

MERRIAM DRAINAGE DISTRICT
OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
July 6, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Merriam Drainage District of Johnson County, Kansas, was called to order at 7:00 P.M. virtually by Chairman Eric Jackson with the following persons attending the electronic conference via the Blue Jeans Meeting:

Eric Jackson, Chairman
Gerald Becker, Secretary
Sam Matier, Treasurer

James Orr, Attorney
Steve Roth, Alfred Benesch
Rebecca Heatwole
Visitors: Jason Silvers
Whitney Yadrach
Unidentified Callers

Mr. Jackson requested the minutes of the June 1, 2020 as amended as follows:

1. Under Engineer report, remove “will” in the following sentence: *The board requested that Mr. Roth provide a cost benefit analysis will at the July meeting.*
2. Update Mowing along Turkey Creek Trail to say: “Mr. Jackson was notified a section along Turkey Creek Trail near Warner Park needed mowed; Mr. Becker indicated in the past the City took it upon themselves to mow this area. Mr. Maldonado is now aware that he needs to mow this area regularly”

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2020 as amended by Mr. Becker; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.

1) Engineering Report:

- Mr. Roth spoke with Max Rieke they will be taking care of the repairs in Warner Park this week. They will proceed to do repairs for all the holes identified on CIP by the end of the month. He will be emailing Jim McDonald, Public Works Director for City of Merriam, and the Parks and Rec Director for City of Merriam to inform they are working in the area.
- Mr. Roth shared the cost benefit analysis of using limestone vs. concrete block. It is a lot cheaper to use the concrete block than the limestone. They anticipate that the life concrete block will at least as we are getting now and maybe more. The cost is being driven by the difficulty in obtaining the large limestone slabs. The one quarry found after a year and half of looking, is not great because the rock is in a difficult location, which is increasing the labor/transportation cost. There was a general discussion regarding the analysis presented by Benesch during which it was discussed that our previous quarry is closed, and they are unsure when it will open. Mr. Roth informed the board that the information provided in the analysis was hypothetical and some of the pricing will vary based on the actual wall. Pricing in the cost analysis of the concrete blocks includes deconstructing current wall. If the rock must be moved to an offsite storage there will be additional cost. The board decided to table the decision until next board meeting to ensure they have exact costs of the remaining projects on 2020 CIP.
- CIP 2020 Item C undermining work has not actually been finished; Mr. Roth will contact Max Reike to see if the. Motion to proceed with Item C of the 2020 CIP proposal; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.

2) Attorney Report:

- Mr. Orr spoke with Juliana Garcia from the Shawnee Mission Post regarding the history of Merriam Drainage District. Mr. Orr mentioned during that conversation she mentioned that it did seem that it was difficult to find information on the board and suggested that a website might be good for MDD to have.

- 3) Mr. Orr spoke with Mr. Bell and informed we would need to clarify where the boundaries were and asked that he no longer dump on MDD property. Mr. Bell did inform that he did uses the AIMS Map and thought he had put his debris on his land. Mr. Bell does not have an issue with the area being staked.
 - Mr. Jackson was looking for more details on the sign, he questioned how it was going to look. The sign was 24"x18" will be on the standard green post. Mr. Roth has asked Max Reike for details on cost.
 - Mr. Jackson recommends have the area surveyed before the stakes are put into the area, Mr. Roth is going to have to get a quote from another firm, he believes it will be between \$1200.00 - \$2000.00. The other cost would be \$3000.00 to take care of the stakes and sign once the A motion was made by Mr. Becker to have the area surveyed, staked, and the sign installed; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.
- 4) Mr. Jackson informed the board that he went to the Community Center to pick up the files. Mr. Jackson spent time cataloging the files and putting together the file index. Mr. Jackson will be sending the file index to Mr. Orr to look through to determine what documents are temporary and what would need to be permanent. Mr. Jackson believes we should retain the older files in hardcopy vs. scanning due to the different types of paper used i.e. large maps, carbon copies etc. Mr. Becker questioned having a physical location to store the documents vs. using Iron Mountain. Mr. Jackson will contact Storage Mart at 67th street to see what the cost would be for a unit that would hold the cabinets.
- 5) Mr. Jackson discussed the MDD website and suggests that we use a company to develop it instead of keeping it in house. Mr. Matier will speak to companies to create the website.
- 6) Mr. Jackson informed the board that we had 22 different audits in the past, but MDD has not had an audit since 1999; he questioned if we should be having audits. Mr. Orr mentioned that an audit is not a required, but it is good business practice and can provide valuable information. There was a general discussion wherein Mr. Orr suggested that he and Miss Heatwole will work together to put together a proposal to be sent to auditors for bids.
- 7) There was a general discussion of the 2021 Budget wherein Miss Heatwole presented the preliminary numbers. There are a few questions regarding the budget from 2021 that Miss Heatwole would like to speak with State of Kansas Office of Accounts and Reports regarding the budget as well as speaking with Johnson County Treasurers office to discuss the TIF deductions on the Ad Valorem. Mr. Orr informed the board that the monies that have been transferred into the Emergency Fund could not be used for CIP repairs. Mr. Matier requested that Miss Heatwole send the board the working Excel Budget Document provided by the State of Kansas. Mr. Jackson also requested that Mr. Roth provide an estimate on the remaining projects to help decide which project(s) could be deferred. After the discussion, it was decided that Miss Heatwole would try to contact those at the state and at Johnson County and set an informal work session for July 13, 2020; Mr. Orr requested that the notice of the informal work session be published in KC Star.
- 8) Bills were approved as presented for payment: Mr. Matier made a motion to approve bills; seconded by Mr. Becker; unanimously approved.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Matier to adjourn at 8:30 P.M.; seconded by Mr. Becker; unanimously approved.

cc: Board and staff

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Heatwole
Recording Secretary