



# NORTHERN MORAIN WASTEWATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT

113 Timber Trail, Island Lake, Illinois 60042

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 14, 2023

Present in person: Trustees: Timothy Brunn, Ken Michaels, John Ragland, Caretina Tellez  
District Manager: Mohammed Haque; Assistant Clerk: Madalina Roscan

Guests Present: Jon Morgan

President Michaels called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER:

Roll Call: Timothy Brunn – Present  
John Ragland – Present  
Caretina Tellez – Present  
Ken Michaels – Present

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Those present stood and pledged allegiance to the flag.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** - Island Lake resident Jon Morgan addressed the Board about some questions he and his neighbors have regarding the District using a flat rate method of charging for sewer rates instead of using meters. President Michaels responded that he had already given Mr. Morgan's neighbor, Don Saville, his response to the question, but he would explain again that to install meters to all the properties that the District serves would be a multi-million-dollar project and President Michaels asked who would pay for these meters. Mr. Morgan asked if sewer fees were based off water usage and President Michaels explained that not all the residents served by Northern Moraine are on municipal water and that experience has shown that the villages are unable to provide monthly meter readings to the District in a timely fashion. President Michaels explained that even after the residents paid for the new meters, they would find that the rates would not necessarily work to their favor. President Michaels further explained that the system used to formulate the PE (population equivalent) flat rate is used throughout the state of Illinois; the practice is supported by the USEPA and the Illinois EPA. President Michaels explained that some municipalities charge for water and sewer together, but that is not always the case. President Michaels also explained that when the Sanitary District first began in Island Lake, rates were assessed based on how many bedrooms were in a house. The District soon experienced homeowners being untruthful about the number of bedrooms and claiming that some bedrooms were not such, etc. The District had to move to adopt the flat rate. President Michaels also related that the District used to offer a senior citizen discount until it became apparent that residents were taking advantage of the discount and used the property as a rental unit or failed to notify the District of the death of property owners. President Michaels related that when Mr. Saville was a trustee with the Village of Island Lake, he notified the District after a big snowstorm that Island Lake Public Works wouldn't be able to plow Timber Trail anymore and asked how the District's customers would feel about not being able to access the road to pay their bills in the winter. The District quickly made the decision to incur the costs for petitioning the courts to have the District de-annex from the Village and road maintenance was turned over to Nunda Township. Trustee Brunn stated that the District's tax base has decreased each year and that sewer user rates also are used to maintain the aging infrastructure. Mr. Morgan asked if commercial properties are also charged a flat rate and Board members explained that most commercial properties do have meters that are read monthly primarily because there is great fluctuation in use between different types of businesses. Mr. Morgan stated that it seemed that the Village was unreliable in giving the District the services needed; President Michaels related that the Village made the decision to not honor an Intergovernmental agreement to hang disconnection notices to Island Lake residents, stating that the process took too much time away from Public Works. President Michaels indicated what took the village 2 days to do our staff did in a matter of a few hours. had tried to make the Mayor aware that the



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Mayor's decision would cost the Village the loss of revenue of over \$20,000 a year, because the District was paying the Village for hanging these tags on severely delinquent properties. If the Village was unable to provide the service of hanging tags each month, how would they be able to provide meter readings for each property? Mr. Morgan stated that it just seemed unfair that a large family is paying the same sewer rate that a single person pays. District Manager Haque reported that he had worked with a few sanitary districts in his career and that even if the sewer user fees were metered, there would always be a flat use rate and then there could be higher charges on top of that flat rate.

**4. PRESENTATION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

a. Regular Meeting, May 9, 2023

Motion by Trustee Ragland to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of May 9, 2023, as presented.  
2nd by Trustee Brunn

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

b. Semi Annual Executive Session Review

Motion by Mr. Brunn to release the Executive Meeting minutes of November 8, 2022.  
2nd by Mr. Ragland

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Mr. Brunn to release the Executive Meeting minutes of December 13, 2022.  
2nd by Mr. Ragland

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT:**

a. Approval of the Monthly Treasurer's Report for month ending April 30, 2023

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Mr. Ragland.

Motion by Trustee Tellez to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month ending April 30, 2023, as presented.  
2nd by Mr. Brunn

Roll Call: Timothy Brunn - Aye  
John Ragland - Aye  
Caretina Tellez - Aye  
Ken Michaels - Aye

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6. MANAGER'S REPORT:** District Manager Haque stated that he had nothing specific to report and that there still are various projects ongoing, and that Holiday Hills project would be wrapping up soon. Manager Haque asked if the Board had any questions about the items mentioned in his report. The Board did not have questions for Manager Haque.

