

**IN UTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF FOX METRO WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT
HELD WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2021**

The Board of Trustees met in a regular monthly meeting at 9:30 A.M. in the offices of the District at the Water Pollution Control Plant on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Present were, Trustee Judith S. Sotir, Trustee Michael Funkey, Trustee Christopher F. Childress, Trustee Dave Krahn and Trustee Randall H. Brown. Also present were Attorney Gregg Ingemunson (via phone), Manager Thomas F. Muth, District Engineer, John Frerich from Deuchler Engineering (via phone), Assistant District Manager Karen Clementi, Human Resources Coordinator, Patrick Divine, Project Engineer Drew Zeipen (via phone), IT Supervisor, Dan Vargas, Attorney Matthew Schiff and Norma Rodriguez.

10753

The bills were presented and read. It was moved by Trustee Funkey that the bills be allowed as read, ratify and approve the checks drawn during the month of January, 2021 in the amount of \$1,902,411.82, Motion was seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the bills be paid as presented.

10754

It was moved by Trustee Funkey seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the Treasurer's Report for January, 2021 be approved as submitted.


10755

It was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote, and the Motion was unanimously carried that the minutes of the January 20, 2021 Board Meeting be approved as written. Each of the Trustees having received and read copies of said minutes before the meeting.

In Public Comments, Trustee Sotir on behalf of the Board congratulated all of the employees who celebrated birthdays in the month of February.

10756

With no other Public Comments, it was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried



that the Regular Board Meeting be temporarily adjourned for the Committee of Local Improvements.

The Regular Board Meeting temporarily adjourned at 9:40 A.M.

In the Committee of Local Improvements Manager Muth gave the Board a presentation regarding Regulatory Updates. Fox Metro is required to submit a Phosphorus Discharge Optimization Plan, it consists of a report that is approximately 60 pages and it was submitted by staff in November, 2020. This was built upon a 2016 Phosphorus Feasibility Reduction Study.


Manager Muth explained that 60% of Phosphorus comes from Residential 11% from commercial, 8% from industrial and the remainder comes from (I&I) Inflow/Infiltration and other various sources.

There is an effluent reduction analysis to 1.0, 0.5 and 0.1 mg/l limits. The District has spent approximately \$100M on Phosphorus Capital Improvements. The aeration tanks at the North Plant were retrofitted with mixers and also optimization equipment in order to know how much dissolved oxygen is in each tank. All this has helped the plant to reach 1.0 mg/l limit for Phosphorus.

The Plant must meet a 1.0 mg/l limit by June, 2021 on a rolling annual average and staff must submit all of the reports to the IEPA. Fox Metro is ahead of the game because since July, 2019 when the South Plant became operational, Fox Metro was treating at less than 1.0 mg/l of phosphorus.

As part of the NPDES permit, the plant is required to submit the cost of meeting the 1.0 mg/l to 0.5 mg/l and then 0.1 mg/l. With the \$100M capital improvements, the District has accomplished treating 1.0 mg/l without the use of any chemicals.

Fox Metro has been involved with the Fox River Study Group for the last twenty years and they have a sophisticated model that projected that even reaching to treat at 0.1 mg/l there is little to no positive effect on the Fox River. The indications are that the plant will not be required to achieve the low level of treatment because it would cost a



very large amount of money (approximately 100M) to achieve little to zero benefit to the water quality of the Fox River. Discussion ensued regarding plant process.


Continuing with the Committee of Local Improvements, Karen Clementi advised the Board that the IEPA performed a Compliance Enforcement Inspection on February 3, 2021 at the Plant and the audit went very well. The IEPA inspector came to Fox Metro to finalize the South Plant and was very impressed by the facility. The last inspection was conducted in 2018. Annual inspections are occurring less frequently for those wastewater agencies in good standing. With COVID-19 all documentation was able to be submitted digitally. Karen thanked all of the Fox Metro and Deuchler staff involved for the excellent job they did with the audit.

Manager Muth advised the Board that Fox Metro and the City of Aurora held a virtual Public Information Meeting on February 10, 2021 regarding CSO Updates. Fox Metro is required to hold this meeting every year as part of the NPDES Permit. This meeting is held with the City of Aurora because both agencies collaborate in this program and the collaboration has been very successful.

Manager Muth said in 2009 Fox Metro submitted a Long Term Control Plan to the IEPA and USEPA. The IEPA reviewed the plants and approved it. The USEPA took approximately four years to review and approve it.

The twenty year Long Term Control Plan consists of 6 phases. Two of them have been completed, the District has spent approximately \$137M and have had exceptional results.

The first two phases consisted of nutrient removal and the next phases will consist of increasing capacity. Manger Muth stated that since the wet weather flow facility was constructed and came on line in 2011, the Plant has experienced one (1) over flow or less per year. The plant would experience an average of eleven (11) over flows per year prior to the wet weather flow facility coming on line. The NPDES permit allows the plant to average 4-6 over flows per year and obviously the Plant is doing better than that. In 2020 the plant had one (1) event and it occurred in May which was the rainiest month on record for 4 years



in a row. Manager Muth advised the Board that staff will be changing out the valves at the main pumping station and that is scheduled for the first week in March. The last three of the four over flows that have occurred were the result of the old hydraulic valve system. The new valve system that will be installed is automatic and staff believe this will significantly reduce the overflows even more.

The next item discussed in the Committee of Local Improvements was the Solar Energy Public Relations Strategy. Karen Clementi said that she, Trustee Childress and GRNE have been working on this strategy. The first press release has been sent out and Karen thanked Trustee Childress for all of his assistance.

