

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO  
BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEMBERS

Miguel (Mike) Rivera, President  
Alojzy (Ben) Moricz, Vice-President  
Tia Cauley, Member  
Loreto Gonzalez, Member  
Steven Flowers, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 1, 2020, at 4:30 p.m.

Reported for Fissinger & Associates, Ltd

By: Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR

Call to Order: 4:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Miguel Rivera  
Telephonic: Loreto Gonzalez  
Ben Moricz  
Steve Flowers

Also Present: Anthony Herrera, Secretary  
Telephonic: Joseph Allegretti, Legal Counsel  
Dr. Abdul Zehraoui, Director of Utilities  
Keith Selvie, Director of Public Works

MR. RIVERA: I will now call to order the meeting of the Board of Sanitary Commissioners. Today's date is October 1, 2020. This meeting will be conducted via phone conference. We can also stipulate that the members delegate the president the authority to execute all warrants, documents, minutes, etcetera on behalf of the Commission, eliminating the need to collect signatures from the members participating electronically.

The next item is a motion needed to approve minutes held September 17, 2020.

Motion to approve minutes of September 17, 2020, made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Ben Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.  
Next item Check Warrants for

1 Sanitary District, Wastewater Division.

2 WARRANT 100120 SC - \$2,872.50.

3 Motion to approve Warrant 100120 SC, in the amount of  
4 \$2,872.50, made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Ben  
5 Moricz.

5 Questions/Comments: None

6 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

7 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

8 WARRANT 093020 SW - \$91,760.88

9 Motion to approve Warrant 093020 SW, in the amount of  
10 \$91,760.88, made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Ben  
11 Moricz.

11 Questions/Comments: None

12 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

13 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

14 WARRANT 100120 SR - \$84.74

15 Motion to approve Warrant 100120 SR, in the amount of  
16 \$84.74 made by Steve Flowers. Second by Ben Moricz.

16 Questions/Comments: None

17 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

18 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

19 WARRANT 100120 SW - \$124,842.86

20 Motion to approve Warrant 100120 SW, in the amount of  
21 \$124,842.86, made by Ben Moricz. Second by Loreto  
22 Gonzalez.

22 Questions/Comments: None

23 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

24 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

25

1 WARRANT 091820 - Sanitary Board Payroll  
2 Dates of 8/29/20 to 9/11/20.

3 Motion to approve Warrant 091820, Sanitary Board  
4 Payroll, for dates of 8/29/20 to 9/11/20, made by Steven  
5 Flowers. Second by Loreto Gonzalez.

6 Questions/Comments: None

7 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
8 (All signify aye.)  
9 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

10 WARRANT 091820 - Utilities Payroll  
11 Dates of 8/29/20 to 9/11/20

12 Motion to approve Warrant 091820, Utilities Payroll, for  
13 dates of 8/29/20 to 9/11/20, made by Loreto Gonzalez.  
14 Second by Ben Moricz.

15 Questions/Comments: None

16 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
17 (All signify aye.)  
18 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

19 WARRANT 091820 - Wastewater Payroll  
20 Dates of 8/29/20 to 9/11/20

21 Motion to approve Warrant 091820, Wastewater Payroll,  
22 for dates of 8/29/20 to 9/11/20, made by Ben Moricz.  
23 Second by Steve Flowers.

24 Questions/Comments: None

25 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)  
MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

Next we have Warrants for Sanitary  
District, Solid Waste Division.

WARRANT 093020 SS - \$1,988,479.77

Motion to approve Warrant 093020, in the amount of  
\$1,988,479.77, made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Ben  
Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None

1 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

2 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

3 WARRANT 100120 SS - \$22,064.35

4 Motion to approve Warrant 100120 SS, in the amount of  
5 \$22,064.35, made by Steve Flowers. Second by Loreto  
6 Gonzalez.

6 Questions/Comments: None

7 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

8 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

9 WARRANT 091820 - Solids Payroll

Dates of 8/29/20 to 9/11/20

10 Motion to approve Warrant 091820, Solids Payroll, for  
11 dates of 8/29/20 to 9/11/20 made by Ben Moricz. Second  
12 by Loreto Gonzalez.

