

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SANGAMON VALLEY PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 28, 2023
5:30 PM**

Held in Person at the SVPWD Water Treatment Plant

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cameron Wygant, Thomas Johnson, Mark Reifsteck, Richard Eardley, William Jones, Staci Baxley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

GUESTS PRESENT: Terry Boyer

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Wygant called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. APPROVE AGENDA:

MOTION by Johnson and 2nd by Reifsteck to approve the agenda.

Roll call Vote as follows:

Roll Call Vote:

Wygant: Yes	Reifsteck: Yes	Baxley: Yes	Jones: Yes
Johnson: Yes	Eardley: Yes	Vacant	

With a vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Absent, and 0 Nays, the motion carries.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Filkowski

- A. Filkowski:** During the meeting, Mr. Filkowski expressed his regret for his initial negative impression of the board and for any comments he may have made in previous meetings that could have been perceived as snide. He also requested whether the Public Comments section of the meeting could be postponed until the end.

Chairman Wygant let Mr. Filkowski know that the board would take his request into consideration.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Secretary's Report

1. Approval of Open and Closed Meeting Minutes held October 24th, 2023

B. Financial Report

1. Approval of Accounts Payable Listing for October, November, December 2023
2. Review Veolia Limit Reports

MOTION by Reifsteck 2nd by Eardley to approve the Secretary’s Report

Roll call Vote as follows:

Roll Call Vote:

Wygant: Yes	Reifsteck: Yes	Baxley: Yes	Jones: Yes
Johnson: Yes	Eardley: Yes	Vacant	

With a vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Absent, and 0 Nays, the motion carries.

MOTION by Reifsteck 2nd by Eardley to approve the Financial Report

Roll call Vote as follows:

Roll Call Vote:

Wygant: Yes	Reifsteck: Yes	Baxley: Yes	Jones: Yes
Johnson: Yes	Eardley: Yes	Vacant	

With a vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Absent, and 0 Nays, the motion carries.

5. BUSINESS:

A. Chairman’s Report – Cameron Wygant

1. Chairman Wygant informed the board there hadn’t been any movement on the Lagoon Dredging Project.

Terry Boyer informed the board that the Village of Mahomet had made him aware that they had hired an independent firm to do a pavement analysis on their road capacities. He estimated that it would be about 30 days before we were to hear anything back regarding that analysis. Once we received the district will then need to meet with Stewart Spreading to discuss any additional costs and revisit the initial demands and posted weight limits made by the Township Road Commissioner.

Discussion was had amongst all board members regarding the road route options.

2. Mr. Wygant then informed the board that there had been a court date set for Dec 15th 2023 in the litigation with Candlewood Estates and that he would like to ask the district’s attorney Ed Flynn to attend the December Board meeting to answer any questions and address any concerns that the board members may have.

3. Chairman Wygant suggested that the board consider a vote to move the December Board meeting to Dec. 19th, 2023 due to the holiday.

B. Donohue Project Status Report – Terry Boyer

1. Mr. Boyer informed the board that the Briarcliff Watermain design was still on going and was scheduled to be completed in January 2024.
2. Still waiting on the control panel for the Mahomet Lift Station Project
3. Chater Oaks Project will begin on November 29th 2023 and is projected to take 10 days to complete.
4. Northward Expansion Project continues to be on hold due to funding.

C. Local Debt Recovery Program – Sonya Brock

1. Ms. Brock explained that LDRP is a debt recovery program that's available and funded by the state of Illinois. This program is designed to help municipalities and non-profit organizations in Illinois recover outstanding debt. She suggested that this program could be a viable option for the district to recover a portion of its outstanding bad debt. Ms. Brock provided the board members with an informational packet about LDRP and requested that they consider voting in favor of accepting LDRP as the district debt recovery program in the December 2023 board meeting.

