

**MILK RIVER INTERCOUNTY DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT
DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 22, 2023**

A Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage Board meeting was held on Thursday, June 22, 2023, 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 N. Steele, Esq., Wayne County Drain Commissioner, Wayne County
Bryan Babcock, P.E., Director of Public Works/Water, City of St. Clair Shores
Heather Toutant, Director of Public Works, City of Harper Woods

Others Present

Kyle Seidel, Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick
Kip Walby, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District
Pete Trombley, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District
Dianne Schelosky, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District
Jim Kowalski, City of Grosse Pointe Woods
Jessica Kenyon, Wayne County
Greg Tupancy, Tetra Tech
John Brennan, Fahey, Schultz, Burzych & Rhodes

1. Call to Order

Mr. Gregg called the meeting to order at 10:10 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. May 31, 2023, Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District Board Meeting

Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, moved to approve the minutes for the May 31st, 2023, Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District Board Meeting. The motion was supported by Ms. Toutant, Harper Woods. Motion passed.

4. Reports

a. Operations and Maintenance

Mr. Trombley provided an update on the Operation and Maintenance of the facility, noting that there have been several small rain events since the last meeting. Three events ranging from one-quarter to two-thirds inch of water were stored in the Milk River tunnel and no water was held in the basin. There was a grit pump that failed and has been pulled out for repair. Kennedy Industries will be picking up the pump and making the repairs. A sanitary pump will also be swapped out. Full pumping capacity has been restored

in the basin. An update will be provided at the next meeting as to the cost of these repairs. The spare pumps will be stored at the Milk River facility. \$40,000 is in the FY24 budget for the sanitary pump repairs.

There are two level sensors in the grit pump area, one of which has failed and will need to be replaced. Photos were shown on the screen of the pumps and operational basin area.

The garage roof has been completed by Premier Builders and a sub-contractor has come out to work on the bridge repair. New concrete has been poured and that project is complete. Tetra Tech was on site to oversee this construction.

It was noted that there has been another price increase for the Sodium Hypochlorite, this will go into effect on July 14, 2023. The price will go up to \$2.34 per gallon.

An agreement has been reached regarding the spare parts.

The Recirculation Station pavement should be completed by the July meeting.

A motion to receive and file the Operations and Maintenance report was made by Ms. Steele, Wayne County. Ms. Toutant, Harper Woods, supported the motion. Motion passes.

b. Priority 1B and Select Improvements Project

Mr. Tupancy noted that Tetra Tech is invoiced through the end of March and is on budget. There is a payment application in process and a check should be sent to the mediator today via Fed-Ex. The retainage release has been requested and will be sent to the mediator; this check must be cut separately by Comerica Bank. There were some items left that are awaiting approval, these include the concrete repair work and spare parts. Mr. Tupancy will verify these items.

The Summary of Allowance Authorizations was reviewed and there was no real change from the last meeting. The paperwork is to be finalized. They will be closing out the contract with funds left in the unforeseen conditions account. The current contract price will be adjusted to what was billed.

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

5. New Business

a. PPC

The Project Performance Certification report is being drafted and is expected to be presented at the July meeting. The final report is due to the state by September 29, 2023.

6. Unfinished Business

There was no report under Unfinished Business.

7. Approval of the SEMSD Operations and Maintenance Invoice

Mr. Walby reviewed the monthly invoice and pass-thru costs, as presented in the Board Packet. The list of invoices was reviewed, including the removal of dead trees and landscaping work. They are under budget and working through the Capital Projects.

A motion to approve the O & M Invoice for \$94,187.23 as presented in the board packet was made by Ms. Toutant, Harper Woods. Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, supported the motion. Motion passes.

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.

It is noted that a resident did enter the meeting during Item# 10. The resident, Mr. De Michael, requested an explanation of the function of the Milk River facility. The resident was given a copy of the June 22nd, 2023, Agenda, and informed that the meetings occur monthly, and the agendas are posted online. Ms. Steele, Wayne County, explained that more information can be found at waynecounty.com under Environmental Services, where there is a section dedicated to the Milk River drainage facility. Mr. Walby, SEMSD, also noted that a tour of the facility is available.

9. Closed Session

Mr. Brennan joined the meeting via phone. He noted that a closed session was not necessary. The discussions are going well, but there are some open issues, including the spare parts and a timing issue on SCADA regarding the flushing gates. Ms. Steele confirmed that the \$771,000 payment for Pay Ap #51, was sent via Fed Ex to the mediator. The retainage check is being worked on with Comerica Bank. Comerica has a check and balance process with the Treasurer’s Office of Wayne County. This, along with the bank being closed for two weeks has delayed the process. They are looking into doing a wire transfer to expedite the process. Mr. Brennan recommends that no exchange of retainage funds occur unless there is a signed mediation agreement, this will be communicated with the mediator and reviewed at the next MRIDDD meeting, which is July 20th, 2023.

10. Next Drainage Board Meeting

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is planned for Thursday, July 20th, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting is scheduled to 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 June 22nd, 2023, MRIDDD meeting. The motion was supported by Ms. Toutant, Harper Woods. Motion approved.

There was no further discussion to come before the Drainage Board.
The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 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.