

BOARD OF SANITARY DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2026, 4:00 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 4:00 P.M. by President Don Babcock.

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

Staff present at the meeting were:

Rhonda Anderson, Superintendent of Water Reclamation
Al Walus, District Engineer
Rachel McCline, Administrative Assistant
Christopher Yagelski, Business & Facilities Manager
Christopher Carter, Superintendent of Refuse
Oscar Suarez, Sanitary District Engineering Intern
Andrew Matanic Director of Technology & Facilities
Wendy Vachet, Director of Public Works
Jewell Harris, Legal Counsel

Also present for the meeting were:

Scott Meland, Michigan City Resident
Dave Biela, Michigan City Resident
Dan Cutshaw, CDS Engineering
John Caruso, Christopher B. Burke Engineering
John Kremke, Schneider Geomatics
Tom Nagle, Robinson Engineering
Zachary Tobin, Michigan City Engineering Intern
Don Przybylinski, Michigan City Common Council

Minutes

Mr. Sperling moved to approve the April 22, 2026, Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes as presented – seconded by Mr. Werner. There being no question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 4 – 0 in favor.

Public Comment

Mr. Biela addressed the Board recommending an update regarding the Stormwater infrastructure in Michigan City.

Councilman Przybylinski addressed the Board regarding necessary storm sewer cover repairs at the northwest corner of Dewolfe Street and Franklin Street and 2210 Franklin Street. It was also reported that there is a large dip in the middle of the street at 1807 Franklin Street.

Councilman Przybylinski asked Mr. Carter what is being done about the small piles of limbs being placed on the curb of residencies. Mr. Carter advised that small limbs and grass etc. should go in a 32-gallon container for compost pickups. It was noted that residents can use up to four (4) containers.

Mr. Meland expressed dismay regarding the mismanagement of the previous administration. Mr. Meland advised that he is encouraged by the detailed analysis that lays out a plan for upcoming projects.

Financial Report

As of April 30, 2026:

Refuse Fund: \$1,295,869.98
Storm Water Fund: \$634,846.40
Operating Fund: \$1,002,454.37
Improvement Fund: \$790,276.62
Vehicle Replacement Fund: \$267,677.07
Equipment Replacement Fund: \$529,396.70
Grant Fund: \$ -469,162.82
SRF Debt Fund: \$588,870.77
SRF Bond and Interest Fund: \$153,098.98
Special Fund: \$10,686.01
Karwick Remediation Fund: \$149,650.51
Levy Excess Fund: \$8,522.14

Mrs. Anderson submitted the Claims Docket for May 27, 2026, in the amount of \$638,704.23 and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Sperling moved to approve the Claims Docket as presented – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 4 – 0 in favor.

New Business

Mr. Walus advised that additional services are required for the Michigan City Annexed Area Sewer Project (MCASE). It was reported that Schneider Geomatics submitted

Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement (PSA) dated December 18, 2024. Mr. Walus noted that the purpose of the Amendment No. 1 is to authorized professional services in addition to the scope of work defined in the referenced Agreement. The authorized services are as follows: 1. Surveying and Exhibit preparation for INDOT Settlement Monitoring Plan for pre-construction and post-construction conditions. 2. Engineering services for access road design assistance.

Mr. Walus reported that the not-to-exceed amounts are as follows: 1. INDOT Settlement Monitoring Plan: \$8,000.00 2. Access Road Design Assistance: \$1,000.00. Mr. Walus then recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Sperling moved to approve Amendment No. 1 for the MCASE Project as presented – seconded by Mr. Werner. There being no question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 4 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Walus submitted a Contract Extension from V3 Companies, LTD (V3) for Mitigation Monitoring of the Cheney Run Stormwater Facility. Mr. Walus advised that V3 shall be compensated for annual monitoring and reporting for the years: 2026, 2027, and 2028 in addition to regulatory site inspections in the amount of \$30,400.00.

