

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 2, 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
Nicole Curio	Solicitor
Carol A. Ricci	Executive Secretary
Michael Bauman	Laboratory Technician

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 19, 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".

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that the reading of the minutes of the closed meeting held on May 19, 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 Michael Bauman, Laboratory Technician.

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

Resolutions:

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-65, "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.....\$67,657.85”, be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-66, “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....\$159,703.30”, be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2014-67, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the Construction Fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$41,851.10 to Final Touch Paving for Emergency Roadway Repair to Palermo Avenue, Bayberry, Thorn Hill, Pennsylvania and Park Avenue in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s General Bond Resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted “yes”.

Dennis stated that this winter was the coldest and hardest winter we have had with frost heave on the roads where cold gets in and you get water underneath it. We’ve had more repair work coming out of this winter as it was extraordinary where roads had settled in certain areas around Vineland. If it is right above our trench the City of Vineland says it’s our problem. These are all areas that were immediately above the sewer line where the road had settled. We’ve never had this much trench work to be done before.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-68 “ A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the Construction Fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$10,490.00 to J.T. Seely & Co., Inc. for one Pentair FM Pump in accordance with the provisions of the Authority’s General Bond Resolution...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2014-69, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing an Addendum to the Shared Services Agreement with the City of Vineland and Landis Sewerage Authority for the Burns Avenue Sanitary Sewer Extension...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-70, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority Summarizing Allocation Activity through the Close of Allocation Round 151...” be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2014-71, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing raises for Management and

Administrative Personnel and Amending Resolution No. 2014-64..." be adopted. Roll call: Reuben, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Silva voted "yes".

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that we've had e-mails back and forth with a potential intern. He will be working on Thursdays and Fridays for the next five or six weeks. It is a no pay internship. He's a civil engineering student at Rowan and he is coming out to get some experience. He will be out with Bob, the farm, the treatment plant, to sit with our draftsman to see how we lay out a sewer project and try to give him a little bit of exposure to the real world and for his benefit it will be on his resume that he actually went somewhere and worked for it.

There was an interesting issue getting paid by the City on the Burns Avenue project. We did not get paid earlier in the month, we processed the payment on our first meeting in May, the next day it was in City Hall. Denise Monaco was on vacation. Anything that deals with grants she reviews first and we did not get proof of that. I sent her a note to let me know when the check is done. The meeting is on the 27<sup>th</sup> and I will pick it up on the 28<sup>th</sup> so we can pay our contractor. Almost the day of the council meeting, it still had not been processed or paid, it was being sat on by the electrical department because of the Interlocal Services Agreement tied into Clayville Switch. They are looking at their own cash flow issues. We have an interlocal services agreement that we get paid for the work done out there. We are amending that tonight. A year or so ago we helped the City get the EDA grant to bring the money into the City and it also helps flush out the original estimate and what the actual bid was. Eventually e-mails and phone calls produced the check on the 28<sup>th</sup> which we paid to the contractor. The electric utility is going through a transition where Harry Maloney is retired, Jose Cruz, who does construction management has left as well on sick leave.

Dennis also reported that he attended the Council workshop on May 20<sup>th</sup> and it was interesting as well. There was a lot of back and forth which was reported in the paper. We are still waiting and tonight's workshop is going on right now and not tomorrow because of the primary election. We still need to get together to see where we are going with the shared services agreement.

Dennis stated that he had an interesting discussion some investors and others on a process in which they are very interested in us because of our effluent which has some nutrients in it. Their process raises algae and duckweed. It doubles it's weight every day. It has within it methane and gasses. It would take a process where they would take a couple of acres, put greenhouses in, use the water from our plant to grow algae or duckweed, go through a gasification process when they heat it and they drive methane off of it and run an engine to make electricity. We would buy the electricity at some number less than

what we paid the City of Vineland. They could also make enough gas to pump into the pipeline and sell it that way. Dennis said it was very interesting. There must be procurement and public bidding. We may be reaching out to the Solicitor for something like this since there is bidding. There is special bidding on procuring green energy which is like an RFP. These folks actually did respond to the City when they went with a set of solar panels as an alternative. It's out there and I find it intriguing since I love the idea of using our water, we could save money. Though it is somewhat of a start-up. They have a full size pilot that runs with an engine. This would be the first moving up to a larger size. Dennis stated that he is interested in the performance guarantees. Will it be up 600 hours a month? You have so many days for down time. More and more we can get off of the grid. The big advantage to it is if it's here and self-contained the thing can run without the grid being here. The Authority during a hurricane or a derecho storm, we would island and run our facility regardless of what else is going out in the world. We can do that with our back-up generator, but if you have those kinds of extreme problems, diesel fuel ran out in the Northeast. They were going to out of state high sulfur fuel and home heating oil. With the algae it will keep growing and we will still have effluent. We would still have the ability to function.

