

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
March 6, 2023

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, Headley, 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
Stephen D. Barse	Solicitor
Carol A. Ricci	Executive Assistant

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Headley that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 21, 2023 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Barse, Headley, 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. 2023 - 27 “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.... \$109,080.78”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Headley, Angelo and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Headley that Resolution No. 2023 - 28, “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.... \$310,997.89”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Headley, Angelo and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Headley that Resolution No. 2023 - 29, “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 \$12,000 from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Headley, Angelo and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Miranda that Resolution No. 2023 – 30, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing the submission of a Surrender Request to Nationwide Insurance...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Headley, Angelo and Reuben voted “yes”.

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that the shared service with the city is a long time, several decades, agreement and it goes up occasionally for its efforts in helping us with the tax sale and other items leading up to the sale.

Fortesque continues to move forward. We had another zoom meeting with them last week. They have a bid opening scheduled for March 30th. They had a pre-bid meeting last month with about eight or nine contractors coming out. They have a plant and a collection system contract. They have talked with us about doing shared services to find operators for a couple of days a week. It’s a small plant, probably only a level 2 plant which doesn’t require a full time licensed operator on site. Our plant does. The goal is to try to train their public works people to do some routine things throughout the week with our people and they would compensate us. I worked up some numbers for 2025. That is their anticipated operating date with construction. Take our salaries at 2.5% because it’s a union contract, then add both social security and pension costs. We would be compensated for staff.

You received the report on the hauler fees and we continued to have a decent month. Otherwise, it’s been kind of quiet. For the record, Mr. Tobolski has been called out for a forest fire.

Joe Reuben asked if he had any report and Dennis stated that we had a couple applications that have come in. Hopefully in a couple of weeks we’ll be looking at plans for the extension of the Mill Road trunk line where we had the bad corrosion. He is working on getting quotes from contractors to look at the first manhole run which is the first 300 or 400 feet where it is corroded. Those two parts were the worst from the hydrogen sulfide. Down there it’s a drop and a turn. When you stir wastewater up it drives the hydrogen sulfide out of the solution and it attacks the concrete.

Field Engineer: No Report

Solicitor: No Report

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence:

Dennis discussed with the board that we have a firm that has put forth a proposal to pay us a fair amount of money to lease both of the fields on this side of the farm, but elevated so we can work underneath them. They are not disposal beds. Looking at the farm and my own research, and looking at other farms that use solar, I don't see it working on our site. Solar panels look like checker boards. That lets the sun come down on the field. We have center point irrigation units which are from 800 to 1,100 feet long that have to traverse the field and I don't know how you can build a panel array and still have an irrigation system work. It would be a \$100,000 lease, but I just don't see it workable. I also have other reasons. How can you farm it, bring a combine unit in which is the tallest, planting and getting enough sunlight on the field. Yari asked if Dennis had shared his concerns with them and Dennis stated that he was going to speak to the board this evening and I did send them an email regarding my plans. Yari asked if he responded and Dennis stated that they recognize our concerns and we'll do whatever we can do to work with you.

There is another company that wants to run a power line across the farm which would be subgrade, come across and tie in. I understand they are talking to the city as the city is looking for more power and there is another solar panel plan to be built on the CCIA property. The first proposal was \$2,000 a year and our other easements are \$2,000 a month. We have to get back to them. Yari asked if you are comfortable with this one and Dennis stated yes. We know the height of our tractors and with farming you're there often. On this side it would be panels over the sand beds where the water goes into the ground. We have to be able to get our tractors in to disc the beds so the water perks well.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Miranda that the Executive Director be authorized to make a salary adjustment in accordance with the email from the Executive Director to the Board dated February 28, 2023. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Headley, Angelo and Rueben voted "yes".

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant: No Report

Budget/Finance: No Report

Human Resources:

Dennis stated that he sat with the Chairman tonight and showed him the different resumes that were received. Some were very disappointing and a lot of resumes from civil engineers with PE's but they worked highway, road and bridge construction. I am expecting another one this week and I have two that I would like to sit down with the personnel committee with those two individuals.

Public Relations:

Dennis reported that we have Field Day coming up for Earth Day and I have shared with Ryan and the Green Team. We've been sending out to other groups like Citizens United, some youth programs as well. We'll have food, vendor tables, plantings and the forest fire service will be there and some farm equipment. We have a hayride that takes everyone out to the open space.

Insurance Committee: No Report

Allocations/Administration: No Report

Old Business:

New Business: None

Adjournment: None

At 6:13 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Barse and seconded by Headley that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Barse, Miranda, Headley, Angelo and Reuben voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

PERRY D. BARSE, Assistant Secretary