

**MILK RIVER INTERCOUNTY DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT
DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 21, 2024**

A Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage Board meeting was held on Monday, October 21, 2024, at the SEMSD Operations Center, 20001 Pleasant Street, St. Clair Shores, Michigan, 48080.

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
Brian Baker, Chief Deputy, 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
Russ Strassburg, Tetra Tech
Joe Brezvai, Intercounty Drain Project Manager

1. Call to Order

Mr. Gregg called the regularly scheduled MRIDDD meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Steele, Wayne County, moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Baker, Macomb County, supported the motion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of the Minutes for:

a. September 26, 2024, Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District Board Meeting

Mr. Baker, Macomb County, moved to approve the minutes for the September 26, 2024, Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District Board Meeting. Ms. Toutant, Harper Woods, supported the motion. Motion passed.

4. Reports

a. Operations and Maintenance

Mr. Trombley reported on a discharge on October 14, 2024, noting the ongoing event dropped two ½ inches of rain into the drainage district, resulting in 21.7 million gallons being discharged. All TRC and E. coli thresholds were within the permitted levels. Operations all functioned well.

It was noted that they are making headway on the Flushing Gates and are getting close to being able to schedule for final approval.

The vactoring project had to be postponed due to a large amount of accumulated sediment. Crews have been in to clean out all the alleys. They are hoping to get the vactoring done now that they have cleaned out all of the sediment.

One recirculation pump is now running, and it will continue until the end of November. The Zebra mussel bleach treatments have been discontinued for the season.

Mr. Walby noted that the security camera installation at the Recirculation Station will be completed by the next meeting. These cameras have motion sensors and hold one month of data storage.

The beaver issue was also discussed, noting that they are working with residents and the Ford Estate staff to trap the beaver(s) causing the property damage.

Mr. Seidel reported on the Girard Drain, noting that a zero level at the Girard Drain equates to 26.7 feet in the wet well at Milk River. The first pump is manually started at around twenty-five feet in the wet well if the rainfall is intense. Photos were displayed showing the benefits of the system, maximizing the in-system storage to avoid discharges. Mr. Seidel noted that the total additional in-line storage amounts will be summarized in the annual report, which will be sent out in January 2025. The SCADA data is used to populate reports noting retainage vs. discharge amounts during rain events.

Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, made a motion to receive and file the Operations and Maintenance report. Ms. Steele, Wayne County, supported the motion. Motion passes.

b. Priority 1B and Select Improvements Project

Mr. Strassburg noted that technical issues prevented the creation of financial reports for this meeting. They are waiting for a final Pay Application from Spence; who may be waiting for the completion of the flushing gates before submitting the Pay Application.

Additional discussion occurred regarding the Flushing Gate repairs, noting that the newly repaired gates are holding well during operations, and they hope to have an inspection done soon. Mr. Strassburg inquired whether a more comprehensive test needs to be performed on the repaired gates. It was noted that the visual inspection already done during current events shows that the gates are performing well, and a timed test may not be needed. It was also noted that there has been no response from Spence regarding the sediment removal. Spence will be put on notice that they will be responsible for ongoing costs incurred for sediment removal, per legal advisement made during the September meeting.

Mr. Baker, Macomb County, moved to authorize the SEMSD, to request on behalf of the MRIDDD, reimbursement from Spence for the costs associated with vactoring, this shall include the SEMSD labor hour expenses required to prepare the area. Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, supported the motion. Motion passed. It was noted that the SEMSD is operating as an authorized agent of the MRIDDD.

5. New Business
a. 2025 Meeting Dates

**Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District
 2025 Board Meeting Dates**

Thursday	February 27 th	10:00 a.m.
Thursday	April 24 th	10:00 a.m.
Thursday	June 26 th	10:00 a.m.
Thursday	August 28 th	10:00 a.m.
Thursday	October 23 rd	10:00 a.m.
Thursday	December 18 th	10:00 a.m.

Mr. Baker, Macomb County, moved to approve the meeting dates for 2025 as proposed in the MRIDDD Board Packet. Ms. Steele, Wayne County, supported the motion. Motion passed.

6. Unfinished Business
a. Generator

Mr. Strassburg noted that the final Generator report was sent out to Board members. A petition will be required and there will be a legal process to follow under the provisions of Chapter 21 to implement this project. It was suggested that the Board Representatives review this report with their City Council and City Managers. A resolution would be required from two of the three communities. Legal Counsel would be utilized to draft the resolution. An estimated cost to the communities distributed over time was discussed and requested in order to balance cost vs. risk for these communities.

7. Approval of the SEMSD Operations and Maintenance Invoice

Mr. Walby reviewed the SEMSD invoice and pass-thru costs for September 2024 as presented in detail in the Board Packet, noting that they are currently under budget, at 29%. They are working on Capital Projects.

Mr. Baker, Macomb County, motioned to approve the pass-thru invoice for \$32,436.67. 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 comments were noted.

9. Next Drainage Board Meeting

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is planned for Thursday, December 12th, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting is scheduled to be held at the SEMSD Operations Center, 20001 Pleasant Street, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080.

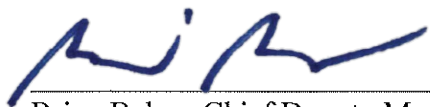
Mr. Gregg announced his retirement as Chair for the Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District and his position with the Department of Agriculture & Rural Development after 45 years of service with the State of Michigan. December 12th, 2024 will be Mr. Gregg's last meeting as Chairperson for the MRIDDD. His dedicated years of service have been very much appreciated and he will be missed.

The Board welcomes Mr. Joseph Brezvai, from the State of Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, who will be stepping into the Chairperson position.

10. Adjournment

Ms. Steele, Wayne County, moved to adjourn the October 21st, 2024, MRIDDD meeting. Mr. Babcock, St. Clair Shores, supported the motion. Motion approved.

There was no further discussion to come before the Drainage Board.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 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.