CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEMBERS

Steve Flowers, President
Henry Ventura, Vice-President
Alojzy (Ben) Moricz, Member
Tia Cauley, Member
Jawann Jones, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

Reported for Fissinger & Associates, Ltd.
By: Peggy S. LaLonde

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present In Chambers: Steve Flowers, Henry Ventura, Ben Moricz, Tia Cauley, Jawann Jones

Staff Present in Chambers: Lilia Ramos, Secretary
Allan Lee, Utilities Director
Rebecca Sliger, Financial
Joseph Allegretti, Legal

MR. FLOWERS: I will now call to order the regular meeting of the Sanitary Board of Commissioners of East Chicago for April 2nd, 2026. I need a motion to approve minutes from the March 19th, 2026 meeting as written.

MR. JONES: Motion for approval.

MR. VENTURA: Second.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.
(All signify aye.)
MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries. Check Warrants: Sanitary District Wastewater Division: Warrant 031626 BI, total of $298,947.46; Warrant 032426 SW, amount of $78,933.86; Warrant 040226 SW, amount of $122,783.80.

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MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to approve.

MR. JONES: Second.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.

Payroll Warrants: Warrant 032726 Sanitary Board Payroll, dates of 3-7-26 to 3-20-26; Warrant 032726 Wastewater Payroll, dates of 3-7-26 to 3-20-26; Warrant 032726 Utility Payroll, dates of 3-7-26 to 3-20-26.

MR. JONES: Make a motion for approval.

MR. VENTURA: Second.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.

Sanitary District, Solid Waste Division: Warrant 040226 SS, amount of $137,288.37; Warrant 032726 Solids Payroll, dates of 3-7-26 to 3-20-26.

MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to approve.

MS. CAULEY: Second.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.

Report from Solid Waste, Jaylan Robinson. Not present.

Report of Field Operations, Allan Lee, Utility Director.

MR. LEE: I gave you the report and stuff to look through, where everything is and where the maintenance is.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mr. Lee.

MS. CAULEY: I have a question. Please e-mail that report, put that in my Board packet because I don't take papers. I always have it on my e-mail, and make sure Lilia gets it.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Commissioner.

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Next we have report from Financial Consultant, Rebecca Sliger.

MS. SLIGER: No report at this time.

MR. FLOWERS: Report from Legal Counsel, Joe Allegretti.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: Mr. President, I just have an explanation for the three resolutions that are on the agenda. I'll maybe defer until we discuss those when you get to them.

MR. FLOWERS: Okay, thank you. And the resolutions are next on the agenda. We'll start with SD 26-05, Resolution of the East Chicago Sanitary District Board of Commissioners designating the Board President as signatory to apply for SRF loan.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: The Commissioners may not know this, of course you did, Mr. President, you signed some documents in connection with the Financial Assistance Agreement we executed with the State Revolving Loan Fund preliminary to making it a part of our application for a loan, for them to finance the bond issue which is the subject of the next two resolutions.

One of those documents you signed where you certified that you were the signatory to sign documents in connection with the State Revolving Loan Fund transaction and you were authorized to do so. That was a resolution. This basically is just following up and ratifying and confirming in the form of a resolution that you in fact are the authorized person to act as authorized by resolution, by the Board here, to act as the signatory intermediary to sign documents in connection with this transaction.

So this is just kind of a housekeeping thing. That's my explanation.

MR. FLOWERS: As I recall, the Mayor had to sign that too.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: The Mayor signs all of our resolutions.

So that's what this is about. We have to designate one person to be the signatory, and that person is you, Mr. President.

MR. FLOWERS: Okay. I'm going to

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continue on with the other resolutions.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: If you maybe don't mind, we can go ahead and maybe accept a motion to pass and a second.

MR. FLOWERS: Is there a motion to adopt SD 26-05, Resolution for the East Chicago Sanitary District Board of Commissioners designating the Board president as signatory to apply for the SRF loan.

MS. CAULEY: Make a motion.

MR. VENTURA: Second.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: Regarding Resolution 26-06 and the following resolution, what we have done in the past, and are required to initiate the process, whereby we issue bonds to pay for Public Works projects. This is a declaratory resolution in which in effect declares that certain additions and improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and our collection system are needed, and identifies what those projects are; to clarify system, work on ultraviolent disinfection system, final clarify system, and pump replacement that Utility Director, Allan Lee, can talk about.

