

**MILK RIVER INTERCOUNTY DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT
DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 10, 2020**

A meeting of the Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage Board was held on Thursday, December 10, 2020, via teleconference in compliance with State Public Act 228 of 2020; electronic (telephonic or video conferencing) attendance will meet the quorum requirements, all votes will be taken by roll call, and public participation will be allowed at the designated portion of the agenda.

Members Present Via Teleconference

Michael R. Gregg, Chair, Michigan Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development, State of Michigan
Elmeka N. Steele, Esq., Wayne County Drain Commissioner, Wayne County
Brian Baker, Chief Deputy, Public Works Office, Macomb County
Bryan Babcock, P.E., Director of Public Works/Water, City of St. Clair Shores
William Snyder, Department of Public Works, City of Harper Woods

Others Present Via Teleconference

Kyle Seidel, Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick
Kip Walby, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District
Pete Trombley, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District
Brent Avery, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District
Dianne Schelosky, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District
Bruce Smith, City of Grosse Pointe Woods
Frank Schulte, City of Grosse Pointe Woods
Mike Way, City of Grosse Pointe Shores
Elizabeth Barrera, Wayne County
Moyna Moore, Wayne County
Patrick Cullen, Wayne County
Gregg Tupancy, Tetra Tech
Russ Strassburg, Tetra Tech

1. Call to Order

Mr. Gregg called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.
Current legislature validates meeting structure; the board will be proceeding with a virtual meeting, hosted by Kyle Seidel.

2. Approval of Agenda

Russ Strassburg, Tetra Tech, requested a Service Agreement extension, to be put under new Business, Item 5. Motion made to approve agenda as amended, supported by Mr. Snyder, Harper Woods. Motion passed.

3. Approval of the Minutes for:

November 12, 2020, Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District Board Meeting

Mr. Baker, Macomb County moved to approve the minutes for November 12, 2020, Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District Board Meeting minutes as presented. The motion was supported by Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores. Motion adopted.

4. Reports

a. Milk River Landscaping Plan

Kyle Seidel presented two quotes for the landscaping project. A bid of \$23,245.80 was received from Landscape Source to install the landscape plans as discussed. Landscape Services Inc. (LSI) presented a quote for \$15,145.00 with adjusted quantities. \$8,000 was approved at the November MRIDDD meeting to build the berm on the construction site. An additional \$32,000.00 is requested to add to the budget for the supply and installation of plants and trees, thus finishing the Landscaping project. This budget amendment shall be listed under Building Repairs and Maintenance. LSI is the recommended company to provide these services based on the quotes received. The SEMSD will be doing the final clean up. Catch basins will be replaced as recommended by Tetra Tech. The work will be scheduled for the spring of 2021. A discussion was initiated by Ms. Steele as to what funds would be used to pay for this project. Mr. Walby reminded the Board that the initial budgeted amount was \$120,000. The SEMSD agreed to help with the work which reduced that amount to \$40,000. Ms. Moore confirmed that no budget amendment would be required, nor would the fund balance need to be used. Mr. Tupancy reminded the board that the second SRF loan will not be able to be used for the landscaping project. The restoration of the site is included in the original plan; however, additional landscaping is not to be included in that budget. Ms. Moore recommended that the prepayment money be used as it would fall under the construction account. Kyle Seidel requests authorization to accept the proposal from LSI, for the costs that would be incurred over the next 3 to 4 months. Additionally, seven catch basins would be replaced under this plan, the work to be performed by the SEMSD. Mr. Walby suggested that LSI have flexibility in planting, species varieties, and quantities, based on what may be best at the time of planting. The tree protection policy would be managed in house by the SEMSD staff. It was noted that Spence is in the process of finishing up their projects and the berm is completed and looks good.

Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, made a motion to approve the additional \$32,000 in landscape related work, accept the proposal from Landscape Services Inc., and for the work to be paid for out of the construction project funds. Mr. Snyder, Harper Woods, supported the motion. The motion was approved. Mr. Gregg thanks Kyle Seidel for putting the plan together and for helping to keep our commitment to the residents and corporations in restoring the site and improving the site appearance.

b. Operations and Maintenance

Mr. Walby reported that there has been a lot of work happening at the site, the driveway is being poured, and the pump station and pump room are being painted and cleaned up. Pete Trombley reported that there was a small rain event over Thanksgiving. The WM-S-1 meter demo and replacement project is moving along slowly. It was noted that the SEMSD is working with Mr. Phong Yang from PCI-Vetrix, a flow control engineering company, to facilitate that work in the form of system-wide flow controls. The goal is to have the work wrapped up in the next couple of weeks. Flow is being held for the whole system to do work on the meter vault. Dry weather will help to finish up the project. Brent Avery reported that the GLWA project impacts our system

as the flow is reduced until they get the project completed. Everything is being done to push the project forward. Mr. Walby remarked on how happy we are to have Mr. Trombley on board, he is an asset to SEMSD and the Milk River.

Mr. Baker questioned if the SEMSD contacted GWLA about bypasses or anything else that could be done due to the ongoing project at Kerby, which seems to be going on longer than anticipated. Pete Trombley will be running a test in collaboration with ASI, Karen Ridgeway, during the upcoming weather event. He remarked that there is a potential danger of running too much flow thru Kerby and being committed to avoiding water coming up to grade. He will be working and monitoring it all very closely and noted that the precipitation estimations are decreasing. Mr. Baker offered assistance if needed. Mr. Gregg questioned if there might be any implications that would involve EGLE. Brent Avery commented that the project is permitted by EGLE. He will be having a conversation with our compliance officer to make them aware of this project. Mr. Avery reported that the SEMSD will make the best of the situation as we work thru this GLWA project.

c. Priority 1B and Select Improvements Project-Construction Update

Mr. Tupancy reported that they had a progress meeting prior to this board meeting. A lot of work has been done on site. Seed, mulch, topsoil, and pavers are all in place. The second half of the concrete approach being poured. Friday, December 11, 2020, they will be running tests on the flushing gates. The company that oversees the performance of those gates is out of Canada, which provides some issues in getting them into the U.S to perform the tests, due to COVID restrictions. Spence will fill up the reservoir area, run the gates, and have videos sent to Canada for their review. They will then issue a final report. Those gates must be functioning properly and reliably to move sludge and debris out of the reservoirs after they are emptied. As Spence winds-down their work, they understand that a notice must be given to Tetra Tech as to when they come out as to not interfere with operations.

Kyle Seidel shared reports to the online zoom screen. Allowance authorization #24 is signed, executed, and up to date. \$337,000 is left in the unforeseen balance. Additional work has been authorized and storm pump work will be added. The amount needed for change orders to cover unforeseen costs will be reviewed. Tetra Tech has been good at getting invoices into the district and invoiced thru November. Spence is caught up on some of their invoicing, currently being invoiced thru the end of September. Tetra Tech supplied photos of the construction site and progress for the Boards review. Kyle Seidel presented the photos on the virtual zoom online screen while Mr. Tupancy reported and explained each photo. It was noted that Grosse Pointe Woods has a project to replace the bridge by the site. The project will be beginning in the next week and is scheduled to be completed by Memorial Day weekend. Mr. Schulte, Grosse Pointe Woods, reported that the road will be filled with cold patch so that there will not be any traffic issues. The fence in the area will be restored in the spring. Mr. Walby noted that the driveway is in bad shape and will need to be addressed in the future. A long-term fix will need to be developed as the project moves forward. More pictures of the site were presented including the upgrade to the electrical gear and systems as well as the new SCADA computers, most of which are up and running. Photos of the chemical feed pumps, storage tanks, blowers, and muffler systems were also presented.

A motion to receive and file the documents as presented was provided by Mr. Baker of Macomb, supported by Mr. Snyder, Harper Woods. Motion passed.

5. New Business

Tetra Tech requested an extension of their service agreement. Mr. Strassburg noted that their contract expires at the end of December 2020. A request was made to extend the current contract to the end of 2022. Construction change order #3 changes the final completion date to the middle of 2022. The Project Performance Certification that is performed once the project construction is finished will then be completed. Most of the construction should be completed in 2021. This proposal is similar to those done in the past. There is about 24 weeks' worth of work that Spence has scheduled on site. There would be no change in the budget. Extension and amended contract documents have been prepared for signature. Mr. Babcock questioned if the engineering services were included in the additional project costs and if they would be covered by the SRF loan. Mr. Strassburg confirmed that they are included. The amendment to the contract will include an extension of time and budgeted amount as presented in Mr. Strassburg letter dated December 10th. This would be known as amendment #6 to the Tetra Tech contract.

Ms. Steele, Wayne County, moved to approve amendment #6 to the Tetra Tech contract based on the proposal presented and to include that the Chairman be authorized to execute the amendment. Mr. Baker, Macomb County supported the motion. Motion approved. Mr. Gregg noted that the agreement will be finalized, signed and copies will be made available to board members.

6. Unfinished Business

Ms. Steele reminded the board that the Milk River Board seat that is shared between Harper Woods and Grosse Pointe Woods alternates every two years. Two years have since passed. She has emailed John Syzmanski and Bruce Smith to remind them that starting January 1, 2021, the seat will swap back to Grosse Pointe Woods. Harper Woods will continue to be on the meeting invitations and correspondences and are encouraged to participate and attend the scheduled MRIDDD meetings. The seat will now be held by Grosse Pointe Woods for the next two years. Mr. Smith will be the representative for the meetings. This shall take effect on January 1, 2021.

Ms. Steele noted that Wayne County has received another FOIA request for a copy of the meeting minutes. Ms. Steele reported that the requested are being responded to as they come in.

7. Approval of the SEMSD Operations and Maintenance Invoice

The SEMSD Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Invoice for November 2020 for \$59,867.76 was reviewed. The total amount billed included the O&M monthly invoice and the reimbursable pass-through costs.

Mr. Babcock, City of St. Clair Shores, moved to authorize the payment of the SEMSD Invoice O & M 11-2020. The motion was supported by Mr. Snyder of Harper Woods. Motion adopted.

8. Public Comment

Mr. Gregg announced Public Comment and asked for any public participants to identify themselves before making a public comment. No public comment was made.

9. Next Drainage Board Meeting

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is planned for Thursday, January 21, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. The ability to meet virtually was approved under the provisions of Public Act 228 of 2020. This act is set to expire on December 31, 2020. Mr. Gregg noted that there is a current bill in the

legislature that would extend the same provisions to meet virtually until the end of March 2021. This is known as Senate Bill 1246. The expectation is for this to pass. The January MRIDDD meeting will be held in a Zoom format, should this bill be enacted. Mr. Gregg noted that he will be tracking the progress of the bill and will update the board as needed.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Babcock, Saint Clair Shores, moved to adjourn the MRIDDD meeting. The motion was supported by Mr. Snyder of Harper Woods. Motion adopted.

There was no further discussion to come before the Drainage Board; the meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.



Brian Baker, Chief Deputy Macomb County Public Works Commissioner

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