Mr. Walus submitted a Contract for Mitigation Maintenance Services from V3. Mr. Walus advised that V3 shall be compensated for native shrub installation and invasive species management for the years: 2026 and 2027 in the amount of \$49,690.00.

Mr. Walus reported that the presented contracts would be paid from the Karwick Remediation Fund and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Babcock asked if the Sanitary District should receive a monthly update on the monitoring of the Cheney Run Stormwater Facility. Mr. Walus advised that monthly updates on the invasive species will be provided by V3.

Attorney Harris stated that the payments for the Monitoring are in a lump sum and recommended that the Sanitary District make progress payments as an alternative.

Mr. Babcock recommended that the V3 contracts include an addendum to accommodate progress payments opposed to a lump sum. Ms. Vachet understood.

Mr. Sperling moved to approve the Contracts for Extended Services and Mitigation Maintenance Services from V3 contingent on the recommended addendum – seconded by Mr. Werner. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 4 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Walus provided the Board with a Notice of Intent to apply for a Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant in the amount of \$150,000.00. Mr. Walus advised that the funds would support updating the Watershed plan to meet current standards. Mr. Walus then recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Werner moved to approve the Notice of Intent to apply for a Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant as recommended – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 4 – 0 in favor.

Regarding the State of the District, Ms. Vachet advised that the presentation has been posted to the City of Michigan City's Website. Ms. Vachet reported that a Sanitary District email has been created for the public to submit comments.

Mr. Cutshaw provided the Board with an updated Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the Sanitary District. Mr. Cutshaw advised that the first year will consist of design work followed by construction in the second year. It was noted that the Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements will go out for bid in two (2) pieces. The Primary Clarifiers will be improved with Plate Settlers first.

Ms. Vachet advised that Mr. Walus attended a Redevelopment meeting requesting \$80,000.00 to fund the baseline portion of the proposed Sewer Model Development Plan.

Mr. Caruso advised that the Michigan City Sanitary District (MCSD) has requested Christopher B. Burke Engineering, LLC (CBBEL) to submit a proposal for professional services to create a computer model representation of the MCSD's current Sanitary Sewer Collection System. MCSD's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) atlas maps for the sanitary system will be made available to CBBEL for use in creating a digital model of the system to facilitate analysis of existing conditions, future capital improvements and simulated emergency/system failure conditions. Supplemental GIS data will be captured by MCSD in the coming months and provided to CBBEL for use. Lift Station data flow and force main discharge location will be made available to CBBEL for use in creating the model.

Ms. Vachet then recommended approval of the CBBEL Proposal for Sanitary Sewer Collection System Hydraulic Modeling.

Mr. Werner moved to approve the CBBEL Proposal as presented – seconded by Mr. Sperling. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 4 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Matanic advised that the City of Michigan City and the Sanitary District seek to strengthen the security and management of its wastewater division Commercial tenant by aligning the environment with Microsoft best practices. Agile IT and the City of Michigan City aligned a strategy to enhance the wastewater division's existing Microsoft tenant. The engagement is designed to improve security, simplify device management, and protect critical collaboration data through targeted remediation and platform hardening. It was noted that this work will focus on securing the existing commercial tenant, addressing configuration gaps, validating key access controls, and implementing backup protection for core user data.

Mr. Matanic advised that the cost of the Agile IT services is in the amount of \$34,883.21. Mr. Matanic explained that \$31,859.21 of the total is a one-time fee and the remaining \$3,024.00 will be an annual fee. Mr. Matanic provided the Board with a Sole Source Procurement Justification; Pursuant to Indiana Code IC 5-22-10-8, governmental bodies are permitted to procure supplies or services under a sole procurement when there is only one source for the required supply or service, or when compatibility, continuity, standardization, or specialized expertise make a particular provider the only reasonable source.

Mr. Sperling moved to approve Agile IT Services as presented – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 4 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Walus advised that there will be updates at the next regular meeting regarding MCSD's 2-year plan.

