

MERRIAM DRAINAGE DISTRICT
OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
August 3, 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
Juliana Garcia
Whitney Yadrich
Unidentified Callers

Mr. Jackson informed that the regular scheduled budget hearing for this evening was rescheduled to August 10, 2020 at 7pm due to an error in the original Budget Hearing Notice. He informed there was a link on the even that was published in The Legal Record as well as a phone number to contact. Mr. Orr requested that the contact information for phone calls into the record: 1-408-740-7256 Code 3681586#.

Mr. Matier and Mr. Jackson requested the minutes of the July 6, 2020 as amended as follows:

1. Change uses to use in the paragraph speaking about Mr. Bell.
2. Update sentence to: *They anticipate that the life of the concrete block will last at least as we are getting now and maybe more.*
3. Mr. Jackson would like Miss Heatwole to look at the recording to update the second bullet point on the Engineering section.
4. Update sentence to: *The other cost would be \$3000.00 to take care of the stakes.*

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2020 as amended by Mr. Jackson; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.

1) Engineering Report:

- Mr. Roth spoke with Max Rieke about Project C from the 2020 CIP; they are working on a proposal.
- The proposal for the sign has been delayed as Mr. Roth needs to have a survey completed first and the gentlemen he reached out to for the survey has been laid off within the last couple weeks; it should be completed before next meeting.
- Mr. Roth informed the board that on July 21, 2020 he went to look at the projects at the uncompleted projects from previous years CIP to make sure they were not significantly more dire than they were when documented for the CIP. Mr. Roth reported the rock seems to be stable and has not shifted to the point of immediate need or necessity. Mr. Becker questioned if the survey done by Affinus in 2017 of the property owned by MDD, Mr. Bell and the City of Merriam's right-of-way would be applicable for the survey needed. Mr. Roth informed that he sent the previous survey to the new surveyor to speed up the process as they wouldn't have to do the property research since all we need is to stake the property corners.
- Mr. Becker mentioned the June article in the Shawnee Mission Post regarding the City taking action to put fencing of a hole by the creek. A notice was not received from the City that they took care of the hole. Mr. Jackson informed the board he received a notice from the City informing of the hole, which he shared with Mr. Roth and he investigated it. This was about the same time of Mr. Becker bringing it to the meeting.

2) Attorney Report:

- Mr. Orr informed the board that due to the quantity, quality, and age of our documents it is not cost effective to scan everything and to convert to electronic copies. Mr. Orr recommends that MDD go with storing the files in a climate-controlled storage facility.
- Mr. Jackson mentioned that the Storage Mart on the Frontage Road in Merriam is holding a 5 x 5 unit for \$38.99/month with insurance and tax is \$55 - \$60/month. After a general discussion, Mr. Becker made a motion to use Storage Mart to store MDD files; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously passed. Mr. Jackson will send contact information to Miss Heatwole to set up automatic payments.
- Mr. Orr informed the board that he and Miss Heatwole had spoken John Martin regarding the budgeting process. Mr. Orr asked the board to consider using John Martin to assist Miss Heatwole. Mr. Orr has asked Mr. Martin to provide him with a resume and a fee schedule that will be forwarded on to the board.
- Mr. Orr suggested that MDD have its own cell phone number to facilitate communication for the public. Currently MDD is using Miss Heatwole's personal cell phone. Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Matier to investigate getting a cell phone number that could then be forwarded to someone's cell phone.

3) Insurance Renewal:

- Public Officials Policy we should write the check for \$1200.00 to bind this coverage which is due by August 8, 2020. Mr. Becker made a motion to approve the Public Officer Liability Coverage in the amount of \$1200.00; seconded by Mr. Jackson; unanimously passed.
- General Liability Policy is not being renewed by the current insurance company. Our current coverage expires on 8/23/2020. Mr. DeMasters will shop this with his Broker to get different bids. Mr. Orr would like for the board to make a motion approving the insurance application to be completed and allowing Mr. Jackson to pay for the new policy if it is less than \$10K. After a general discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Matier to approve purchasing a new general liability policy up to \$10K; Mr. Becker questioned if the amount should be \$15K; Mr. Matier withdrew his motion. Mr. Matier made a motion to approve purchasing a new general liability policy up to \$15K; seconded by Mr. Becker; unanimously approved.

- 4) Mr. Matier sent out the request for quote to two different companies for the MDD website. He provided the board with the quote from one company, the other company declined to provide a quote. Mr. Roth will go through all the photos that Benesch has taken and provide them to the board or website designer. After the general discussion, a motion was made to use HPG Enterprises to create a website and do the yearly updates for Merriam Drainage District was made by Mr. Matier; seconded by Mr. Becker; unanimously approved. Mr. Matier then proposed a few names for the url: drainagedistrict.org, mdd-turkeycreek.org, Merriamdrainagedistrict.org or MerriamDrainageDistrict.gov. A motion was made by Mr. Jackson to approve the domain name of MerriamDrainageDistrict.gov; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.
- 5) Bills were approved as presented for payment: Mr. Jackson questioned if we received an invoice from Mr. Maldonado; it was received, and he had 58 hours. Mr. Becker also questioned the charge of \$299.00 from the Kansas City Star; it was the publication of the work session meeting. After questions were answered, Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve bills; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.
- 6) Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Roth to verify we are still able to get some of projects finished after the Fall rains; Mr. Roth believes once we get passed the Fall rains end of November early December before the ground freezes we should still have time to get some projects done. Mr. Jackson would like to discuss the projects we would like to pursue during the 2020 timeframe at the next board meeting.

- 7) There was a general discussion regarding our next meeting being on Labor Day, all agreed to attend the meeting as normal.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Matier to adjourn at 7:59 P.M.; seconded by Mr. Becker; unanimously approved.

cc: Board and staff

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Heatwole
Recording Secretary