

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO  
BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEMBERS

Miguel (Mike) Rivera, President  
Steve Flowers, Vice-President  
Alojzy (Ben) Moricz, Member  
Tia Cauley, Member  
Jawann Jones, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 4, 2022, at 4:30 p.m.

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

Call to Order: 4:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present In Chambers: Miguel Rivera, Steve  
Flowers, Ben Moricz, Tia Cauley

Staff Present in Chambers: Joseph Allegretti, Legal  
Bill Biller, Financial  
Debbra Gritters, Secretary  
Ken Myers

MR. RIVERA: I will now call to order the  
regular meeting of the Sanitary Board of East Chicago,  
for August 4, 2022.

Need a motion to approve the minutes  
of July 21, 2022, as written.

MR. FLOWERS: Make a motion.

MR. MORICZ: Second.

MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

Motion carries.

We have two warrants for the  
Sanitary District, Wastewater Division. I'll read them  
both and then need a motion to approve.

Warrant 080422 SW, amount of  
\$91,1916.03 and 080422 SR, amount of \$18,258.08.

1 MR. MORCIZ: Make a motion.

2 MS. CAULEY: Second.

3 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
4 the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

Motion carries.

5 Next we have Payroll Warrants, I  
6 will read all five and ask for one motion. First one  
7 072222, Sanitary Board Payroll, dates of 7-2-22 to  
8 2-15-22; 072222 Wastewater Payroll, dates of 7-2-22 to  
9 7-15-22; 072222 Utilities Payroll, dates of 7-2-22 to  
10 7-15-22, 072922 Wastewater Payroll, dates of 7-29-22 to  
11 7-29-22, and the last one is 072922 Utilities Payroll,  
12 dates of 7-29-22 to 7-29-22.

13 MS. CAULEY: Make a motion.

14 MR. FLOWERS: Second.

15 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
16 the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

Motion carries.

17 Now, Sanitary District, Solid Waste  
18 Division, three warrants to approve. Warrant 080422 SS,  
19 amount of \$15,314.17, Warrant 072222, Solids Payroll,  
20 dates of 7-22-22 to 7-15-22, next Warrant 072922, Solids  
21 Payroll, dates of 7-29-22 to 7-29-22.

22 MR. MORCIZ: Make a motion.

23 MS. CAULEY: Second.

24 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
25 the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

Motion carries.

Let the record reflect that Mr.  
Biller is now also present in the Council Chambers.

Report of Field Operations, Ken  
Myers.

MR. MYERS: Good evening, Commissioners.  
Just a brief update for your benefit. This past week we  
had IDEM do their annual inspection of our wastewater  
treatment plant. Our regional inspector came by on  
Tuesday with a small gaggle of IDEM employees and

1 inspected our plant, looked at our records. We are  
2 going to continue some follow-up of sharing information  
back and forth, waiting for their findings.

3 We just sent in an audit form for  
4 our sewer overflow program, so we are going to have an  
audit completed. The last one was done in 2017/2018, so  
5 they were due to do another audit and that's scheduled  
for next Wednesday.

6 As far as plant operations go, we  
are doing very well, as I reported at the last meeting I  
7 attended, with not having violations, but the rain event  
that we had during the week of July 18th and the 22nd,  
8 we did experience some ecoli and some STSS violation,  
but those things subsided. The most recent data we have  
9 after that, we are fine. And those will be reported on  
our monthly report, which once we get all the complete  
data for July, we'll be submitting that.

10 I'm going to be asking our one  
consultant, who's assisting us with the Long Term  
11 Control Plan amendments and everything else. We have an  
issue coming up where we have one of our industrial  
12 users, W.R. Grace has asked to see how much additional  
volume they can discharge into our plant.

13 Going along with that, we are also  
working with the Redevelopment Department at the  
14 property at 4900 Cline Avenue, which is the Cline Avenue  
frontage road, the old, I guess, US Steel building.  
15 Redevelopment took them over and there is an interested  
purchaser for that. So we are looking at -- they do  
16 have sewer lines available there, but we are going to be  
needing to address that to make sure we can provide  
treatment capacity to the new business.

17 But, W.R. Grace is looking at making  
improvements to their own wastewater treatment plant.  
18 They have a separate NTSS permit into the river and do  
send other waste to our wastewater stream ways under the  
19 program. They are just wondering how much more we can  
take, so they can go ahead on their design and when they  
20 make improvements to their treatment plant. So, we are  
going to have our consultant look at our capacity issues  
21 going forward.

22 And then last item, which is kind of  
new business, is that we need to address signing  
23 authority for SRF applications. The last signatory that  
was approved was Dr. Z. We had some recent submittals  
24 to the SRF come up and they brought it to our attention  
that it needs to be updated. So I will be seeking  
25 approval from the Board that I become the signing  
authority in lieu of Dr. Z, since he's no longer here

1 and I am now present Director of Wastewater Operations.

2 With that, you can make a motion for  
3 that signature, that completes my report.

4 MR. RIVERA: This motion is for the  
5 authority for Mr. Myers.

6 MR. MYERS: This is not an expenditure.  
7 This is just for applications to SRF, when we make  
8 transmittals of our loan applications going forward.

9 MS. CAULEY: Make a motion.

10 MR. MORICZ: Second.

11 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
12 the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

13 (All signify aye.)

14 Motion carries.

15 Next item is Report from Solid  
16 Waste, Mr. Rene Cid. Mr. Cid is not present.

17 Next item, Report from Financial  
18 Consultant, Bill Biller.

19 MR. BILLER: Mr. President, there is a  
20 cash report in the packet. If the Board has any  
21 questions, I will address them.