It also refers to the following resolution, which is the bond resolution. It says that the Board intends to the issuance of bonds. In this case the amount not-to-exceed of $17,500,000.00 and also to issue bond anticipation notes with a not-to-exceed of $5,000,000.00.

And as always required with a declaratory resolution like this, a public hearing is required. So this resolution, one of the things it does, it directs staff to publish notice of a public hearing in the local newspapers and for that to be conducted at a future meeting consistent with that date of publication, that's what this resolution is about.

MR. FLOWERS: So we need --

MR. ALLEGRETTI: So if you would be so kind to accept a motion and second to adopt Resolution 26-06.

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MR. FLOWERS: Is there a motion to adopt Resolution 26-06, Resolution of the East Chicago Sanitary District Board of Commissioners regarding proposed works of improvement and providing for the reimbursement of certain preliminary expenditures from the proceeds of Bonds of the East Chicago Sanitary District and related matters.

MR. VENTURA: Make a motion.

MR. JONES: I'll second the motion.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.

And now we have SD 26-07.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: Which is referred to as the previous one, this is the so-called bond resolution that refers to the declaratory resolution that we just adopted. Determination has been made that certain improvements are necessary and needed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and our collection system. As specified, the amount is not-to-exceed of $17,500,000.00. It also authorizes the issuance of bond anticipation notes. Bond anticipation notes as the Board may recall, are temporary loans less than the amount of bonds, where money for immediate expenses is sufficient as to design costs and other expenses, said money can be received through the issuance and sale of a note. Those expenses, that debt, that amount is not-to-exceed $7,250,000.00 and will then be taken out or covered and satisfied by the issuance of the underlying bond, which is the amount of $17,500,000.00.

And this also contemplates that the order the Board and the Sanitary District is entering into a Financial Assistance Agreement with the IFA, the Indiana Finance Authority, which represents the State Revolving Loan Fund. So this bond basically authorizes us to proceed towards the closing to conclude the loan transaction with the State Revolving Loan Fund approved by the Indiana Finance Authority. That's what these things authorize. Thank you.

MR. FLOWERS: That 17 million, Joe, is it for the repairs and the needs of the Sanitary District and Storm Water?

MR. ALLEGRETTI: Not Storm Water. This

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is purely for the improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and to our collection system, our sewers, pump stations, lift stations, our disinfection system, and other components of our wastewater treatment facilities.

MR. FLOWERS: Any questions, Commissioners? (None)

Is there a motion to adopt SD 26-07, Resolution authorizing the acquisition, construction, installation and equipping by the East Chicago Sanitary District of certain improvements and extensions to the District's sewage works, issuance and sale of revenue bonds to provide funds for the payment of the cost thereof, the issuance and sale of bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of such bonds and the collection, segregation, and distribution of the revenue of such sewage works and other related matters.

MR. VENTURA: I make a motion to approve.

MS. CAULEY: Second.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.

Next we have Agreements/Proposals/Quotes/Rate Sheets: Gateway Maintenance Agreement of 3/6/26 to 3/5/29. Is there a motion?

MR. JONES: Make a motion for approval.

MR. VENTURA: Second.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.

Drive Clean Indiana Agreement 4/1/26 12/31/26, not-to-exceed $50,000.00.

MR. JONES: I make a motion for approval.

MR. VENTURA: Second.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.

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"Emergency" Mills Company quote - $2,000.00.

MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to approve.

MR. JONES: I'll second that motion.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.
(All signify aye.)
MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.
BakerTilly rate sheet, not-to-exceed of $75,000.00.

MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to approve.

MR. JONES: I'll second the motion.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.
(All signify aye.)
MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.
Other Business: We have a past due memo for Morrison Construction, amount of $9,850.00. Explanation: Invoice was mailed to City Hall and received 3/23/26.

MR. VENTURA: Make a motion.

MR. JONES: I'll second.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.
(All signify aye.)
MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.
Public Comment: None
Our next meeting date is April 16, 2026, at 4:00 p.m., here in the Council Chambers.
Is there a motion to adjourn?

MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to adjourn.

MS. CAULEY: Second.

MR. FLOWERS: All in favor signify aye.
(All signify aye.)
MR. FLOWERS: Motion carries.
Meeting adjourned. Thank you.

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Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Thursday April 2nd, 2026

Approved and signed _____

_____
Steve Flowers, President

_____
Henry Ventura, Vice-President

_____
Tia Cauley

_____
Ben Moricz

_____
Jawann Jones

_____
Lilia Ramos, Recording Secretary

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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 3rd day of April, 2026.




Peggy S. LaLonde

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