Karen said the second press release will be ready after a ribbon cutting date has been chosen, she added that a website has been created www.foxmetro.org/about/solarenergy and it went live last week. Discussion ensued regarding information contained in the website.

Karen said Fox Metro began a Sustainability Committee last year and solar has been a topic of discussion. Fox Metro is in a ComEd cohort and Fox Metro will be reimbursed a \$19,000 rebate from last year. The committee would like to spend that rebate on environmental friendly items at the District. Discussion ensued regarding government funding for future solar projects at the District and the Future Energy Jobs Act.

Karen said there will be a sign posted at the solar field at the East entrance at the gate near the bike path. Kendall County's ribbon cutting event for the their solar field is scheduled for March 25, 2021 and elected officials have been invited. GRNE team is taking the lead for the press release timing and logistics.

Karen asked that the Board decide and agree on a date for Fox Metro's solar field ribbon cutting ceremony. After discussion all trustees concurred to hold the Fox Metro's ribbon cutting ceremony for the Solar Field on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at noon. This event will be open to the public and publicized in the newspaper and social media outlets. Discussion ensued regarding specific details of the open house and additional possible sites for placement of another solar field at the District.

10757

With no other matters to come before the Committee of Local Improvements, it was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the Committee of Local Improvements adjourn and the Regular Board Meeting reconvene.

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:34 A.M.

10758

Attorney Gregg Ingemunson addressed the Board with the Attorney's Report. He requested approval of Resolution No. 983 and Ordinance No. 898 for Annexation of Marvin Zelaya property located in Eola, Illinois. It was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that Resolution No. 983 and Ordinance No. 898 for Annexation of Marvin Zelaya property located in Eola, Illinois be approved as written.


Mr. John Frerich addressed the Board with the Engineer's Report and requested approval of Partial Payment No. 19 to Whittaker Construction, in the amount of \$370,658.40 for O&M Building Phase II Improvement Project.

Mr. Frerich requested approval of Final Payment No. 5 to Archon Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$15,764.21 for Fiber Optic Duct Bank Improvement Project.

Mr. Frerich requested approval of Partial Payment No. 8 to Whittaker Construction in the amount of \$50,464.66 for F Aeration Tanks Walkway Repairs Phase 2.

Mr. Frerich requested approval of Partial Payment No. 8 to Whittaker Construction in the amount of \$71,662.50 for Building B3 Odor Control Improvements Project.

Mr. Frerich requested approval of Partial Payment No. 4 to Valley Electrical in the amount of \$52,272.00 for Oswego Pump Station Electrical Upgrades Project.



Mr. Frerich requested approval of Final Payment No. 2 to Red Feather Group in the amount of \$15,750.00 for the Oswego Pump Station Phase 2 Improvements.


10759

It was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that the Engineer's Report be approved as published and payments be made as requested.

10760

Manager Muth addressed the Board with the Managers Report. He requested authorization to seek bids for two Grinders for the Orchard Road Pumping Station to be opened at 10:00 A.M., March 24, 2021 at the Board of Trustees Meeting. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried to authorize to seek bids for two Grinders for the Orchard Road Pumping Station to be opened at 10:00 A.M., March 17, 2021 at the Board of Trustees Meeting.

The next item discussed in the Manager's Report was the Building N Repairs. Manager Muth said Building N is the Plant's solids handling building where the centrifuges are located. There are two large garage doors they are located at the North and South of the building. This building was constructed in the 1960's and there are some structural problems with the header. Deuchler through their Structural Engineer has reviewed what needs to be demolished, what structural steel needs to be purchased and what masonry work needs to be completed. They have a set of plans and staff would like to seek quotes from local contractors. Staff would also like to seek quotes from local contractors for two garage doors and would use Fox Metro's electrical staff to make modifications. This would be a construction management approach project. Project Engineer, Drew Zeipen, Maintenance Supervisor, Chris Morpheu, Maintenance Foreman, Eric Hutt, Electrical and Automation Supervisor, Mike Petersen along with his staff would be involved in completing this project in house. Manager Muth said by separating these two projects, they would be less than \$40,000.00 and the reason he is bringing this to the Board, is that these are not a budgeted projects but it is an urgent repair that needs to be completed. One of the garage doors does not open and that leaves only one door to take the solids out of the building and if that door breaks down and does not open, it



will create an emergency repair that will have to be done without Board approval. Manager Muth said staff wants to be proactive and work with staff to be able to accomplish this in house and save the District money by not having a General Contractor complete this project.

Trustee Sotir asked the anticipated cost of the project. Manager Muth said the two garage doors would be approximately \$20,000.00 and the structured modifications; replacement of the steel, masonry work and hiring a contractor for demolition would be approximately \$25,000.00.

Manager Muth said staff would like to proceed with this project even though it is not in the budget and they want to avoid this to become hazardous situation.

10761

It was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried to approve staff's request to approve Building N repairs, purchase of garage doors, steel, to seek quotes from local contractors and to utilize in house staff to perform the electrical labor.

With no other business to come before the Board, Manager Muth requested Executive Session to discuss Personnel, and related matters

10762

At this time it was moved by Trustee Funkey, seconded by Trustee Childress, put to vote and unanimously carried that this meeting be temporarily adjourned for Executive Session.

Regular Board Meeting temporarily adjourned for Executive Session at 10:34 A.M.

10763

It was moved by Trustee Funkey seconded by Trustee Childress put to vote and unanimously carried that the Executive Session be adjourned and resume the Regular Board Meeting.

Regular Board Meeting reconvened at 12:57 P.M

No decisions were made in Executive Session



10764

With no other business to come before the Board, it was moved by Trustee Funkey seconded by Trustee Childress put to vote and unanimously carried that this meeting be adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 1:04 P.M.

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