THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING December 1, 2014

Pledge of Allegiance.

The regular meeting of the Landis Sewerage Authority was called to order by Chairman Silva at 6:00 p.m. The following members were present at roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva were present.

The proper notice was given to all members in accordance with the by-laws.

Chairman Silva stated that public notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act, has been given in the following manner:

1. Posting written notice in the lobby entrance of the Authority.

- 2. Hand delivering notices to the offices of the Daily Journal and The Press.
- 3. Filing written notices in the offices of the Authority and City Clerk.

Also present: Dennis W. Palmer Executive Director/Chief Engineer

Robert A. Schwarz Field Engineer

A. Steven Fabietti Solicitor

Carol A. Ricci Executive Secretary
John Kammermeier SSSE, Plant Maintenance

Steven Lewis Public

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 17, 2014 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted "yes".

A 25 Year Service Award was presented to John Kammermeier.

The Chairman asked if there were any general public comments or comments on the proposed Resolutions.

My name is Steven Lewis. I live at 1322 Brandywine Drive, Vineland, NJ 08361.

Chairman Silva commented that Mr. Lewis was a former member of this Board.

Mr. Lewis stated that he was at the meeting because of the story in the Daily Journal on November 26th about the Mayor and the LSA agreements. Mr. Lewis stated that it is a shame that the Mayor did not come to any of the negotiating committees because if he didn't like what was negotiated, if he was at the meetings he could have voiced his opinion and saved everybody a lot of time instead of wait until everything was done and

saying no. You all know how I feel about giving the City \$300,000. As a rate payer I don't think you should give the City any money. Being that you are willing to negotiate and give him \$50,000 for sidewalks for the schools. That is nice. The schools can use the sidewalks and they can't get the money any other way. As a rate payer, I can live with that because you are doing something for the safety of the kids. As far as the \$300,000 goes, the only way I would give the City that money is if they would tell me how they spent every penny. As a rate payer I think I have a right to know that. If you are going to give the City money, they should tell you and you should tell your rate payers what that money was spent on because the more money you give the City or any form of government, they can spend more. You run a tight ship here Mr. Palmer and there are no complaints you because you do an excellent job. Not everybody is a customer of LSA and I consider that a hidden tax because when you are taking money from one part of something and giving it to the City, if not everyone is contributing that money, then it's not fair for everybody. I consider that to be a hidden tax on the rate payers. I am totally against it. If it does come about I think you should make a stipulation where they should have to tell you how they spend every penny of that money.

Thank you for your time and have a good holiday.

Resolutions:

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-149, "Be it resolved by the Landis Sewerage Authority, that the following bills of items or demands are hereby approved and authorized for payment out of the Revenue Fund Revolving Payroll Account.....\$154,984.05", be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted "yes".

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-150, "Be it resolved by the Landis Sewerage Authority, that the following bills of items or demands are hereby approved and authorized for payment out of the Revenue Fund Bills....\$349,507.72", be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted "yes".

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2014-151, "A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority approving rates for the acceptance of liquid digester feed..." be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted "yes".

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2014-152, "A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority establishing meeting dates of the Landis Sewerage Authority for the administrative year beginning February 2, 2015..." be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted "yes".

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-153, "A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority establishing allocation dates for the Landis

Sewerage Authority for the 2014 administrative year..." be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted "yes".

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2014-154, "A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority summarizing allocation activity through the close of Allocation Round 154…" be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted "yes".

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-155, "A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority allocating sewerage capacity for Round 154 for commercial classification..." be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted "yes".

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that at our next meeting hopefully we will have the adoption of the budget. We will hear back from the State on that. We adopted the rules for the acceptance of waste. Our target is to start taking our own material in by the middle of this month and taking outside customers starting in January. We are starting some of the marketing. The story ran two Tuesdays ago and it actually has brought some people of interest to bring material here. We're e-mailing someone from Mount Holly who is dealing with organic waste and he wanted to know our rates. We heard from at least two other haulers who haul materials and we are looking hopefully for a nice customer base and we are trying to get a steady feed. It will provide a service to our local industries, the local food processors that have either grease traps or grease materials or other food processing waste they are paying to be hauled farther distances. Some of them do land application on farm land but you really can't do that in the winter so they need an alternate location in the winter. That's when our biggest demand for heat is so that's a nice combination of things.

Last week we had someone come from SNJ Today, that's the new video internet company that has really taken off. They are looking at possible doing a story here and some things on the internet with them. The guy used to do bio-diesel so he had a real interest in our receiving station and what it's going to do by turning waste into energy.

On December 4th the Finance Committee is meeting here at 5:00 and Tom, Jose and I have a conference with David Kotok on what we are going to do for financing for some of our capital infrastructure. Moving into that plan is asset management which you heard at the AEA conference where you have assets, capital infrastructure, they have a finite life. Either you have to maintain or upgrade them or those are some things we are looking at and also for efficiency and save costs especially on energy.

