

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
August 2, 2021

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 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
Robert DeSanto	Solicitor
Carol A. Ricci	Executive Assistant

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Merighi that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 19, 2021 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Barse, Merighi and Reuben voted “yes”. Villar 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 Merighi that Resolution No. 2021 – 68 “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.... \$83,566.32”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2021 - 69, “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.... \$280,145.49”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2021 - 70, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing an Interlocal Service Agreement with the City of Vineland to compensate staff in the Collector’s Office and Collections Department in the amount of \$10,750.00 from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2021 – 71, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority allocating sewerage capacity for Round 194 for commercial classification...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2021 – 72, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing corrections on credits, charge-offs, refunds and cancellation of accounts in the amount of \$1,839.03...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2021 – 73, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority summarizing allocation activity through the close of Allocation Round 194...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2021 – 74, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing the Executive Director to award a contract to B & H Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$289,000 for Contract No. 4-comminutor installation at various pump stations.

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that he was very happy with the bids pertaining to the last resolution. In the whole group, this company was lower. This is the third contract with B & H. They did the big Sears Pumping Station job and that one came out really well. They did the Brewster and Landis Pumping Station, which is another large job that came out really well. They will come into this job and have it well planned out and even more so with the price of materials, metals and machinery because you have to buy the equipment which is hydraulically driven. The engineer’s estimate was close to \$500,000. They were burned on another big job that had a lot of mechanical work, so they put in a large buffer just because of prices being unknown because of the way things are going. So, we were happy with the price.

The receiving station report will be at the next meeting. At the last meeting I talked about, and we now have gotten several results from the BioBot. We’re sampling the

wastewater that comes into the plant. We put three vials in a FedEx package with a freeze pack and send it to the lab. We have COVID in our wastewater. It varies with each of the samples that we have. One sample was fairly high. The results are always sent to the health department just to let them know we're doing this as a study and to make them aware of it.

Joe Reuben asked if it was COVID when it comes into the plant and not after it's treated and Dennis replied yes, when it is coming into the plant. Joe Reuben also asked if the treatment helps it and Dennis stated yes especially with the chlorination at the end and the biological. Waster itself is competitive so it could be fragments that they're picking up to let you know the population in your community has it. The hospital pumping station has chlorine added at the pump station to disinfect. That pumping station also handles all of the doctors' offices that are on Sherman Avenue and the rehab hospital too. We chlorinate pretty heavy to make sure that any pathogens coming down the line, they are chlorinated to help take care of them.

Letters have gone out for the tax sale. Sewer bills were not restricted by governor's executive order. The 27th is the last day they can pay to keep your names from going into the newspaper. We're getting action on those people coming in and making payments.

We continue to have discussions with a couple of organizations on renewable natural gas. There is an interest in buying our gas that we make from the methane to clean up further by a third party and put it back into the pipeline. Just as you have solar rec you have renewable rec and it's about ten times higher than the value of natural gas.

Joe Reuben asked if we had any problem with getting chlorine pucks. Dennis stated that we don't use them that much. We have some in stock and we do use them at the one pumping station. Three-inch tablets are very hard to get. The liquid bleach that we use at the treatment plant has not been a problem. It's probably about 11% compared to house which is about 5%.

Field Engineer

Anthony Tobolski reported pertaining to Contract No. 5, The subcontractor for Pioneer Construction, Kmetz Construction, has installed 1600 feet of 12 HDPE force main on South Mill Road and are waiting on delivery of the additional 1800 feet to be installed. On North Mill Road they have installed 400 feet and should finish the last 820 feet of 10-inch HDPE force main this week.

Solicitor: No Report

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence:

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Villar that the Executive Director hire Robert Carlson, Jr. as the LSA Superintendent in accordance with the Executive Director's email to the Personnel Committee dated July 19, 2021. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted "yes".

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant:

Dennis Palmer reported that we had a discussion on Wednesday with Kraft, who provided our co-gen, would like to come down to speak with us. We're making more gas with the food waste and grease that's coming in and there is potential to put a larger co-gen in. We're still probably a year or two away from that and I'd like to see prices stabilize before we jump into something mechanical as large as that. We just had a major overhaul a year ago so it still has a lot of life left before we put it aside. It has been running since about 2009 so we've made our money back in saving electricity with it and that's one of the reason our electric bill is lower as well as the changes in the aeration system.

This does not preclude the renewable natural gas because they could clean it and I would want to negotiate that we get it back for free but they would still get credit for making renewable natural gas. The unit we have now does not work if there's a power outage and it's just the way the system is set up and tied in with the breakers. I would want to have one that's called black start and it can start without the grid being up. We can maybe tie it into the blowers and aeration system because it makes enough power to run at least one of those 200 hp blowers. The worst-case scenario is like a Sandy that comes up the Delaware River because New Jersey doesn't make enough electricity on its own. You have a couple of very large transmission lines that come across the lower Delaware. There's a big one that's just south of Commodore Barry. If they go out, New Jersey is in trouble.

Joe Reuben asked if DEP gave us a review on Utopia yet? Dennis stated no he had not and he sent DEP an email asking what's going on with Utopia. A young lady said it's been assigned to me and I told her I sent it in like six weeks ago. She stated that she was mistaken and it wasn't assigned to her and that it was not assigned to anyone. We'll try to get someone assigned to it. Most of DEP is not back in the office either. We will continue to follow up on that. Sheridan went down in flames and Cavallo passed so we'll be working on Cavallo Drive. There are ten homes there and we'll be finishing up that design. The City is getting ready to pave so have to get in and tie into the line that's on Palermo. We've had quotes from a couple of contractors and just extend it in.

Budget/Finance:

Dennis stated that Tom started sending out to Supervisors to look at last year's capital budget and what items did they buy and what do we need. One of the things that needs to

be replaced is our safe. It's the original safe from maybe 1946 when the Authority came out here.

Human Resources:

Dennis thanked the Board for passing Bob Carlson and on the unfortunate side, which is not uncommon in today's labor market, is the guy we had lined up for the collection system crew who had the experience in pipe lining, running jet trucks, spot repairs. His employer threw more money at him and he's not coming.

Dennis stated that our plan is still to move forward with the equipment and have the manufacturer train our people who have the skills and can pick up on it because I still want to do that. If we get the equipment, we can do it ourselves instead of dropping \$3,000 every time we're need to do it; we buy the material and we can do it ourselves.

We have two vacancies for road crew. Carol is working on the organizational chart. We're moving someone to the foreman position.

Public Relations:

Dennis stated that he has no report with the exception that he is working on a power point for one of the professional organizations in October based on the energy savings we have by changing the aeration system over and also it allows the plant to run warmer in the winter because you don't lose the heat out of the wastewater wit this system compared to the giant mixers on top which lost a lot of heat. If it gets too cold, the bugs don't do their job.

Insurance Committee:

Carol Ricci reported that she has been working on the company census for the Horizon renewal since they have been looking at our numbers. This concerns me because we have large group status and that comes with better rates. If we move below a certain number, it can get a little scary. With people retiring, we're losing people on the census and hopefully the new folks will subscribe to the insurance. They have already told us that the Horizon rate increase is 3% which is really good. We are trending well on the self-insured prescription plan with HISI/Express Scripts and Nanette Poserina will be paying us a visit soon with the new contract and numbers.

Allocations/Administration:

Dennis stated that we've had sever people coming in for potential projects. Also, I'll be working with Steve within a month or two on the union contract. It expires at the end of the year and I like to get it done early.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment:

At 6:17 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Barse and seconded by Villar that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

CARLOS VILLAR, Secretary