

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING  
December 2, 2019

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, Merighi, Villar, Errickson 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/Chief Engineer
Anthony Tobolski	Field Engineer
A. Steven Fabietti	Solicitor
Carol A. Ricci	Executive Assistant
John Kammermeier	SSSE

It was moved by Villar and seconded by Barse that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 18, 2019 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

John Kammermeier, SSSE was presented with a 30-year service award.

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 Barse that Resolution No. 2019-110, “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.....\$172,994.82”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-111, “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...\$315,543.29”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-112, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority establishing regular meeting dates of the Landis Sewerage Authority administrative year beginning February 3, 2020...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-113, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing raises to management and non-bargaining personnel...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-114, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing Municipal Unit Purchasing, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12 under State Contract procedures...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-115, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority designating the official newspapers...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-116, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority establishing allocation dates for the Landis Sewerage Authority for the 2020 administrative year...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-117, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage authority for a site-specific amendment to the sewer service area of the Landis Sewerage Authority...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-118, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority to amend Budget Resolution No. 2019-102 to introduce the 2020 Budget...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

Dennis Palmer stated that this is how we transfer money to the City. Last year they wanted us to do something very specific and we did. This year we followed what we did last year and this year they want it done another way.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-119, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority allocating sewerage capacity for Round 184

for commercial classification...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-120, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage authority summarizing allocation activity through the close of Allocation Round 184...” be adopted. Roll Call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2019-121, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing the Executive Director/Chief Engineer to endorse/acknowledge a NJ Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit application for Vineland Poultry LLC...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that we met with one of the owners of Vineland Poultry. We talked about the facility and I met with their contractor previously. A lot of their internal wastewater treatment equipment is shot. They are in the midst of replacing the internal equipment, but since it’s replacement in kind, they don’t need a DEP permit. Today this is the application for the discharge permit. We’ll get this back to them with a cover letter and hopefully they will submit it to DEP and over the new few months they will get a DEP discharge permit. I believe they can start operating and discharging once the permit has at least been filed. It was plant that existed before. You’re not breaking ground for a brand new facility that never existed before. It’s almost like transferring the operation to the new entity and instead of its Vineland Kosher it’s Vineland Poultry LLC.

Also, I met with F & S talking about their future flows and they have come up already and their plan is to move from the fire the different items that were processed at that facility into the Vineland facility. Their flows will go up even further.

Steve and I had a conference call last week and he will cover that in his report. We took action on planning which is a property on the north end of Mill Road next to Weymouth. It abuts our service area now. The sewer manhole is right at the edge of the property but because that property was designated to have a barred owl habitat, they had an environmental person visit, take pictures, look at the habitat and show that the habitat is not suitable for the owl.

We have an application for a large area of the City, Utopia, Eureka out in east Vineland. The area has septic issues. The stream is right there and it’s similar to Fisher Gardens. We have a meeting in the Mayor’s office on how do we get sewer there since it’s out of the sewer service area.

We received a letter on HomeServe which was in your packets and that was our largest payment.

Field Engineer

As part of Contract No. 6, Anthony Tobolski reported that South State Industries has completed the replacement of 80 feet of 10-inch sewer main at the Brookhaven Pump Station that had a sag in the line that was causing the sewer to back up.

Also, as part of Contract No. 6, South State ran 50 feet of 8-inch gravity sewer main and installed one manhole to correct a problem where we had a reverse pitch. Both of these jobs were deep with ground water.

Anthony also stated that next South State will start the sewer main extension on West Landis Avenue that will go from the West end of the Mavis Tire property across Orchard Road to the property just west of the car wash on the corner. The terminating manhole will be less than 6 feet deep with provisions to connect further west with individual pump stations.

The road repair job at Chimes Terrace, East Crescent and West Crescent is complete with the exception of tacking the edges of the pavement.