**7. TRUSTEE REPORTS: None**

**8. LEGAL BUSINESS: None**



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**9. OLD BUSINESS: None**

**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Payment Request #13 – Holiday Hills /La Villa Vaupell Sewer Extension Project – Phase 1

Motion by Mr. Brunn to approve Pay Request #13 in the amount of \$415,612.39 to Trine Construction for the Holiday Hills / Le Villa Vaupell Sewer Extension – Phase 1 Project.

2nd by Mrs. Tellez

Roll Call: Timothy Brunn – Aye  
John Ragland – Aye  
Caretina Tellez – Aye  
Ken Michaels – Aye

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

b. Agreement with Edge AI Solutions for Sewer Televising Camera Rental

Motion by Mr. Ragland to approve an Agreement with Edge AI Solutions Inc for the rental of sewer televising equipment for a period of 18 months for a cost not to exceed \$40,000.

2nd by Mr. Brunn

Roll Call: Timothy Brunn – Aye  
John Ragland – Aye  
Caretina Tellez – Aye  
Ken Michaels – Aye

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

c. Addendum #1 with Trotter and Associates for GIS Conversion and Assistance

Motion by Mr. Brunn to Approve Addendum #1 to the Agreement with Trotter and Associates for the GIS Conversion and Assistance for an additional amount of \$10,000.

2nd by Mr. Ragland

Roll Call: Timothy Brunn – Aye  
John Ragland – Aye  
Caretina Tellez – Aye  
Ken Michaels – Aye

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

d. Agreement with Automation Service & Design for Control Building SCADA Integration

Motion by Mrs. Tellez to Approve an Agreement with Automation Service & Design for Control Building SCADA Integration for a cost not to exceed \$39,160

2nd by Mr. Ragland

Roll Call: Timothy Brunn – Aye  
John Ragland – Aye  
Caretina Tellez – Aye  
Ken Michaels – Aye

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**



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e. Adoption of a Resolution Designating Surplus Equipment and Authorizing Disposal through Auction

Motion by Mr. Ragland Motion to adopt a Resolution designating the items listed on Exhibit "A" as surplus equipment to be sold through an on-line auction administered by Obenauf Auction Services.

2nd by Mrs. Tellez

Roll Call: Timothy Brunn – Aye  
John Ragland – Aye  
Caretina Tellez – Aye  
Ken Michaels – Aye

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

f. IGA with McHenry County for Holiday Hills/Le Villa Vaupell ARPA Grant for \$2,000,000

Motion by Mr. Brunn to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with McHenry County for Holiday Hills/Le Villa Vaupell Sewer Project ARPA Grant for \$2,000,000.

2nd by Mr. Ragland

Roll Call: Timothy Brunn – Aye  
John Ragland – Aye  
Caretina Tellez – Aye  
Ken Michaels – Aye

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

g. Agreement with Trotter and Associates for Architectural Services for Break Room Remodel

Motion by Mrs. Tellez to approve an Agreement with Trotter and Associates for the Personnel Building (Break Room) Remodel architectural services for an amount of \$9,300.

2nd by Mr. Ragland

Roll Call: Timothy Brunn – Aye  
John Ragland – Aye  
Caretina Tellez – Aye  
Ken Michaels – Aye

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

h. Holiday Hills/Le Villa Vaupell Sewer Extension – Phase 1 Change Order Recommendation to extend sewer with ARPA funds (Phase 1A)

*Per District Manager Haque, after conferring with the contractor, the change order will not be submitted and will not be recommended.*

**11. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:**

a. MCCG Membership Meeting

Pistakee Yacht Club, Johnsbury - Wednesday, July 26, 2023



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*At this point in the meeting, President Michaels read the following statement:*

“In accordance with the Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act, I am in the process of identifying residents of the District to serve with the District Board and Mohammed as the so-called Decennial Committee. At our next meeting, the Board will be considering a formal resolution to establish that Committee and appoint the resident Committee members. My goal is to include a member from each of Island Lake, Lakemoor, Port Barrington, and Holiday Hills. In accordance with the Act, the Committee will evaluate various aspects of the District and its operations over the course of at least three meetings, and then the Committee will issue a report to be provided to the County Boards in Lake and McHenry Counties. As this is a new statute, one can only speculate about it, but it should be a good exercise to highlight public understanding of the District and its overall role and contribution to the region.”

**12. APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Motion by Mr. Brunn to approve payment of bills for June 14, 2023, as presented, in the amount of \$675,912.63.  
2nd by Mr. Ragland

Roll Call: Timothy Brunn – Aye  
John Ragland – Aye  
Caretina Tellez – Aye  
Ken Michaels – Aye

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

**13. OTHER BUSINESS: None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Brun to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.  
Unanimously approved on a voice vote