D. First Amendment to the Veolia Agreement for Contract Operations and Maintenance – Vote

1. Amendment designates Kurt Smith as the Plant Operator

MOTION by Johnson and 2nd by Baxley to approve the Amendment to the Veolia Agreement to Contract Operations and Maintenance

Roll call Vote as follows:

Roll Call Vote:

Wygant: Yes	Reifsteck: Yes	Baxley: Yes	Jones: Yes
Johnson: Yes	Eardley: Yes	Vacant	

With a vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Absent, and 0 Nays, the motion carries.

E. Change December 2023 Regular Board Meeting Date to Dec. 19th, 2023 at 5:30pm

MOTION by Jones and 2nd by Johnson to Reschedule December 26th, 2023 Board Meeting for December 19th, 2023

Roll call Vote as follows:

Roll Call Vote:

Wygant: Yes	Reifsteck: Yes	Baxley: Yes	Jones: Yes
Johnson: Yes	Eardley: Yes	Vacant	

With a vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Absent, and 0 Nays, the motion carries.

F. Extend Deadline to Approve SVPWD 2024 Budget to December 19th, 2023

MOTION by Eardley and 2nd by Reifsteck to extend the deadline to approve the SVPWD 2024 Budget to December 19th, 2023

Roll call Vote as follows:

Roll Call Vote:

Wygant: Yes	Reifsteck: Yes	Baxley: Yes	Jones: Yes
Johnson: Yes	Eardley: Yes	Vacant	

With a vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Absent, and 0 Nays, the motion carries.

G. Approve WWTP & Lake of the Woods Lift Station Bid -VOTE

MOTION by Baxley and 2nd by Eardley to Approve WWTP & Lake of the Woods Lift Station

Roll call Vote as follows:

Roll Call Vote:

Wygant: Yes	Reifsteck: Yes	Baxley: Yes	Jones: Yes
Johnson: Yes	Eardley: Yes	Vacant	

With a vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Absent, and 0 Nays, the motion carries.

H. 2024 Rate Increase Discussion

1. Chairman Wygant suggested an annual rate increase of 10% for the next three years. The Chairman explained that the first-rate increase would be implemented in 2024 and was necessary to finance the current and future projects planned for the district. Chairman Wygant proposed an annual 10% rate increase for the next 3 years. The Chairman informed the board that the initial rate increase would take effect in 2024 and was needed to fund the current and upcoming projects planned for the district.

Trustee Jones stated that he understood the increased cost of materials and the need to fund current and upcoming projects.

Trustee Eardley asked if the rate increase could be adjusted within the 3 years if passed, and the Chairman confirmed that it was possible.

Mr. Wygant stated that there has been a plan to increase rates for some time now. He explained that the previous board had planned to raise rates by 10% annually for three years and then by 5% annually for the next three years. However, Chairman Wygant believes that this plan is too drawn out. He suggested that the current board should limit the rate increase to 10% annually for the next three years only and then review the matter as needed. He stated that the district has always tried to keep rates low for the benefit of its users and he would like the current board to continue doing so.

Trustees Jones and Baxley are concerned about how an increase in billing would impact the residents of Candlewood Estates if the district decided to bill them from the master meter, which is still being considered. Chairman Wygant explained to Trustee Jones that the outcome of the ongoing litigation could determine if/how the billing will proceed, and if it does, the current board will revisit the billing arrangement at that time.

Trustee Eardley inquired about the district's planned projects and mentioned a board meeting in Bloomington, IL where they had passed an annual rate increase of 33% for the next three years due to failed infrastructure and the need for improvements. Mr. Boyer stated that the district had a 20-year plan that included projected projects and rate increases.

MOTION by Johnson and 2nd by Eardley to go into Executive Session

Roll call Vote as follows:

Roll Call Vote:

Wygant: Yes	Reifsteck: Yes	Baxley: Yes	Jones: Yes
Johnson: Yes	Eardley: Yes	Vacant	

With a vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Absent, and 0 Nays, the motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Johnson and 2nd by Jones to adjourn.
All members present vote yes, motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Sonya L Brock
Secretary, Board of Trustees

APPROVED