Solicitor:

Steve Fabietti reported that he received from our outside engineers, the site plan materials to submit for the work being done on the Brewster Road Pump Station. We are working on that application and that will end up before the City's Planning Board so hopefully we won't have any issues there.

As Dennis mentioned last week, we had a conference call with John Keith who is an attorney in Redbank who is the gentlemen who is handling the class action opioid case against the opioid manufacturers for a variety of municipal and government agencies and Dennis added that they are self-insured. Steve stated that the Authority has a self-insured prescription plan and has paid out of pocket money over the recent years for various opioid related prescriptions and Carol is going to be working with our third party administrator, Health Insurance Solutions to try to gather data that is needed for those costs over the last five years or so. We've engaged this attorney preliminarily to investigate our claim and to try to get us into this group or class before the big settlement with the opioid companies. All of this will end up ultimately in a federal court in Ohio and there's where everything has been consolidated. We had a good conference call and we have the kind of information and costs that can easily slot into this class. We don't know what the recovery will be. There will be some settlement that will be in the billions of dollars and the amount that trickles down to claims like our certainly will not be a hundred cents on the dollar but it will be something. That's what we anticipate.

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant:

Dennis reported that the plant is coming to an end. The east aeration system is being piped up now and I really pity the contractor when the time comes to start that up because they wear hip boots in water almost to their waists as they put in the diffusers and check for air leaks and I can't imagine doing that in February. The headworks is complete. The traveling bridge needs some weights for better traction. So, everything is winding down. We have one more panel to be wired from the chemical feed system.

In house we are working on a set of specs for miscellaneous paving if a street settles somewhere out in the City. We usually budget about \$100,000 a year. When we reach that point, we have to wait to the next year. Because of the dollar amount we have to bid it and an authorization was given at the last meeting. That will be on the street within the next two days or so with a bid date in January.

Budget/Finance:

Dennis stated that only the amendment that was stated before. It was approved by the state recognizing that we would make that change.

Human Resources

Dennis reported that we did some interviews for one of the retirees. We sent a hire letter out on Friday and the new employee will be starting on December 16<sup>th</sup>. He has DEP operating licenses plus eleven years of operating and maintenance experience.

Carol Ricci added that Luz and Cari have reached their 90-day review and they are both doing great in their positions. Luz has more varied duties that probably anyone in the office and Marianne has trained her really well and she stepped right into the position.

Cari came into a very tough situation and has done well in educating herself in the allocation coordinator's position. These two staff members have turned out to be very good and we're pleased with them.

Public Relations:

Dennis stated that he has a speaking engagement next month.

Insurance Committee:

Carol Ricci stated that we received the numbers for Worker's Comp today. We were floored when we saw them. Our experience mod went from .907 to .83 which is really good. We will recognize a 15% dividend, a 5% discount and our annual net cost for the premium went from \$170,589 to \$141,262 and that's big. The exact hard numbers are not here yet but it will be up for action next meeting.

Allocations/Administration:

Dennis stated that we have the new meat processor. Dennis asked if the agreements went out? Anthony stated that we sent the letter back and they have not replied. That's the biggest thing at this point.

Old Business:

Tom Merighi asked that regarding Vineland Poultry, if allocation is already there for them, why does the DEP have to get involved in anything. Dennis stated that their flow is more than 25,000 gallons a day and as an industrial customer there is a specific permit for indirect dischargers or it can be less than that but the strength is equal to 25,000 domestic. They are probably four or five times higher than domestic or even at 10,000. Vineland Kosher was probably about 120,000 to 130,000 gallons per day. If the flows get that high, we'll be happy since we really could use that much food in the plant. It will be tens of thousands of gallons which triggers the permit.

Perry asked when they would get started? Dennis stated the representative said that it would be as soon as all of these pumps and wastewater treatment equipment comes in. I would think that since it's an existing facility and it's not virgin ground that once it's been filed, I would think they would be allowed to discharge.

New Business: None

Adjournment:

At 6:21 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

---

CARLOS VILLAR, Secretary