

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
May 2, 2022

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Chairman Reuben 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
Anthony Tobolski	Field Engineer
Stephen D. Barse	Solicitor
Carol A. Ricci	Executive Assistant

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Miranda that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 18, 2022 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Barse, Villar, Angelo and Reuben voted “yes”. Miranda 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 Barse and seconded by Miranda that Resolution No. 2022 – 41, “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.... \$115,154.59”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Villar, Angelo and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Miranda that Resolution No. 2022 -42, “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....

\$356,756.35”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Villar, Angelo and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2022-43, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority accepting Labor Union Contract for the period January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2025 between Teamsters Local 676 and the Landis Sewerage Authority for Agricultural site truck driver/farm workers and ag-gator driver/farm workers...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Villar, Angelo and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2022 – 44, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing an Interlocal Services Agreement with the City of Vineland to compensate staff in the Collector’s Office and Collections Department in the amount of \$10,750.00 for January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Villar, Angelo and Reuben voted “yes”.

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that the pipe and hole out front happened a number of years ago upstream of that manhole. We put in a parallel plastic pipe, plastic lined manholes and they put it steeper to aerate it. At the very end it turns and drops in. Apparently, it didn’t aerate enough hydrogen sulfide over time and it attacked the concrete. It’s interesting that it sunk and the water and the soil went somewhere. When we started to excavate it, there’s still water there so where is the hole where everything went. We’re in the midst of well points and pumps running to pump the water out. We were just loading that basin next to it last week so there’s a defect someplace. Is it the manhole? Is it in the pipe? This is yet to be found out. We’ll find out as we dig down. We’re working with Perna. The pumps are running and it dropped how much? Anthony stated it was 88 inches from the surface. We have to find out where the defect is and do short term repair and I may talk to Mott MacDonald. We had a couple of thoughts such as lining the pipe with a smaller pipe like we did with the directional drill and you don’t have to bypass because the water will flow around the smaller pipe. You need something that is totally chemical resistant that goes all the way down to the headworks of the plant. For the near term, find the opening, cover it up and seal it from the inside with Spot Repair which is like a fiberglass material and long term, let’s take the plastic down to the head of the plant. Yari asked if we had to call DEP and Dennis stated yes and we just call the hot line. There is no spill but it’s still a structural issue.

Dennis also stated that the union contract is complete and tonight it is signed and they’re union president is out of town right now. We’ll scan blue ink documents to him and he’ll scan blue ink documents back to us and we’ll have a complete contract.

You have the HomeServe commission sheet in your package and you have a copy of the draft letter that I prepared to the residents regarding the increase and it has in bold the information about the Gold Star spouse and Raymond translated it into Spanish. It will be sent out double-sided and we're getting quotes for sending it out. It's 12,000 copies. Give them the Excel file with the addresses since it doesn't require names, print, fold and stuff it in the envelope and bring it here for us to mail or give us a rate on the bulk mailing. We're trying to get it out parallel to the bills going out. The June bills will be ready in about two weeks for part of the system.

Today was the women's turkey hunt again, the mentored one. Two women got birds. We'll do some photos that will show up in Fish & Game Magazine.

We're waiting for a written proposal or maybe we'll draw it up. Shared services are the future. The state gives you bonuses for shared services. You have to put it into your budget and you submit it to the state that you have shared services. Fortescue is building a small treatment plant and they are looking to do a shared service with us rather than a private firm. We get reimbursed for the people and they need maintenance, we could send someone over. We've actually had this testimony before the Senate and Assembly when they had privatization bills. Instead of privatizing, maybe public agencies would be better to serve the public as far as costs and shared services. Atlantic County has done it and when I was in Camden County, we did it a couple of times where we ran the Winslow plant just before it just down to the regional system. It's something to explore and it's been so long I didn't it was going to happen. In your budget they ask for a list of shared services that you have. We lost one with the Improvement Authority when they stopped doing vehicle repair and now, we're doing it with the County contract.

Perry asked if it was just for Fortescue and Dennis stated it was for Gandy's Beach, Fortescue and some smaller towns. I'm going to have a cup of coffee with the mayor and talk it about it with him. The future is shared services and the state continues to push it and they look for documentation.

Field Engineer

Anthony Tobolski reported that the comminutors at the Shop Rite Pump Station and Industrial Park South are installed and running. B & H Construction will be installing the final comminutor at the Linwood Pump Station tomorrow and this is in accordance with Contract No. 4.

South State installed the sewer main manholes and laterals on Cavallo Drive. We will be able to test the main as soon as Wednesday. The Presidential Heights Development Project started today on Washington Avenue. It is a 250-foot sewer extension and will service six new homes. They will then add another 250-foot sewer extension to service 6 more homes.

