

BOARD OF SANITARY DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025, 4:30 P. M. 1100 E. EIGHTH STREET

Michigan City Board of Sanitary District Commissioners

Andrew Sperling	(Mayoral appointment 6/20/2024 – 6/21/2028)
Tina Mahone	(Mayoral appointment 7/1/2025 – 7/1/2029)
Don Babcock	(Mayoral appointment 4/23/2024 – 1/1/2027)
Tance Falls	(Mayoral appointment 11/8/2024 – 11/9/2028)
Timothy Werner	City Engineer – virtue of position

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M. by President Don Babcock.

Commissioners present were Don Babcock, Andrew Sperling, Tim Werner, Tance Falls and Tina Mahone.

Staff present at the meeting were:

Christopher Yagelski, Business & Facilities Manager
Al Walus, Operations & Inspections Manager
Rachel McCline, Administrative Assistant/Board Secretary
Wendy Vachet, Director of Public Works
Jewell Harris, Legal Counsel

Also present at the meeting were:

Nathan DeLisle, CDS Engineers, Inc.
Don Pryzybylinski, Michigan City Common Council
Mary-Lynn Wall, City Controller
John Kremke, Schneider Geomatics

Minutes

Mr. Babcock certified that an executive session was held before this meeting and that there was nothing discussed outside of the information posted in the advertisement for the session.

Mr. Sperling made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 23, 2025, Executive Session and the July 23, 2025, Regular Meeting as presented – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Opening Bids: Utility Emergency Repairs Program 2025-2026

Woodruff & Sons, Inc. – Michigan City, Indiana

Dump Truck Single Axle: \$35.00/hr.
Dump Truck Tandem Axle: \$50.00/hr.

Dump Truck Tri-Axle: \$50.00/hr.
Superintendent: \$143.00/hr., Overtime Rate \$178.00/hr.
Foreman: \$133.00/hr., Overtime Rate \$165.00/hr.
Operator: \$127.00/hr., Overtime Rate \$159.00/hr.

Rieth-Riley Construction Co. – LaPorte, Indiana

Dump Truck Single Axle: \$47.26/hr.
Dump Truck Tandem Axle: \$86.34
Dump Truck Tri-Axle: \$102.25
Superintendent: \$183.33
Foreman: \$159.72
Operator: \$158.05

Attorney Harris recommended that Sanitary District staff officials review the submitted bids and make a recommendation to the Board for approval at the next regular meeting.

Public Comment

City of Michigan City Councilman, Don Przybylinski thanked Mr. Walus for all his efforts regarding the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) report to the Common Council.

Mr. Przybylinski thanked Mr. Yagelski for all his efforts regarding the refuse drop-off program.

Mr. Przybylinski recommended that the Sanitary District manage the overgrown ditches at the corner of Warnke Road and Royal Road.

Financial Report

As of July 31, 2025:
Refuse Fund: \$2,161,848.45
Grant Fund: \$87,265.39
SRF Debt Reserve Fund: \$568,361.84
SRF Bond and Interest Fund: \$268,384.33
Stormwater Fund: \$706,019.48
Special Fund: \$10,405.20
Karwick Remediation Fund: \$208,129.55
Levy Excess Fund: \$8,522.14
Operating Fund: (\$182,828.59)

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Improvement Fund: \$790,276.62
Vehicle Replacement Fund: \$267,677.07
Equipment Replacement Fund: \$529,396.70

Mrs. Wall advised that an analysis of the funds will need to be carried out to assess the Operating Fund's negative balance.

Mrs. Wall reported that the Refuse budget will be presented at the next City Common Council Meeting on first reading.

Mr. Yagelski advised that he receives the invoices and determines what fund the invoice should be paid from.

Mr. Werner made a motion to approve and allow the **August 27, 2025, Revenue & Tax Levy Claims for payment and ratification** - Seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Harris Law Firm PC

Mr. Yagelski submitted Invoice No. 11371 in the amount of \$393.75, Invoice No. 11372 in the amount of \$1,968.75 and Invoice No. 11373 in the amount of \$843.75 from Harris Law Firm PC and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Werner made such a motion – seconded by Mr. Sperling. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Christopher B. Burke Engineering

Mr. Yagelski provided the Board with the July 2025 progress report. Mr. Yagelski submitted Invoice No. 39434 for wastewater services in the amount of \$5,659.89 and Invoice No. 39097 for June 2025 MS4 services in the amount of \$6,885.00 from Christopher B. Burke Engineering and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Sperling made such a motion – seconded by Mr. Werner. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Yagelski submitted Amendment No. 1 for On-call MS4 Compliance Assistance from Christopher B. Burke Engineering not to exceed \$25,000.00, and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Sperling made such a motion – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

CDS Engineers, Inc.