Today we had a progress meeting on the Receiving Station. It's probably about 90% done. We get the paving done on Wednesday. It's going to look close to done. Many of the motors are hooked up and wired and functioning. We have one more roof area put in, the hot water piping is going in. Most of the wires have been pulled and the control

panels are set up. Our target is by the middle of December to handle the grease that we have at the head of our plant and stop paying those hauling costs.

Today we had a conference call with the Department of Agriculture and the Federal agency that is funding it. We did a draw down and we have gotten one payment. The State runs it by the Feds and they didn't recognize the stuff in the draw down. They sent us a narrative which I had never seen before of the project. It turns out in their own paperwork handling, they are looking at stuff from 2011, not the stuff we got approved in 2014. The finals numbers added up the same but it wasn't the same narrative that applied to the equipment and manpower. So hopefully we have them all on the right page now so we get our payments approved. I will be doing another one this week. The checks you signed tonight with the yellow sticker are those we will be looking for reimbursement on funding. Hopefully by the end of the month we will have some payments.

Field Engineer

Bob Schwartz reported that Melrose Street Development will be installing the doghouse manhole on Melrose Street on Wednesday, December 3, 2014.

Also, paving was performed at the plant last week in preparation for the Receiving Station project.

Bob also reported that we have not had any response from T & W Construction regarding the Mill Road and Gallagher Drive project.

Solicitor:

Steven Fabietti reported that there are just two matters marked for follow up. One is our appeal for the NJPDES permit fee with the State of New Jersey which we filed some time ago. I haven't heard anything back yet other than an acknowledgement of the filing of our appeal so I will be issuing a letter that asks for some status this week. I don't know if we will hear anything back before the holidays.

The other matter is the T & W Construction which Bob mentioned. Dennis and I worked on a letter some time ago and the contractor has been non-responsive. We may have to take further action there. We are in the driver's seat since the money has not been paid.

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence:

Dennis stated that we all had discussions and I thank Mr. Lewis for coming in tonight. We disagree with the Mayor. I think we may have further discussions with the Council or representatives of the Council. We are very much interested in doing the right thing when it comes to students and children and disagree with some of the Mayor's comments. Our answer was represented in Saturday's newspaper that we disagree on certain points. We

will follow up with Council members and see if there is some middle ground. We are not sending the \$300,000 without a signed shared services agreement and exactly as it has been pointed out in the paper and other times, the Mayor failed to show up, he sent one administrative person. Had the agreement for months, April until the end of August when Council finalized it. It circulated to the department heads with ample opportunity and we took into consideration several comments which were great suggestions by department heads and put them in the final document. There's time spanning months where we looked for input and he failed to do it.

Jose Silva stated that during those negotiations he sent a representative one time. Dennis confirmed it was one time out of three. Jose Silva asked if the representative had any objections at that time and Dennis said they had some objections and came back with written suggestions which then actually became incorporated. We would not look for water shut offs over 90 degrees or below freezing. That's exactly what was incorporated in the final document. The Mayor did not even come to two discussions that were held at Council workshops. We went through every paragraph of the document for comments, additions, and suggestions, whatever. If you want to be part of an issue you should come to the table and come prepared to negotiate and those things did not happen.

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant

Dennis Palmer reported that we meet on the day of Board meetings as a progress meeting. At least two representatives from the department of agriculture come down and last time the Secretary, Doug Fisher came and we let them know where we stand and coordinate where we stand with upcoming weeks and what kind of work we have planned. Are there paperwork issues we have to deal with or the State Department of Agriculture has to deal with to make sure we get reimbursed for the funding of items that we spent for. That happened today and they are successful and we keep the project moving. I am extremely proud of the guys in the plant that we have done a project that most facilities couldn't do because we have guys that have expertise in excavation, concrete, block work, mounting pumps, welding, all of those key ingredients. They are doing a workman like job and a great job putting this thing together. When the paving is done on Wednesday, they will box it out, put down the base, the crushed concrete and the final asphalt. It will pull the job together and you can visualize it out there. It's going to look really nice. It's a really nice project and our guys are doing a magnificent job pulling it all together.

Budget/Finance:

Dennis stated that we had a budget hearing last meeting and the information has been in Trenton and we are waiting on Trenton. Depending on discussions, we may look at a Budget Amendment at our next meeting. We'll see how discussions go.

Human Resources:

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We are pretty much at full staffing right now. We have one position open at the farm since one of the staff moved up to the foreman position so we have a truck driver position. We are very close to winding down the farm, we will do that next spring.

Public Relations:

Dennis stated that we got a lot of comments on the Receiving Station story in the newspaper. The idea of taking waste and turning it into fuel and energy and that it helps local businesses, I got a lot of complements at my Rotary meeting.

<u>Insurance Committee</u>: No Report

Allocations/Administration:

Dennis stated that we took action on commercial tonight but there is nothing on homes.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment:

At 6:22 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

CARLOS VILLAR, Secretary