Regarding the MCASE Project, Mr. Kremke advised that the project is nearing 100% completion. It was noted that seeding and wetland planting restoration work is substantially complete within the limits of the MCASE project area.

Regarding the Lake Avenue and Highway 12 Lift Station Sewer Relief Project, Mr. Kremke advised that Bonding for Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) permitting has been received. The permit is currently under review by INDOT for approval. It was noted that upon approval, of the INDOT permit, H&G Construction will remobilize on the site to begin the jacking/boring under Highway 12 and the directional boring for the force main along the abandoned railroad right-of-way.

The Board thanked Mr. Kremke for his report.

Ms. Vachet advised that the Sanitary District continues to work with Lake Shore Sewer, LLC regarding technical information that will determine how to move forward efficiently.

Ms. Vachet reported that the Sanitary District is in the process of updating policies (not in relation to Human Resources) and procedures. It was noted that the updates will be accessible in an electronic file.

Ms. Vachet advised that the Sanitary District continues to work with the Michigan City Department of Water Works to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Ms. Vachet confirmed that the final legal actions for the 300 North Lift Station Project are complete.

Mrs. Anderson advised that the Plate Settler Pilot study to determine whether plate settlers are a viable alternative for increasing primary clarifiers capacity is still in progress and still presenting challenges. Mrs. Anderson reported that the process of cleaning, diffuser head replacement, and pipe repairs for Aerator #3 are in progress. It was noted that the Aerators had not been cleaned in over a decade, and this task has now been added to the preventive maintenance schedule.

Mrs. Anderson reported that Marsh Elementary School second grade classes were at the Wastewater Treatment Facility for a plant tour.

Mr. Walus provided the Board with a Tap Permit Application for sanitary sewer. It was noted that the last update to the form was on August 10, 2015. Mr. Walus advised that the Sanitary District would like the mentioned Tap Permit Application to be consistent with the Michigan City Building Permits that have an expiration date of one (1) year.

Mr. Walus introduced Oscar Suarez as the Sanitary District's Engineering Intern. Mr. Werner introduced Zachary Tobin as the City of Michigan City's Engineering Intern.

It was noted that Leon Jones was hired as the Sanitary District's Sanitary & Stormwater Engineer and is scheduled to begin on June 1, 2026.

Mr. Yagelski reported that safety and training tips have been updated for Sanitary District and Refuse Staff.

Mr. Yagelski advised that he would meet with all staff to discuss safety tips regarding bee stings and poison ivy exposure.

In accordance with Indiana State Law, the Michigan City Sanitary District recognizes that seat belt use is extremely effective in preventing injuries and loss of life.

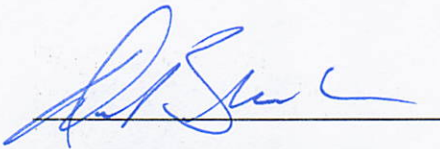
Mr. Yagelski submitted a Seat Belt Use Policy. It was noted that this policy is strictly enforced by the Sanitary District when any employee is operating an owned, rented or leased company vehicle, is operating any vehicle on company owned premises, or operating any vehicle while on company business. All occupants must use seat belts installed by vehicle manufacturers, properly adjusted and securely fastened, always while the vehicle is in motion.

Mr. Yagelski then recommended approval of the Seat Belt Use Policy.

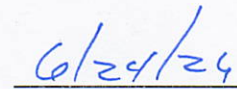
Mr. Sperling moved to approve the Seat Belt Use Policy as presented – seconded by Mr. Werner. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 4 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Sperling moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 PM – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 4 – 0 in favor.

Next Board of Sanitary District Commissioners Regular Meeting – June 24, 2026, at 100 E. Michigan Boulevard, Michigan City, IN 46360 at 4:00 P.M. Local Time.



Don Babcock, President



Date