12 Questions/Comments: None

13 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

14 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

15 Next item is report from our  
16 Director, Dr. Zehraoui.

17 DR. ZEHRAOUI: I don't have any report,  
18 but to remind the Board that the City Council has  
19 approved for first and second reading for \$14 million to  
20 be assigned for Roxana sanitary and lining of the  
21 street, so the project is carried out by Engineering  
22 Department.

20 MR. RIVERA: Are there any question for  
21 Dr. Zehraoui? (None) Thank you.

21 Next item, Mr. Martinez - not here.  
22 Keith Selvie, Solid Waste.

23 MR. SELVIE: No report. I just want to  
24 make an announcement that -- I will send out the actual  
25 bulletin during the next meeting -- however the bag-less  
leaf collection will be held this year starting on  
October 26th, and I will forward that out to the actual  
commissioners probably in the next week.

1 MR. RIVERA: Any questions for Mr.  
2 Selvie? (None)

3 Next item, report from Financial  
4 Consultant, Bill Biller.

5 MR. HERRERA: I will fill in. You have  
6 the report in your packet -- this is Anthony. If you  
7 notice, the cash report for August, the cash balance  
8 decreased by 164,000 during the month.

9 The highlights here are as follows:  
10 The August receipts 306,841, which were 277,000 lower  
11 than July. All customer classes had lower collection  
12 compared to July. Industrial was down 240,000. This  
13 was -- we think -- because of the timing issue when some  
14 of the collections were posted in the system, might have  
15 been posted the next day after the lockout of that  
16 month. So it could have been posted September 1st and  
17 it should have been posted for August. Just kind of a  
18 timing issue.

19 Collections for the year,  
20 approximately 700,000 industrial, 500,000 lower than  
21 2019 actually, and 1.3 million industrial, a million  
22 lower than 2020 budget.

23 Disbursements for August were  
24 471,000, consisted of patrol 158,000; Debt Service  
25 repayment of \$91,761; utilities 91,000, which consist of  
electric and gas; contractual services 101,000;  
collection maintenance 87,000; plant and treatment  
maintenance, 5,000; Administrative 11,900; Flood  
Protection Program, 5700; Wastewater Research Funds,  
disbursements of 33,000. That could have been for  
various services, just depending on what was going on at  
the department at the time.

August cash balances, Operation and  
Maintenance Fund 2.2 million and replacement 1.4  
million. Those were the loans that are outstanding.  
That's all for the report.

MR. RIVERA: Any questions for Mr.  
Herrera? (None) Next item is report from legal  
counsel, Joe Allegretti.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: Just want to reiterate  
what the Utility Director, Dr. Zehraoui said. The Mayor  
used up a lot of political capital to get the Common  
Council to agree to invest an enormous amount of money  
in the Alder Street sewer cleaning and lining and  
repair, and the Roxana job. The Sanitary District does  
not have available funds for this. This is paid by the

1 City's General Fund and it's a really big deal and it's  
2 a really important event. We are all very grateful.  
3 That's all I have to say. Everything else is moving  
4 along.

5 MR. RIVERA: Any questions for Attorney  
6 Allegretti?

7 DR. ZEHRAOUI: I want to thank Mr. Joe  
8 and the Mayor, they did great job to get these funds  
9 from the City Council. It's very important day for us.

10 MR. RIVERA: Thank you, sir.

11 Next item is New Business. We have  
12 a resolution here, Resolution SD 20-09. Resolution of  
13 the Board of Sanitary Commissioners determining certain  
14 vehicles and equipment of the District to be surplus and  
15 provide for its public sale. A 2006 Chevrolet Model  
16 C-5500, a 2007 Chevy Silverado, a 1997 International  
17 rear loader garbage truck, a 1998 TMT tractor-less  
18 machine, a 2005 Chevrolet pickup. Resolution 20-09, is  
19 there a motion to accept that?

20 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Keith can talk about the  
21 conditions of the vehicle. The age of these things,  
22 this equipment is worn out. The statute requires that  
23 in order for us to either scrap it or to sell it at  
24 auction, which the City does routinely for vehicles like  
25 old police cars and other vehicles, the Board that owns  
-- the Agency Board to which the vehicles are titled --  
must declare them to be surplus. This is something we  
do periodically. It's not controversial. We need the  
Board to pass this so we can proceed to clear these item  
out and make way for some new stuff.