Perry asked if there was any word on the Utopia Lane project. Dennis stated no. I email the DEP and copy Joe. I told the residents that these are the people I email and I told them they should reach out to Senator Testa's office to see if he could intervene and they are welcome to my emails. The concern is that this has dragged on for so long and at the same time we have price escalation. The numbers that we talked about; well, no one knows where they'll be. The pricing that we've gotten is very competitive so we were pleased about that. Getting the pipe is not easy. I send DEP an email every couple of months and I get the typical pablum back, when we review and have questions, we'll reach out to you.

Joe Reuben stated that he ran into Senator Testa and explained the situation to him in case he didn't know the full scope of what's going on. He said that a lot of people at DEP are not working in the offices and they are still at home. He said a couple of people called his office so he was aware of it. Dennis stated that maybe he'd try to get in touch with him and send him a string of my emails. They're portal is difficult to get through. I had to go to the county planning office to work with them to change the documents I had into the format they wanted. It's a multi-page application and you can't leave the page until it's full so you don't even know what you need until you fill one out and it's accepted. You go to the next page with another list. It's very unfriendly. I sent it in June of last year, I followed up and they said we don't see it. I told them I have a receipt from your computer system that it was received and acceptable. So, he had to get his IT people to find it and get it through the system. That was maybe in July. I followed up in another with the month with the woman who would be reviewing it and I followed up with her and she said it hasn't been assigned to me and I misspoke and now it's been assigned to me. Now its September and she said she only works on projects in the order that they come.

Solicitor: No Report

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence:

Dennis stated that in reference to his email, we talked previously with the finance committee that we were with Capital Bank on Landis Avenue; Ocean First acquired them and shut that branch down and now we have to travel all the way to main road every day to make deposits which is a DCA requirement. They won't send a courier. We have so many checks sitting here and we're coming close to the end of those checks and we would like to go out with an RFP and it's probably been 7 years since the last one. Can we find a bank with a branch that is closer to us?

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Villar that we go out with an RFP for banking. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Villar, Angelo and Reuben voted "yes".

Yari asked if the RFP would be sent out to those who are in a certain radius? Dennis stated that Century is right around the corner. Stephen stated that Century is the closest or

a branch that is closer than Main Road. Armored car service is very expensive. Two of the people we worked with on the closing went to Century.

Yari stated that he remembers that there was a discount for employees if they went to that particular bank and Dennis stated that that doesn't exist anymore.

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant:

Dennis stated that in the near term, the focus will be here and then we'll look at whether we can do it ourselves or can Mott MacDonald give us some help to deal with the pipeline. First, we have to find the defect, fix it on the outside and then on the inside to keep it tight.

Budget/Finance: None

Human Resources: No Report

Public Relations:

Dennis stated that we have the turkey hunt and maybe we can get some publicity from that. I was in DC last week and my state association paid for my attendance and I'm doing a story in the trade journal for the organization. I met with Jeff VanDrew. There are two bills about PFAS, PFOS and personal wipes. One bill is to label non-flushable and if they are flushable, they have to fall apart like toilet paper as well as funding and infrastructure.

Insurance Committee:

Carol Ricci stated that tomorrow, a Mr. Ross from Glatfelter is coming in to do the appraisal of any structures that have been added or changed since 2014 which is the last appraisal. He will be primarily at the plant and he may go to the Sears Pump Station since it's been totally upgraded and, in the afternoon, he will be at the Agricultural Site to inspect some of the wells and the buildings there. We have no idea where that is going to shake out but you can count on an increase.

Allocations/Administration:

Dennis stated that we have a fairly decent size project of homes. We had hundreds of homes that we had on the books approved from 2010 that were never built. Many of those applicants have asked for their connection fees back. Our rules and regulations state that so there's no impact on the budget, you get them back at the rate you paid for them when a new project comes in, those funds flow into the Authority and we pay you back. We haven't had a single-family home project since 2010. We've had townhouses and

freezer storage. We just had a project come in that we approved for an extension and they paid their connection fees which was enough to get rid of the first guy and about two-thirds of the second guy. We have a priority list in the order of their requests and that's how we'll work it through which is the fairest way. It's a written policy which has gone through public hearings, not on this particular matter, but we had another matter in the policy that went before a judge in the superior court. We had a public hearing, advertised in two newspapers and you have the right to challenge it and raise comments. It was upheld and its all done through the same process. That's taking place now.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment:

At 6:24 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Miranda and seconded by Villar that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Villar, Angelo and Reuben voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

CARLOS VILLAR, Secretary