

MERRIAM DRAINAGE DISTRICT
OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
February 1, 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

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2021 as written by Mr. Jackson; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.

1) Engineering Report:

- Mr. Roth informed the board that Benesch would be discontinuing the use of Blue Jeans and will move forward using Microsoft Teams for virtual meetings. Mr. Roth will schedule a time close to the end of the month with the board to make sure all are familiar with the new software.
- Mr. Roth informed the Geotechnical survey was completed after our last meeting. The findings on the survey suggest that another course of concrete block be added to ensure stability. Mr. Roth sent the information to Max Reike and the concrete rock manufacturer; the cost has increased to just over \$200K. After a general discussion, it was decided that Mr. Roth would begin looking into quarries to get limestone as we have in the past. Mr. Roth informed that the area does not look as though it has shifted much since the initial pictures and he could begin monitoring certain sections for shifting if the board wishes to hold off making the repairs now. The project was tabled until next meeting.
- Mr. Roth received an email from an engineer working with a developer wanting to build along Turkey Creek. This project is very conceptual, and they were only reaching out to determine challenges they might face. He did inform the engineer of the COE Turkey Creek project and provided them with contact details should they desire to know more.

2) Attorney Report:

- Mr. Orr informed the board that the general liability insurance is now bound with Euclid Company at a total cost of \$6,404.00.
- Sexual Abuse Policy – Agent informed MDD could pick and choose the coverage the board would want. Mr. Orr will fill out the application to get a quote.
- Mr. Orr confirmed with Mr. DeMasters that MDD's Directors and Officers coverage was still in place. MDD will receive a refund check for the remaining premium on the canceled policy mid-February.

3) Accountant Report:

- Mr. Martin provide the board with 2020 year end financials showing \$65,597 remaining from the 2020 budget that could be encumbered for use for 2021 CIP projects. After a general discussion, a motion to encumber \$65,597 of 2020 budget for use on 2021 CIP projects was made by Mr. Matier; seconded by Mr. Becker; unanimously approved.

4) Mr. Jackson confirmed that StorageMart increased their fee from \$59.96 to \$69.96/month in 2021. Bills were approved as presented for payment a motion was made by Mr. Matier to approve bills; seconded by Mr. Becker; unanimously approved.

- 5) New Business: MDD received a concerned email from the HOA President of Timber Ridge Villas, Billy Croan, informing of increased trash in/around Turkey Creek. He questioned, *Does MDD ever retain services of cleanup crews? Or would you have authority to require the installation of grilles on all inlets into the creek to prevent refuse from entering the watershed? Or enforce minimum requirements for stormwater systems that discharge into the creek?*
 - Mr. Roth informed the question of ownership is not a simple one as trash blows to the lowest point, which is MDD property. Mr. Roth does not suggest using grates on storm sewers because they begin to impede the flow of water. He suggests catching the trash before it gets to the storm sewer by adding filter socks and basket, which is a low capital cost, but high maintenance cost to continually clean them out. Mr. Roth will discuss with Max Rieke the topic was tabled until next meeting.
- 6) Miss Heatwole discussed the use of Dropbox to house the virtual documents for the MDD as they are currently housed on her personal Dropbox. After a general discussion it was decided that Miss Heatwole would work with Mr. Orr to set everything up.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Jackson to adjourn at 7:51 P.M.; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.

cc: Board and staff

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Heatwole
Recording Secretary