

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
February 3, 2014

Pledge of Allegiance

The regular meeting of the Landis Sewerage Authority was called to order by acting Chairman, Solicitor A. Steven Fabietti at 6:00 p.m.

The following members were present at roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson.

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

Acting Chairman A. Steven Fabietti 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.

Acting Chairman Fabietti welcomed Commissioner Joseph J. Reuben back to the Board of Commissioners to the Landis Sewerage Authority. Dennis Palmer stated that there is a new law that you be sworn in at City Hall and at the Board meeting.

Steven Fabietti administered the Oath of Office to Joseph J. Reuben.

Also present:	Dennis W. Palmer	Executive Director/Chief Engineer
	Robert A. Schwarz	Field Engineer
	A. Steven Fabietti	Solicitor
	Carol A. Ricci	Executive Secretary

The Solicitor, as acting Chairman asked for a motion to open nominations for the election of a slate of officers for the next ensuing year as follows;

Chairman.....	G. Steven Errickson
Vice-Chairman.....	Jose Silva, Jr.
Secretary.....	Carlos E. Villar
Treasurer.....	Thomas J. Merighi, Jr.
Assistant Secretary.....	Joseph J. Reuben
Assistant Treasurer.....	Joseph J. Reuben

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Villar that the above slate of officers be nominated. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

The Solicitor asked if there are other nominations. There being no further nominations, the Solicitor announced that he would entertain a motion that nominations be closed.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Villar that the nominations be closed and the slate of officers be elected. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted "yes".

At this point in the meeting Acting Chairman Fabietti turned the meeting over to Chairman G. Steven Errickson.

It was moved by Merighi and seconded by Villar that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 21, 2014 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Merighi and Errickson voted "yes". Reuben, Villar and Silva abstained.

It was moved by Merighi and seconded by Villar that the reading of the minutes of the closed meeting held on January 21, 2014 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Merighi and Errickson voted "yes". Reuben, Villar and Silva abstained.

The Chairman asked if there were any general public comments or comments on the proposed Resolutions. There were none.

Resolutions:

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-16, "A Resolution confirming the appointing of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer..." be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted "yes".

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2014-17, "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.....\$62,201.85", be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted "yes".

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-18, "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....\$165,139.63", be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted "yes".

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-19, "A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Auditing Services with Romano, Hearing, Testa & Knorr for the period of February 3,

2014 through February 2, 2015...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2014-20, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the Construction Fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$28,104.00 to Ditschman/Flemington Ford for (1) one new Ford F250 Super Cab with utility body and 4WD under State Contract A83577T2100 in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s General Bond Resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Errickson that Resolution No. 2014-21, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Summarizing Allocation Activity through the close of Allocation Round 149...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2014-22, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing correction on credits, charge-offs, refunds and cancellation of accounts in the amount of \$1,403.00...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

It was moved by Silva and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-23, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the Construction Fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$250.00 to Hatch Mott MacDonald for review and support for collection system estimate for future bond in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s General Bond Resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted “yes”.

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that everyone received a copy of a memo for people with a low use of sick time and we congratulate them. Those who had used more than the threshold got a memo that for the next six months for whatever reason they are out sick they must bring in a doctor’s note.

Dennis also reported that there was a memo on the billboards. We had previously had a discussion on that and going into that discussion he thought that our zoning here was ok for billboards and as I talked to Kathy Hicks to explore it further, we are not. We would need a variance here which is the whole issue before the City at this time. The issue of billboards goes to council then refers it to planning board. Planning Board has a hearing on it and they propose an ordinance back to City Council and there will be an ordinance for the first and second meeting. With that, it was too premature to start having these guys come in and talk. If we were ok on zoning, it could have been pursued. With it

being so far out, we are at the far tail of the nose of the dog that hasn't even started yet so I have not done anything.

Dennis stated that he has been working with Steve's office on two personnel matters, one is with one employee we are dealing with on a disability issue and the other is the Union contract. Last week we basically reached an agreement. Steve's office is to prepare a memorandum of agreement that lays out all of the things we have agreed upon and any changes to the contract. This was a lot of work and Nicole Curio did a great job in taking the farm contract and the plant contract and merging them together and dealing with a side amendment that just deals with some issues that are very specific to the farm. We are working our way through that but we have an agreement by the negotiation team. They would have to take it back to their membership for a vote and it would come back to the board here as well. At this point in time it looks as if we have it subject to finalization and giving it to the bargaining unit.

From public relations, Jose missed a great press conference here and Dennis thanked the board for coming out and their support as well. At the same time for public relations, Assemblyman Sam Fiochi in the week he was sworn in as assemblyman, he stopped by and we gave him a tour of the facility. Water is near and dear to Sam given his previously Lee Rain ownership with irrigation. He was very intrigued with our plant. We talked about a lot of things including the Bob White plan and hopefully we will get Field and Stream here. We showed him the trees, the co-gen, the solar panels and the facility. We had a nice discussion on water issues and he spent some time in my office afterwards talking.

Dennis said that he would let Bob talk about two projects under construction which are the crossing at Burns Avenue and Magnolia and McMahon where we had that collapse some time ago. We TV'd the pipe and the pipe is in deplorable shape. You can actually see soil and dirt in some areas. We started today tying into the bypass pumping system and we are running the flow across the ground through pipes and tying into a downstream manhole so we would not take a risk of the pipe collapsing. Where there is not pipe we see dirt. We went out on an emergency as in a previous resolution to make emergency repairs and we got three quotes, told the contractors it was prevailing wage. We got the pricing in and awarded it to the lowest contractor which was Garrison. We will dig up the street, go 500 feet or so. The next manhole down also has a drop and the gasses evolved there as well. There are some places where there's a concrete manhole and then there is gravel and dirt. We will replace that as well. It will start as soon as Garrison mobilizes. Bob Schwarz stated it will possibly be within a week to two weeks since they are waiting for the PVC lined manhole which is a special order and takes more time to get the product and as soon as all of the materials are here the project can begin.