Mr. DeLisle provided the Board with a brief report regarding the Pilot Study for the Primary Clarifiers. Mr. DeLisle recommended that Mrs. Rhonda Anderson authorize proposals allowing pilot study by two (2) treatment technology pilot plants.

Baker Tilly Advisory Group, LP

Mr. Yagelski submitted final Invoice No. BT3276427 for the Rate Study from Baker Tilly Advisory Group, LP in the amount of \$5,197.26 and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Werner made such a motion – seconded by Mr. Falls. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Schneider Geomatics

Mr. Kremke provided the Board with a project status report for the Lake Avenue/U.S. Highway 12 Lift Station Project. Mr. Kremke noted that H&G Underground Utilities, LLC started onsite work on August 11, 2025. Construction has also begun at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mr. Yagelski submitted Invoice No. 197081 from Schneider Geomatics in the amount of \$6,100.00 and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Werner made such a motion – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Yagelski submitted Pay Request No. 1 from H&G Underground Utilities in the amount of \$72,324.05 and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Werner made such a motion – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Kremke provided the Board with a project status report for the Michigan City Annexed Area Sewer Extension Project (MCASE). Mr. Kremke noted that Rieth-Riley Construction, Inc. is continuing to make progress on the project. It was also noted that the small diameter force main system at Swan Lake Cemetery has been installed and pressure tested.

Mr. Yagelski submitted Invoice No. 197079 from Schneider Geomatics in the amount of \$11,885.00 and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Werner made such a motion – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Yagelski submitted Change Order No. 3 from Rieth-Riley Construction, Inc. to construct a 12' wide by 555' long access driveway from Motts Parkway along a portion of the MCASE sewer Route. Mr. Yagelski then recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Yagelski submitted Work Change Directive No. 4 regarding the MCASE Projects estimated increase in contract price in the amount of \$38,900.00.

Mr. Sperling made a motion to approve Change Order No. 3 as presented – seconded by Mr. Werner. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Yagelski submitted Invoice No. 3620457-5 from Rieth-Riley Construction Co., in the amount of \$112,557.60 and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Werner made such a motion – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 4 – 0 in favor.

Regarding the Birch Tree Farms Project, Mr. Yagelski submitted final Invoice No. 197080 from Schneider Geomatics in the amount of \$572.50 and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Werner made such a motion – seconded by Mr. Falls. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

The Board received the **MCSAN Staff Monthly Reports.**

Old Business

Regarding the 300 N. Lift Station Sewer System Project, Ms. Vachet advised that the Sanitary District Board voted to support LaPorte County in 2018. It was noted that LaPorte County's responsibility was to construct the Lift Station Sewer System before the Sanitary District of Michigan City accepted it. Ms. Vachet reported that Attorney Harris is working with LaPorte County's Attorney to finalize all the necessary documentation that will bring the project to a close.

Attorney Harris provided the Board with a Long Beach Sewer Extension update.

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It was noted that there are property owners in the Town of Long Beach that are seeking authorization from the Sanitary District to connect to the sanitary sewer. Attorney Harris advised that the Sanitary District and Town of Long Beach are working together to properly service the area free from the threat of litigation.

New Business

Mr. Yagelski submitted a new Job Description/title for a Refuse Receptionist/Dispatcher Position and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Werner made such a motion – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Yagelski submitted an updated Staff Organizational Chart reflecting the Refuse Receptionist/Dispatcher position and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Werner made such a motion – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Ms. Vachet advised that the Sanitary District is seeking support with additional professional services. Ms. Vachet submitted an engagement letter regarding general utility advice from Dentons Bingham Greenebaum LLP, not to exceed \$20,000.00, and recommended approval of the same.

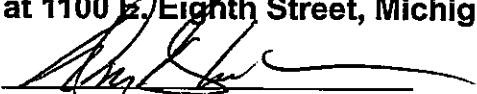
Mr. Werner made such a motion – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Mrs. Vachet advised that the Website Update Proposal will be brought before the Board at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Yagelski advised that the Right of Refusal Re: Grant Funding will be tabled until the next regular meeting.

Mr. Babcock entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Werner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 PM.

Next Board of Sanitary District Commissioners Regular Meeting – **September 24, 2025, at 1100 E. Eighth Street, Michigan City, IN 46360 at 4:30 P.M. Local Time.**



Don Babcock, President