MR. RIVERA: Thank you. Do I have a  
motion to accept SD 20-09?  
Motion to adopt Resolution SD 20-09 made by Steve  
Flowers. Second by Ben Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

Next item is Agreement of Runnion  
Equipment, for the amount \$16,734.21.

1 DR. ZEHRAOUI: This is for the boom.  
2 When we install the new generator at Roxana Pumping  
3 Station, there is a bridge and Nipsco is there. When  
4 guiding the boom, so it would take the generator, and  
5 hit a little bit; so you have the picture there. It is  
6 like small hit but we have to repair the winch and the  
7 winch cable so we can do our job. I was renting another  
8 one until we fix this one. So for us, I am asking the  
9 Board to go and approve the repair for the boom. I am  
10 asking the Board to approve so we can do our job.  
11 Especially we have to clean, we need to have the  
12 equipment to be of service. Thank you.

13 MR.RIVERA; Is there a motion to accept  
14 the agreement with Runnion Equipment?

15 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Just so you know, to  
16 reiterate what Dr. Zehraoui is talking about. The May  
17 23rd storm event, which as we all recall, was enormous,  
18 had a big impact on Roxana. And the contributing --  
19 major contributing cause there was a failure -- was the  
20 Nipsco failure, the power outage, and this filled that  
21 gap while getting that generator installed. There was a  
22 condition for Dr. Zehraoui and the Mayor to get the boom  
23 buy-in from the Council, to use City funds to finance  
24 the Roxana sewer repairs and the Alder Street work. So  
25 this was a really critical expenditure that had to be  
done and it is going to make a lot of people in Roxana  
neighborhood very happy. That's pretty much it. I'm  
just telling you what I think everybody knows. I just  
wanted to reinforce this.

MR. RIVER: Thank you, Mr. Allegretti.  
Is there a motion to accept the Runnion Equipment  
Agreement?  
Motion to accept Runnion Equipment Agreement made by  
Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Ben Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

Next item is past due invoices for  
Butler Fairman & Seufert, for the amount of \$27,092.50.  
Actually there are three of them; one for \$6,100,  
another for \$8,966.50, and the third one is for \$12,026;  
totaling to \$27,092.50. The delinquency reason states

1 here, invoices for project number 606800-000145 and  
2 Alder Street Pump Station rehab on hold for Dr.  
3 Zehraoui.

4 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Just to remind you, this  
5 might be in April when I talked payment -- because the  
6 project was on hold -- they were charging for  
7 administration of the project while the project was on  
8 hold. So these are just payment right now because we  
9 have secured the financial, project has started, so  
10 there is no way for us to keep those invoices not paid.  
11 So I am requesting the payment.

12 MR. RIVERA: Thank you. Is there a  
13 motion to approve the past due invoices for Butler  
14 Fairman & Seufert?

15 Motion to approve past due invoices for Butler Fairman &  
16 Seufert made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Steve  
17 Flowers.

18 Questions/Comments: None

19 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
20 (All signify aye.)

21 MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

22 Unfinished Business: None

23 Public Comment: None

24 Next meeting date is October 15,  
25 2020, at 4:30 p.m., at the East Chicago City Hall  
Council Chambers. Need a motion for adjournment.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Steve Flowers. Second  
by Loreto Gonzalez.

MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye.  
(All signify aye.)

MR. RIVERA: Motion carries.

\*\*\*\*\* Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. \*\*\*\*\*



Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 1, 2020

Approved and signed \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
Miguel Rivera, President

(S) Ben Moricz

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Moricz, Vice-president

(S) Tia Cauley

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Tia Cauley

(S) Loreto Gonzalez

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Loreto Gonzalez

(S) Steve Flowers

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Steve Flowers



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Anthony Herrera

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Peggy S. LaLonde, a competent and duly qualified court reporter, do hereby certify that I did report in machine shorthand the foregoing proceedings and that my shorthand notes so taken at said time and place were thereafter reduced to typewriting under my personal direction.

I further certify that the foregoing typewritten transcript constitutes minutes of the said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Munster, Indiana, this 5th day of October, 2020.

*Peggy S. LaLonde*



Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR