

11 MR. FLOWERS: Then just to echo what Miss
12 Cauley said, it is very important -- since you are the
13 expert and you are running things over there -- it is
14 very important that you again break things down for us
15 or simplify things so we can understand and move forward
16 with these projects.

17 DR. ZEHRAOUI: That's fine. Maybe I can
18 invite you to have tour and see what we are dealing
19 with.

20 MS. CAULEY: That's fine.

21 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Thank you.

22 MR. RIVERA: Is there a motion to approve

23 --
24 Motion to approve Millwright Machine Inc. emergency, in
25 the amount of \$36,330.00, made by Tia Cauley. Second by
Steve Flowers.

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

Next item is Austgen Electric for
\$6,901.00. This matter was up last meeting and there
was no action taken.

DR. ZEHRAOUI: We went through the second
invoice and you can see the difference around 5,000. So
this work has been done because we needed it done, like
emergency generator to be installed at Roxana pumping
station because we didn't know there is any rain or any

1 tandem storm that we get at Roxana to be flooded. So we
2 have invoices there for the work to be done and also you
will find invoices for rental for that generator.

3 MR. RIVERA: Thank you. Do we have a
4 motion to accept Austgen Electric?

5 Motion to approve Austgen Electric invoice in the amount
of \$6,901.00 made by Steve Flowers. Second by Loreto
6 Gonzalez.

7 Questions/Comments: None

8 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
(All signify aye.)

9 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

10 Next item is United Rentals, for the
amount of \$18,932.48. This matter also was up last
meeting and there was no action taken.

11 DR. ZEHRAOUI: So, Mr. President, this is
12 the rental for the generator for three months because
the one that is in the project was like seven months to
13 get it. So we have quote one from United Rental \$18,932
and the second quote was one from \$28,407. So this
14 is --

15 MR. RIVERA: That's a big difference,
between 28 and 18.

16 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Yes.

17 MR. RIVERA: Do we have a motion?

18 Motion to approve United Rentals invoice, in the amount
of \$18,932.48, made by Tia Cauley. Second by Loreto
19 Gonzales.

20 MS. CAULEY: I have a question. Dr. Z,
can we buy a generator?

21 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Yes, for the specific
22 project we are buying one.

23 MS. CAULEY: We are getting a quote?

24 DR. ZEHRAOUI: We are talking project,
then we are hoping to be maybe March and/or April, we
25 can get one. The priority for us to start with Roxana

1 pumping station.

2 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Commissioners, a
3 generator is part of the -- in the specifications for
4 the project. It's just eight months out and the
5 thinking by management and utility director, was that in
6 the interim, they wanted to have some protection for
7 those intervening eight months, until the Roxana pump
8 station generator can be acquired and installed under
9 the terms of that contract.

10 MR. RIVERA: Thank you, Mr. Allegretti.
11 The motion was made and second. Any questions? (None)
12 All in favor say aye?

13 (All signify aye.)

14 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

15 Next item is agreements. We have
16 another agreement that we had up before the Board last
17 meeting and no action taken. This is Butler Fairman &
18 Seufert, Long Term Control Plan and Capital Improvement
19 Plan.

20 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Mr. President, this is the
21 second agreement, because we reach agreement from 80,000
22 to 42,000, which is good for us. We need design
23 engineer and we need updated in case, because as we say,
24 they increase and we need engineering for that. I am
25 asking the Board to approve the agreement and they are
working with us behind the scene on many things that
obviously are paid for.

MR. RIVERA: Thank you, Dr. Zehraoui. Is
there a motion?

Motion to approve agreement with Butler Fairman &
Seufert made by Tia Cauley. Second by Loreto Gonzalez.

Questions/Comments: None

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

The next is the Real Property
License Agreement for Property Access. This matter was
also up last meeting and there was no action taken.

DR. ZEHRAOUI: This is -- we are working
with management to get funds because this pipe,
especially the one that is running in the property as

1 you see on the map, is very odd. This is 100 years and
2 it's like 96 inches, very tall pipe as you can see; but
3 it still break. Also from that, because what happened
4 from that picture, I included -- we have like 5 or 6
5 manholes in that containment area. So that means there
6 is no street there. So we have -- this is like for us,
7 we have to install road to inspect the manholes. And
8 you can see from the manholes, that they are all going
9 down because of the aging. So we need to go down and
10 inspect manholes and also inspect the pipe, because the
11 company doing the cleaning did say to us, we need to
12 have approval by October to do cleaning; otherwise we
13 lose our place and maybe one or two years further. So
14 I'm asking the Board to approve this agreement so we can
15 complete our work there.

9 MR. ALLEGRETTI: I agree with what the
10 Utility Director said. There is no public right-of-way,
11 no easement access to these properties. So this is kind
12 of a housekeeping thing. This is why we have to execute
13 an agreement with the property owner, the oil company.
14 It's not controversial. It's just something they
15 require and it's in our interest to do so.

13 MR. RIVERA: Thank you, Attorney
14 Allegretti. Do we have a motion to accept the Real
15 Property License Agreement for Property Access?
16 Motion to approve Real Property License Agreement made
17 by Tia Cauley. Second by Steven Flowers.

16 Questions/Comments: None

17 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
18 (All signify aye.)

19 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

19 Next item is another item that was
20 up before the Board last meeting and there was no action
21 taken, the Supplemental Agreement number 3, First Group
22 Engineering.

22 DR. ZEHRAOUI: This is agreement that we
23 have to form, like for 2018. Each year is like 25,000
24 and we need their services because they are reviewing
25 camera inspection for Roxana and also for Alder Street
Park. So they are working with us and we need to keep
them because we need prices before October so we can
send it -- make presentation to the City Council so we
can get some funds, around maybe ten million from them.

1 MR. RIVERA: Thank you, Dr. Zehraoui. Is
2 there a motion to accept the agreement?

3 MS. CAULEY: I have a question. What do
4 you mean we stand to make money off of that?

5 DR. ZEHRAOUI: No, we are working right
6 now with management office. We just came from there.
7 We have to make presentation to the City Council members
8 probably next Thursday and they need numbers. So we are
9 working with First Group, we are doing camera inspection
10 and visualization of what should be done and First Group
11 will give us their estimate how much this will be
12 costing and which area, should we do line in or
13 construction. So then we have to give them numbers for
14 the budget, give to the Mayor by -- before next
15 Thursday.

16 MR. ALLEGRETTI: And may I add,
17 Commissioner Cauley, that it requires -- this is money
18 from the general -- unappropriated money in the general
19 fund. So we need the request for an ordinance for
20 additional appropriations, which comes from the Mayor,
21 but requires an ordinance approving it by the Common
22 Council. So it is -- you know -- a little bit of kind
23 of deal as it was discussed earlier, and if they will
24 appropriate money from the general fund or not. So
25 that's the presentation Dr. Zehraouri is going to be
presenting, along with Joe Wright, our consultant from
First Group.

MR. RIVERA: Thank you. Is there a
motion to accept the Supplemental Agreement number 3?
Motion to accept Supplemental Agreement 3 made by Tia
Cauley. Second by Loreto Gonzalez.

Questions/Comments: None

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

Next item is past due invoice
Altofer Cat, in the amount of \$8,019.98. Actually let
me clarify, there are three invoices; one for \$2,795,
another one for \$3,175, and the last one is for
\$2,049.98; so total of \$8,019.98. And it states here
that delinquency reason, accounts payable received
invoices from vendor via e-mail on August 20th, after

1 she contacted to inquire why she had not received
2 invoices for PO issued. She was informed there was a
new sales rep.

3 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Like I said, concerning
4 our pumping station and generator. Like we call it
5 service and we have to go with. So what happened with
the company, maybe they are working from home, then they
are not keeping up with invoice with COVID.

6 MR. RIVERA: Thank you. Motion to accept
7 past due invoice.

8 Motion to accept past due invoice from Altofer Cat, in
the amount of \$8,019.98 made by Tia Cauley. Second by
9 Loreto Gonzales.

10 Questions/Comments: None

11 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
(All signify aye.)

12 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

13 Next meeting date is September 17,
14 2020, at 4:30, at the East Chicago City Hall Council
Chambers. Need a motion for adjournment.

15 Motion to adjourn meeting made by Steve Flowers. Second
16 for Loreto Gonzalez.

17 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.
(All signify aye.)

18 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

19 Meeting adjourned.

20 ***** Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. *****
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Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 3, 2020

Approved and signed _____



Miguel Rivera, President

(S) Loreto Gonzalez

Loreto Gonzalez, ~~vice-president~~ Member

(S) Tia Cauley


Tia Cauley

(S) Alojzy Moricz

Alojzy (Ben) Moricz - vice president

(S) Steve Flowers

Steve Flowers



Anthony Herrera

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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 8th day of September, 2020.

Peggy S. LaLonde



Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR