

**MILK RIVER INTERCOUNTY DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT
DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 15, 2022**

A meeting of the Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage Board was held on Thursday, December 15, 2022, located at the City of St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson Avenue, St. Clair Shores, Michigan, 48081.

Members Present

Michael R. Gregg, Chair, Michigan Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development, State of MI
Elmeka 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
James Kowalski, Director of Public Services, City of Grosse Pointe Woods

Others Present

Kyle Seidel, Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick
Pete Trombley, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District
Marie Tighe, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District
Heather Toutant, Harper Woods
Russ Strassburg, Tetra Tech
Maddie Snable, Tetra Tech
Greg Tupancy, Tetra Tech
John Brennan, Fahey, Schultz, Burzych & Rhodes
Susan Como, Grosse Pointe Woods

1. Call to Order

Mr. Gregg called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Steele, Wayne County, moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was supported by Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores. Motion passed.

3. Approval of the Minutes for:

a. November 22, 2022, Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District Board Meeting

Mr. Baker, Macomb County, moved to approve the minutes for the November 22, 2022, Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District Board Meeting. The motion was supported by Mr. Kowalski, Grosse Pointe Woods. Motion passed.

4. Reports

a. Operations and Maintenance

Mr. Trombley and Mr. Seidel provided an update on the operation and maintenance. Mr. Trombley reported a rain event this morning. No discharge and able to capture about 7 million gallons of water. Everything ran well. A larger rain event on November 27, 2022, on Sunday. Both basins were filled with about 50 million gallons. Able to dewater and flush. The rainfall total was just under an inch.

McKenna and Associates provided a walk-through regarding the building permit that the SEMSD is handling with the doors. Mr. Trombley reported a clean bill of health from McKenna and Associates. They also provided the documentation for the Knox box. The AT&T upgrades are complete. No issues with the roof.

The NPDES renewal permit is due and payment will be sent to EGLE.

Lake levels were displayed on the screen and it was noted that the lake levels are receding. Lake St. Clair is 35 inches lower than the record high.

The backup power of the Harper Woods generator is in use. The screening will be installed.

b. Priority 1B and Select Improvements Project

Mr. Tupancy noted the concrete was poured on November 23, 2022, and Spence has not done any work since mediation is set for January 9, 2023. Grosse Pointe Woods is trying to get with Dave Weiss for an inspection to get the finalization of their permits.

The Engineering and Construction Contract was reviewed, and it was noted that Spence is up to date with their invoices through the end of September. Spence requested the final payment for #51. Mr. Tupancy noted Spence is no way near final payment and Tetra Tech notified them of this.

The summary of the Allowance Authorization was reviewed, and it was noted the elevator issue is in the mediation agreement. The review of the escalation of wages and any costs of materials concerning the storm pump needed to be revisited.

A motion to receive and file the Construction Progress Update Report was made by Ms. Steele, Wayne County. Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, supported the motion. Motion passed.

c. Back-Up Generator Study

Mr. Strassburg and Ms. Snable from Tetra Tech provided the results of the Back-Up Generator Study. The first study was performed in 2009. Tetra Tech was asked to refresh this study by looking at other alternatives, refreshing the costs, and looking at recommendations. There are two separate feeds through DTE. In 2019, one feed went down because of the construction project and the other feed went down unexpectedly. Alternative energy suppliers, wind power and solar were looked into, and found the backup batteries are very expensive. Tetra Tech decided to look into generators. Generators are reliable but require diesel fuel. The generator will have to have enough power to run the 3 large storm pumps and 4 smaller pumps and the Scada System. Tetra Tech collected data from past events. There are two different types of generators-permanent and temporary. A permanent generator will require maintenance. If you need to rent a temporary generator you take the chance of one not being available. They reviewed how many generators are needed, what size, and potential locations. They compared the cost of diesel fuel to natural gas. Tetra Tech recommends upgrading the DTE transformers. An emergency fund is recommended. A diesel standby generator is recommended by Tetra Tech. The final study should be done by the February 2023 meeting. Mr. Seidel will provide additional data on lake levels and rainfall. A discussion was had regarding the backup generator study. An electronic version of this study is available if needed.

A motion to receive and file the Back-Up Generator Study was made by Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores. Mr. Kowalski, Grosse Pointe Woods, supported the motion. Motion passed.

5. New Business

a. EGLE – Milk River CSO RTB Inspection

Mr. Baker, Macomb County, provided the letter from EGLE regarding the Milk River CSO RTB Inspection. The inspection consists of a site evaluation and discussion of all upgrades. This includes the SCADA system, sample collection, intake chamber, pumps, and pump room as well as the chlorination facilities for the basins, the basin themselves and flap gates, aerators, aeration basin, temporary wires, the recirculation pumping intake station, and screens. The chlorination facility for the Lake intake pipe and a discussion about the intake pipe repairs. The basin can be cleaned out as channels in the floor have been installed and new flap gates provided. The CSO RTB bottom was swept almost clean at the time of inspection. Since the new upgrades, there is more capacity and fewer discharges. As part of the improvements, every storm pump was removed and rehabilitated. A press release will be put together and provided by Commissioner Miller.

6. Unfinished Business

None.

7. Approval of the SEMSD Operations and Maintenance Invoice

Mr. Seidel reviewed the monthly invoice and pass-thru costs as noted in the Board Packet. Capital Projects were also reviewed.

A motion to approve the SEMSD Operations and Maintenance Invoice as presented was made by Mr. Kowalski, Grosse Pointe Woods. Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, supported the motion. Motion passed.

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 noted.

9. Closed Session

Ms. Steele, Wayne County, made a motion to enter a closed session for further discussion of the August 22, 2022 opinion of counsel regarding the Spence Construction dispute. Support was given by Mr. Kowalski, Grosse Pointe Woods. Motion passes. The Board entered a closed session at 11:25 a.m. as permitted by State Statute MCLA 15.268 Sec. 8(e).

The Chair, Mr. Gregg, declared the MRIDDD meeting to be in open session at 11:56 a.m.

Ms. Steele, Wayne County, moved to approve the minutes for the November 22, 2022, Closed Session. Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, supported the motion. Motion passed.

10. Next Drainage Board Meeting

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is planned for Thursday, January 26, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. This meeting will be held at St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081.

11. Adjournment

Ms. Steele, Wayne County, moved to adjourn the December 15, 2022, MRIDDD meeting. The motion was supported by Mr. Kowalski, Grosse Pointe Woods. Motion approved.

There was no further discussion to come before the Drainage Board.
The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Baker', written over a horizontal line.

Brian Baker, Chief Deputy Macomb County Public Works Commissioner

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