22 MR. RIVERA: Are there any questions for  
23 Mr. Biller? (None) Thank you.

24 Next item is Report from Legal  
25 Counsel, Joe Allegretti.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: No report.

MR. RIVERA: Next item is New Business.  
First are proposals. Tierra Environmental and  
Industrial Services, this is not-to-exceed \$10,000.

MR. MYERS: Just for further  
clarification, Tierra is already performing those  
activities, but because of the Controller's rules, we  
have to have a not-to-exceed amount with the previous  
work orders. We are just extending that and continuing  
the work. They come on an as needed basis, usually 2 to  
3 times a week, to remove the scum from our plant and we  
just limited that amount to \$10,000 to complete the work  
for the balance of the year, hopefully.

1 MR. FLOWERS: What are the fees? You  
said up to \$10,000?

2 MR. MYERS: They charge us \$300.00 each  
3 trip, I believe, to empty it. It's a roll off dumpster.  
4 There is not a fixed volume that comes in or constant  
rate, but that's the rate that they charge and we keep  
5 track of their total.

6 MS. CAULEY: Make a motion.

7 MR. FLOWERS: Second,

8 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

9 Motion carries.

10 Next item is invoice to be paid,  
Element Materials, amount is \$4,858.14.

11 MR. FLOWERS: Make a motion.

12 MS. CAULEY: Second.

13 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

14 Motion carries.

15 Next past due invoices. First one  
16 is actually two together for Trevino Auto Service,  
amount of \$712.50. States here that the delinquency  
17 reason, Sanitary District office received the attached  
invoice via mail July 19th.

18 MR. FLOWERS: Motion.

19 MS. CAULEY: Second.

20 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

21 Motion carries.

22 Next past due invoice is 610 Auto,  
amount of \$950.28. States here the delinquency reason,  
23 Sanitary District office received the attached invoice  
via mail July 19th.

24 MS. CAULEY: Make a motion.

25

1 MR. FLOWERS: Second.

2 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

3 (All signify aye.)

4 Motion carries.

5 Next, adjustments for the Water  
Department.

6 MS. GUZMAN: Winna Guzman, Director of  
Water Department. So the first one is 3834 Parrish  
7 Avenue. This is a request for adjustment. Water meter  
was changed out by the contractor and when we received  
8 new meter information, it was incorrect. So owner was  
given an estimated bill due to the missing information  
9 and once we received the information, the corrected  
information, we corrected our records and we would need  
10 an adjustment to that so we can correct the customer's  
account.

11 MR. FLOWERS: Motion.

12 MS. CAULEY: Second.

13 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

14 (All signify aye.)

15 Motion carries.

16 Next one is 4738 Magoun.

17 MS. GUZMAN: Yes, and this is for account  
10972. This was one of the checks that inadvertently  
18 was entered. The original check was returned by the  
bank because it didn't capture -- what we do, when we  
19 process our checks, we deposit them and they are run  
through a machine. The images are sent directly or  
transmitted to the bank at that time every night.  
20 Apparently the images didn't come out. So we didn't  
realize that, and when we got that information from the  
21 controller we requested for them to replace the check.  
So we received the check. Inadvertently, instead of  
22 replacing the check, the girls entered the information  
to the system and it required that we go ahead and void  
this check in order to correct the account.

23 MS. CAULEY: Make a motion.

24 MR. FLOWERS: Second.

25

1 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

2 (All signify aye.)

Motion carries.

3 Next one is 3730 Parrish Avenue.

4 MS. GUZMAN: This is to receive a credit  
on the bill. It's a really high credit. There was an  
5 error due to recent meter change. When they changed  
meters, what we get from Calumet City or the vendor, or  
6 the contractor that we hire, we enter that into the  
system, but it was an error on that reading and the bill  
7 was incorrect, and it didn't flag on the system. We  
need to correct that and make sure, because it's \$56,000  
8 as a credit and he's not getting a credit of that  
amount. So we need to correct that so we can correct  
9 the account and correct the amount that's on the system.

10 MR. FLOWERS: The amount is 56,000?

11 MS. GUZMAN: It's an error, and the clerk  
didn't catch it. Because it's normally flagged, but  
12 somehow it didn't flag it and the customer received that  
amount.

13 MS. CAULEY: Make a motion.

14 MR. FLOWERS: Second.

15 MR. RIVERA: Any questions pertaining to  
16 the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

17 Motion carries.

18 MS. GUZMAN: Thank you.

19 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Unfinished  
Business. (None) Public Comment. (None)  
20 Next meeting date is August 18,  
2022, at 4:30 p.m., At the East Chicago City Hall  
21 Council Chambers.

Need a motion for adjournment.

22 MR. FLOWERS: Motion.

23 MS. CAULEY: Second,

24 MR. RIVERA: All in favor say aye?

25 (All signify aye.)

Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.

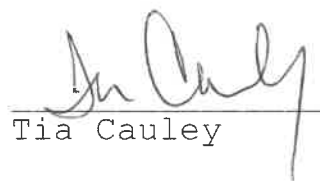
\*\*\*\*\* Meeting adjourned \*\*\*\*\*

Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Thursday  
August 4, 2022

Approved and signed August 18, 2022

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Miguel (Mike) Rivera, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Flowers, Vice-President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tia Cauley

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Moricz

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jawann Jones

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debra Gritters, Secretary

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



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 8th day of August, 2022.

*Peggy S. LaLonde*

Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25