

**MILK RIVER INTERCOUNTY DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT  
DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
April 18, 2019**

A meeting of the Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage Board was held on Thursday, April 18, 2019 at the St. Clair Shores City Hall, located at 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

**Members Present**

Michael R. Gregg, Chair, Michigan Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development, State of Michigan  
Elmeke Steele, Wayne County Drain Commissioner, Wayne County  
Brian Baker Deputy Macomb County Public Works Commissioner, Macomb County  
Joe Rheker, City of Harper Woods  
William Gambill, City of St. Clair Shores

**Others Present**

Kyle Seidel, Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick  
Brent Avery, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District  
Marie Tighe, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District  
Russ Strassburg, Tetra Tech  
Bruce Smith, City of Grosse Pointe Woods  
Greg Tupancy, Wayne County

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Gregg called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Rheker moved to approve the agenda. The motion was supported by Mr. Babcock. Motion adopted.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of March 21, 2019 Drainage Board Meeting**

Ms. Steele moved to approve the minutes for the March 21, 2019 meeting with addition to change the language under new business and other minor corrections. The motion was supported by Mr. Rheker. Motion adopted.

#### 4. **Reports**

##### **a. Operation and Maintenance Update.**

The Operations and Maintenance update was provided by Brent Avery and Kyle Seidel. Pump #6 motor was installed since the last meeting. They are currently monitoring the temperature gauges and performance. We now have two electrical feeds on line servicing the Milk River facility and the temporary generators have been removed. There was one discharge event on March 30, 2019 and everything went good and was in compliance. Sanitary pump #9 wiring burned up and Kennedy Industries has picked the pump up to work on it and will provide a quote. Kyle stated the flow meters have been installed for about a month and Macomb County is downloading the data. With the preliminary data it has shown some promising information with additional inline storage by altering operations. This is a preliminary report and continues for four months. We will need a permanent meter connected to SCADA so we can view the flows in real time. Locations for permanent meters will be recommended upon completing of the flow metering program.

Mr. Rheker moved to receive and file the operations and maintenance report. The motion was supported by Mr. Baker. Motion adopted.

##### **b. Priority 1B and Select Improvement Project**

##### **Construction Update**

The Construction update was provided by Greg Tupancy and Russ Strassburg. The generators have been removed and rental costs are being negotiated. Pump #6 is running and monitoring the temperature on one of the bearings. Mr. Tupancy is blaming the contractor for miscommunications. They lead us to believe they installed it with a different sensor so it would be monitored by them. Now the contractor is saying someone has to watch the gauge while it runs. Pentair agreed to take responsibility until the correct sensor is installed. Contract work is currently being done at the recirculation station. The contractor is installing piers for the building expansion. During this work they have been running into concrete, which is causing some delay. Basin #2 cleaning has resumed. Weather dependent Basin #2 cleaing should be complete in the next several weeks. The SEMSD has gone through the site and will provide a list of items to put into the project. Mr. Tupancy asked the Board to visit the Milk River Pump Station and suggested May 16, 2019 right after the meeting. The Board agreed and Mr. Tupancy will make the necessary arrangements. In regards to the intake pipe we are still waiting for the results of the tapes from the infrastructure engineers Mr. Tupancy will reach out to them. The spiral staircase has not been repaired yet, waiting on design and price. No change with Tetra Tech since last report. Spence Brothers through mid-March is at approximately 56%. They still need to provide a list of items to be complete by October 2019. The Allowance Authorization report shows the same, but have the amounts of #14 and

#15 at \$2.1 million. The Fiber Optic Cable (#15) can be billed back to the SEMSD. No change on the Summary of the SRF Loan Costs.

Ms. Steele moved to receive and file the foregoing report and associated documents. The motion was supported by Mr. Rheker. Motion adopted.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A Legal update was provided by John Brennan. Ms. Steele asked him to review some documents that were associated with a letter that was written by Solomon Diving on March 21, 2019. Ms. Steele provided a copy of the email which Solomon Diving copied several people including media and Governor of Michigan. She also passed out the response from Spence Construction. Mr. Brennan does have a written opinion and recommends entering into closed session. Mr. Rheker moved to enter into a closed session. The motion was supported by Mr. Baker. A roll call vote of the Drainage District Board to enter into closed session was as follows:

Mr. Gregg: Yes  
Ms. Steele: Yes  
Mr. Baker: Yes  
Mr. Rheker: Yes

Motion adopted. A closed session began at 10:40 a.m. and ended at 11:13 a.m.

The memorandum from Mr. Brennan should be marked Privileged and Confidential.

Mr. Baker moved to direct legal council to request a letter from Spence Brothers council, send communications to Solomon Diving and directing the engineer to draft a letter with regard to the substantial completion issue. The motion was supported by Mr. Rheker. Motion adopted.

**7. Approval of the SEMSD Operations and Maintenance Invoice**

The SEMSD Operations and Maintenance (O&M) invoice for March 2019 for \$59,463.21 was reviewed.

Mr. Baker moved to authorize to pay SEMSD Invoice O&M 03-2019. The motion was supported by Mr. Rheker. Motion adopted.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**9. Set Next Meeting Date/Time/Location**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081. After the meeting the board will tour the Milk River Facility.

**10. Adjournment**

Mr. Rheker moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was supported by Ms. Steele. Motion was adopted.

There was no further business to come before the Drainage Board; the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

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Elmeka N. Steele  
Wayne County Drain Commissioner

NOTE: The forgoing minutes are subject to Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage Board approval.