Tom Merighi asked if it was a local company and Dennis responded it was a New Jersey company. There is a facility near the Northfield area with the greenhouse set up, a small scaled down gasifier. He uses the char that's left over and burns that and it's part of the process too. The gas goes over into the engine, the char gets fed back in and it's used as the heat source to cause the gasification. Dennis said he wants to look at the unit even though it is small. It would be a power purchase agreement. There would not be a dollar out of the Authority's pocket, which makes me more comfortable from a performance standpoint. These generally tend to be longer term contractors in the 20 year time frame. We would buy at some agreed number several cents less than we buy it from the electric utility so there is a savings to our customers. Generally that's how they work. It keeps the responsibility and exposure on them rather than us as a public agency.

Dennis also stated that the Commissioners financial disclosure statements are due towards the middle of the month on line. At the end you get a printout that says it has been received and you should keep it and retain a copy here with Carol at the Authority.

Steve Errickson stated that a quick word of caution is to take your time, make sure you read it over because once you submit it that's it. There is nothing you can do. Before you hit submit, just make sure everything is there because if you call the State, you will not get the help you need.

#### Field Engineer

Bob Schwarz reported that several applications have been submitted to LSA for review. They are Family Dollar and Complete Care on Chestnut Avenue and Sherman Avenue respectively.

Bob also stated that the Burns Avenue project has been idle for a couple of weeks. Work is now scheduled for removal and replacement of the sewer main for the existing casing under the railroad tracks starting tomorrow.

Bob reported that we are working on the design and specifications for the Mill Road/Gallagher Drive intersection project.

Work has started on the intersection of Main and Elmer Roads. Trees are being cut, new poles are being placed and engineering is moving forward with these major improvements.

There are two eateries in the works that will be receiving applications for allocation in the near future. Dandelion Plaza is installing a force main on Delsea Drive.

Solicitor: No Report

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant

Dennis reported that we still keep hearing that we are in line for the manure project. We sat down and had a team meeting last week to talk about some of the aspects of the project. We are going to spend a little more money than the original contract. We are going to get a larger tank and we are going to recover a substantial amount of manpower and costs from the Federal Government to the State Department of Agriculture to us. The manure is not as plentiful as it once was, but we are also looking at food waste which could also be injected into the digester to make more gas and also fats, oils and grease from restaurants and grease traps. We are also going to go with a larger engine.

We are working in house on the pipeline work and the interconnection on North Mill Road which is the bypass we are going to do.

Budget/Finance: No Report

Human Resources

Dennis reported that the newer employees are going through the conclusion of their 90 day review and their probation period.

Public Relations:

Dennis reported that we are getting little notes from people on their bills when they pay them which say "Mr. Palmer, please do not let Vineland Municipal Utilities take over LSA. I know you try to keep prices reasonable and COV doesn't." One is written in the memo section of someone's check that says "Please do not join Vineland Utilities" and another one said on the bill stub "Do not sell out and join Vineland Utilities". They are from all parts of town. Dennis said he intends to drop a little note back to the people to thank them for their notations of support. It's good to see that people are cognizant of what is going on and listening and reading the news.

The Water Resources Association that we belong to and I am the Chairman of, the newsletter came out. One of my most enjoyable parts of that Association is handing the scholarship check to the young lady that is going off to the University of Maryland to receive the Dr. Buzzy scholarship. I met Jack Buzzy over 30 years ago when I was a young engineer and he certainly gave me advice over the years because I worked with his firm over the years. I was not on the Board at the time and my son got the first Buzzy scholarship. Dennis stated that he was grateful it was a New Jersey resident.

Insurance Committee: No Report

Allocations/Administration

Dennis stated that there is nothing on homes and there is commercial activity. Chairman Silva asked if this is what was missed at the last meeting and Dennis stated that we have had a long standing policy that it's a percentage raise or \$.50 and the \$.50 was left off of the last one. 2014-71 adds that back in and we need to show that to the Auditors.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Dennis reminded everyone of the Chamber dinner is this Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the Centerton Country Club.

Adjournment:

At 6:29 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

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CARLOS VILLAR, Secretary