Dennis stated that instead of using concrete pipe and manholes, we will be putting in PVC lined manholes and PVC pipe which resists the gasses. So the gasses and odors can release the manholes have four holes for handles and we will take one handle out and that will allow some ventilation. The temporary piping is already out there across the street to help.

Tom Merighi asked if it was down the middle. Dennis stated yes. Tom Merighi asked if the road would be closed for a period of time and Bob Schwarz stated that during construction it would be closed but it will be open at night because the City has an ordinance that if you shut a road down for more than 48 hours you have to pass a resolution authorizing it and we wanted to avoid that. We have the detour signs but it is only for the working day and at night it will be opened. Dennis stated that we will be reconnecting homes as we go down the street. As we lay the pipe, the house will be disconnected and go back in and reconnect it. This is something that absolutely needed to be done. We don't want to put those people through another collapse.

Field Engineer

Bob Schwarz reported that the contractor for the Burns Avenue Sewer Extension project attempted to bore under the railroad tracks and the Boulevard and had difficulties with debris in the path of the casing. They may have to open the Boulevard to complete the work. We are awaiting a plan from the Contractor.

Bob also reported that the bypass system at McMahan and Magnolia has been installed and operational. The contractor will begin work as soon as the new manhole is delivered.

Bob stated that the Chairman Steve Errickson hosted the Regional Sewerage Authority meeting last week. It was an opportunity to share ideas and exchange views on various situations within each organization.

Bob also reported that work has started on the Route 40 Food Center which was formerly Meredith Farms.

Tom Merighi said he wanted to get back to the Magnolia Road issue. He stated that when they put sewer in that area and his house was on Walnut Road, would that be an ongoing concern in that whole area since the pipe construction was the same as what we are dealing with now.

Dennis stated that it has already been checked out and not it is not an issue. Bob stated that what makes it different is because of the force main having that velocity of the discharge of potent sewage that has the gasses which are volatile, the gasses attack the pipe and create integrity problems to that pipe and that is not common to everywhere else so on Walnut Road you do not have that situation. It is only where you have a drop connector or a discharge from a force main where it is dropping down.

Dennis stated that when sewage is inside a closed pipe it does not have any air or oxygen. On the wall of the pipe you get a slime that grows up and it takes the food out of the wastewater and breaks it down but there is no oxygen so those sulfur compounds make hydrogen sulfide gas because it's closed with no oxygen. It's anaerobic. In this case, the old chicken plant used to come into Lincoln Avenue and it went down that pipeline. For the last ten years it has not been there. When the gasses come out and the water comes

out and drops and stirs up the gasses get released. The hydrogen sulfide gas comes out that the bacteria inside the pipe made and then there is a second bacteria that grows on the walls and converts the hydrogen sulfide to sulfuric acid and takes concrete and it's just like toothpaste. What came out of the pipe and there there's a drop there so there's a double whammy, the gasses will release from the water and when it goes to the end of the street and makes the left hand turn, there's a second drop and then the gasses then also release. The pipe going down McMahon the second drop manhole was eaten away and the first x number of feet were eaten away heading west. We saw it all on TV. We are going to take out that whole section going down McMahon, put a brand new manhole in and then go west or left for 50 or 60 feet to where we have good pipe and we will run plastic pipe until we get to the good pipe. In the future when those gasses drop and get released, they will be inside a plastic lined manhole and the tops have plastic liner and the pipe itself will be plastic so when the gasses come out they will be released in an area where there is nothing to attack.

Bob stated that we had a similar situation on Oxford Street and we were able to line the pipe because the integrity of the pipe was not as bad but in this case the integrity is so bad, the concern is if you line it the liner might collapse at the same time and we don't want to take that chance.

Dennis said that in the Oxford case just the bottom was gone because the glass plant must have dumped acid or hydrofloric acid which is used to etch glass and it ate the bottom of the pipe. With this pipe there are places that there is just dirt and no pipe. The flow as actually started today to be diverted.

Solicitor:

Steve Fabietti stated that we just have those two employee matters that Dennis mentioned. One is the disability situation and the other that Nicole of my office has been working on the agreement for the collective bargaining contract and we should have that in circulation this week. That will come to you once it is in final form for signature and approval.

Chairman:

Steve Errickson stated that he would like to welcome back Mr. Reuben, that he has been here before and he will be a great asset to the Board.

Issues and Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant

Dennis stated that we discussed what we are doing and there is nothing else at this time.

Budget/Finance:

Tom Merighi stated that there is no report at this time and Dennis reported that Tom is already starting to work on the Audit.

Human Resources:

Dennis stated that he has been holding off filling two positions at the plant because we have to fill two at the farm first. Dan has been going through interviews. We have a couple of guys that we are looking at. When they come in they will have a couple of weeks orientation and we will move the others over here and fill the spots we have in the plant.

Public Relations

Dennis stated that there have been a lot of articles in the paper. We had a good article in the paper with Assemblyman Fiochi.

Insurance Committee: No Report

Allocations/Administration:

Dennis stated that we took action on round 149 and there is not a lot going on right now. Lucia's is being torn down and we just got the plans for the Medical Express which is an urgent care office.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Dennis stated that the AEA Conference will be coming up in March. We haven't gotten the registration information yet. It is on March 11th and 12th. Dennis stated it starts in the afternoon on the 11th. Dennis stated that Tom Merighi was at the last one.

Adjournment:

At 6:29 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Silva and seconded by Merighi that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Silva and Errickson voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

CARLOS VILLAR, Secretary