

MERRIAM DRAINAGE DISTRICT
OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
January 4, 2021

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
John Martin, CPA
Rebecca Heatwole
Visitors: Jason Silvers
Anonymous

Mr. Becker requested the December 7, 2020 meeting minutes be amended as follows:

1. Correction under approval of the bills; “In addition, Mr. Orr’s invoice was a late addition...”

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2020 as amended by Mr. Becker; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.

1) Engineering Report:

- Mr. Roth informed the board the Geotechnical work should be preformed this week. Once they receive the results the design work will be finished, and a final quote should be available at the February meeting.
- Mr. Roth coordinated with the City of Merriam regarding the “no trespassing” sign; we are able to move ahead with installation when Max Reike is able to do so.
- Mr. Jackson requested an update on using the anticipated broken slab rock for the rip rap project in the 2021 CIP. Mr. Roth thought there was an issue with Max Reike getting to this location; he informed the board that Max Rieke was putting together a formal quote to determine the cost difference of them moving the broken pieces to the location vs. storage for Merriam Public Works.

2) Attorney Report:

- Mr Orr informed the board that our general liability policy we renewed in August 2020 was being canceled 1/24/2021 as the company would not longer be writing this type of policy; Mr. DeMasters is working to get another quote. Mr. Orr informed that MDD should be receiving refund for the remaining premium. He also noted that the change in the general liability policy does not affect our Public Officials Liability policy.
- Mr. Jackson suggested Aspire Insurance Company. Mr. Orr will be filling out application documents and asked that the board check their emails regularly for any additional information needed. The agent for Aspire suggested the board think about adding sexual abuse coverage to their policy. Mr. Orr does not believe it is urgent but requests the board think about adding this coverage.
- Due to the urgency to bind coverage before the next board meeting, Mr. Orr requested the board make a motion to give Mr. Jackson authority to bind insurance coverage; the motion was made by Mr. Becker; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.
- Mr. Orr suggested the board think about a sequence of responsibility in the event Mr. Jackson and/or Miss Heatwole were out of commission or on vacation. This would affect the cell phone and email. After a general discussion a motion was made by Mr. Matier to establish protocol that if Mr. Jackson is absent, Mr. Becker will take the responsibility

and if both Mr. Jackson and Mr. Becker are absent, Mr. Matier will take responsibility; seconded by Mr. Becker; unanimously approved.

3) Accountant Report:

- Mr. Martin informed the board that as of today MDD has \$94K remaining of its 2020 budget authority. Mr. Martin suggests waiting until February to give time for all remaining 2020 bills to be received before making a final decision on how to use the funds. This topic has been tabled until the February meeting.
- Mr. Martin is still awaiting confirmation but believes that there shouldn't be an issue for MDD monies to be held in the Bank of China because it would be a federally chartered bank and fall under FDIC.

4) Bills were approved as presented for payment a motion was made by Mr. Becker to approve bills; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Jackson to adjourn at 7:27 P.M.; seconded by Mr. Becker; unanimously approved.

cc: Board and staff

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Heatwole
Recording Secretary