

**MILK RIVER INTERCOUNTY DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT
DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 25, 2024**

A Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage Board meeting was held on Thursday, January 25, 2024, 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
Daniel Acciavatti, Deputy Director, Public Works Office, Macomb 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
Brent Avery, Southeast Macomb Sanitary District
Jim Kowalski, City of Grosse Pointe Woods
Greg Tupancy, Tetra Tech
Jessica Kenyon, Wayne County

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Acciavatti, Macomb County, supported the motion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of the Minutes for:

a. December 14, 2023, Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District Board Meeting

Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, moved to approve the minutes for the December 14th, 2023, Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District Board Meeting. Ms. Steele, Wayne County, supported the motion. Motion passed.

4. Reports

a. Operations and Maintenance

Mr. Trombley reported that January has been a busy month operationally. There were two full captures during the week of January 8th. The RTB and Storm Well have been dewatered and are ready for another

event. Snow melting has also contributed to the accumulation of fifteen million gallons in the basin. Full Capacity is 17.8 million gallons. The compliance numbers have been great, and they are well stocked with disinfectant. There was an issue with the effluent sample line, as a crack developed due to the polar weather that has moved through the area. An emergency repair is underway and should be completed by the end of the day. This should not be an issue for composite sampling as they can revert to time-based sampling if needed.

The outbound flow meter chamber has been restored with a temporary fix; a more permanent rehab will be planned. This may be added to the capital expenses. They are keeping on top of all maintenance issues.

Mr. Seidel reported on the Girard Drain. This quarter, which runs from October 1st through January 1st, has been uneventful. Pictures were shown of the aeration chamber. Mr. Trombley explained how they perform the compliance sampling of this area. The upstream sensors proved to be extremely helpful in understanding storage capacity and averting discharge events. It was noted that had the sensors not been in place, a discharge event would likely have occurred during the last rain event.

The January forecast shows that the lake levels will be six inches lower this June than last year. This has no major implications for the Milk River. There are dredging projects going on in some areas as the lake levels go down.

Ms. Steele, Wayne County, made a motion to receive and file the Operations and Maintenance report. Mr. Acciavatti, Macomb County, supported the motion. Motion passes.

b. Priority 1B and Select Improvements Project

Mr. Tupancy reported on the Engineering Service Contract Summary Report, noting it has been updated to account for the amendment to extend Tetra Tech's contract through 6.30.2024. This includes the additional \$50,000 added to the contract. Tetra Tech is invoiced through the end of November 2023 and is within the construction budget. There are no new pay applications from Spence. It was noted that nothing has been received from Spence since April of 2023. The construction cost summary report has had no changes. There is a balance left in the contract for unforeseen conditions. This will reduce the final contract price by \$166,178.79.

A discussion occurred regarding the concrete repair work on the bridge to the pump station, which was to be completed by Spence. This work was not to exceed \$10,000 for the excavation of that portion of the bridge. This was completed in June of 2023; however, Spence has not turned in the paperwork for the excavation work, despite several reminders that the paperwork is necessary to produce the final pay application. Once this paperwork is received, the numbers will be cross-checked and adjusted with the balancing change order. The Board will need to approve the final reconciling change order. They would like to have this wrapped up for the March 28th meeting. Tetra Tech is in the process of checking all the closed-out items.

Mr. Trombley noted that they are close to completing the repairs to the flushing gates in Basin #2. Wet weather events have prohibited further completion. During the dewatering of the basin after the recent wet weather events, it was noticed that the gates were holding water. They will get to Basin #1 in February. The SEMSD will do everything they can to assist while they are on site.

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

5. New Business

a. Year-End RTB Performance

Mr. Seidel provided an overview of the Year-End report, noting that this is the third year of presenting the annual performance report. There were 2.3 billion gallons of combined sewage flow into the Milk River system. Of that amount, 2.0 billion gallons were sent to the Fox Creek facility for treatment at the Great Lakes Water Authority. Approximately 840 million gallons were captured in line or in the basin. If this RTB was not in place, 840 million gallons would have gone directly to the lake. There were six discharge events in 2023. In the past, discharge events would take place at .2 inches of rain, this was before the operation of the RTB basin. The amount is now at .76 inches of rainfall, in a single event to overflow the RTB basin. They have remained well below the standard for all E. Coli limits, meeting the NPDES permit goals. Overall, this shows that the basin is performing very well, operating efficiently in a manner that is in accordance with the NPDES standards. Mr. Seidel noted that the Operators are to be credited for maintaining these standards. This report will be posted on the SEMSD website.

A motion to receive and file the Year-End RTB Performance report was made by Mr. Acciavatti, Macomb County. Ms. Steele, Wayne County supported the motion. Motion passed.

b. Q2 Financial Report

Ms. Kenyon, Wayne County, presented the Q2 Financial Report, noting that the contract is on track and within budget. They are 45-46% spent for the budget year.

Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, motioned to receive and file the Q2 Financial Report. Ms. Toutant, Harper Woods, supported the motion. Motion passed.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Generator

No report was provided for the Generator study, this will be revisited at the March 28th, 2024, meeting.

7. Approval of the SEMSD Operations and Maintenance Invoice

Mr. Walby reviewed the monthly invoice and pass-thru costs as presented in detail in the Board Packet. Some of the expenses noted were the Security Cameras, Wet Well cleaning, and the NPDES permit fee.

It was noted that the approved fixed monthly expense of \$57,387.37 will be billed monthly going forward and the pass-thru expenses will be presented to the Board for approval at the scheduled MRIDDD meeting dates.

Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, made a motion to approve the O&M invoice for \$142,885.24. Ms. Toutant, Harper Woods, 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 attendance or comment was noted.

9. Next Drainage Board Meeting

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is planned for Thursday, March 28th, 2024, 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.

10. Adjournment

Ms. Steele, Wayne County, moved to adjourn the January 25th, 2024, MRIDDD meeting. Mr. Acciavatti, Macomb County, supported the motion. Motion approved.

There was no further discussion to come before the Drainage Board.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 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.