

MERRIAM DRAINAGE DISTRICT
OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
March 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
John Martin, CPA
Rebecca Heatwole
Visitors: Jason Silvers
Whitney Yadrich

Mr. Becker requested the minutes of February 1, 2021 meeting be amended as follows:

- Correction under attorney report “insurance is now bound with Euclid Company at a total cost of \$6,404.00.”

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2021 as amended by Mr. Jackson; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.

1) Engineering Report:

Mr. Roth was not in attendance but sent an email update to the board before the meeting which was read aloud by Mr. Jackson. Contents of the email provided below:

First, while Benesch has transitioned to Microsoft Teams, it only occurred late last week which didn't provide enough time for us to test it on each of your devices prior to tonight's meeting. Therefore, I would propose that the meeting this evening proceed with using BlueJeans. The service is current still available, so in my absence it's probably the best alternative. As we discussed last month, I will work with everyone in the coming days to assist in setting up a Microsoft Teams meeting for use in April.

Rock

- *I have spoken to both the Kaw Valley Drainage District and the Fairfax Drainage District regarding the rock, but neither district uses rock that size.*
- *Eric had provided contact information for a local contractor that had indicated they could obtain large rock. When we spoke last week, he was a bit surprised at the size of rock we needed, but said that he would check his suppliers to try to find some. Since we spoke, I have not heard back if he had any luck.*
- *House of Rocks can provide a stone that is 6-feet x 20-inches x 14-inches which is just slightly shorter than the 18-inch stone I would like. They quoted a price of \$115/ton which does not include hauling and unloading.*
- *Max Rieke was able to identify a quarry in McFarland, KS (between Topeka and Manhattan) called Flint Hills Stone that can supply a stone that is 6-feet x 20-inches x 18-inches. I have placed a call to the quarry to discuss the quality and volume that they will be able to provide, but they quoted a price of \$90/ton with \$500 per load for hauling to Max Rieke.*

For comparison, when we last purchased rock in July 2016 it cost \$65/ton. Even with inflation it'll be more expensive than our last purchase, but I'm hoping that when I discuss the volume of rock we are interested in with Flint Hills Stone, that the price will come down. It's my intention to obtain a quotes from them and meet with Max Rieke to prepare quotes for each of the projects

we haven't been able to complete in the past couple years. In addition to those quotes, I'll be obtain a quote to purchase of some rock in addition to those projects, that we'd be able to store on the District's property for future use.

Stream Cleanup Cost

Max Rieke provided a quote of \$2,000 - \$3,000 to walk the creek and collect trash. The cost would vary a little each time depending on how much trash they collected.

Miscellaneous

I will be meeting with Max Rieke to review all the work in the 2021 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), check for any holes that have formed, and check the walls for any further deterioration.

There was a general discussion regarding items in the email during which Mr. Becker requested that Mr. Roth provide a cost estimate for using manufactured concrete blocks. Mr. Jackson informed that he would like to coordinate with the City of Merriam to get all debris cleaned out of the channel near 67th street at one time. Mr. Matier and Mr. Becker have not looked at the area in discussion.

2) Attorney Report:

- Mr. Orr informed the board that he turned in the application for sexual abuse/harassment/misconduct coverage along with a lengthy narrative on Merriam Drainage District for the underwriter. Mr. Orr informed the board that this coverage also includes cost of defense if a lawsuit was filed. Mr. Orr hopes to have a quote at the next meeting.
- Mr. Orr informed we should be receiving a check from DeMaster's insurance for our remaining premium soon. The check will be mailed to Mr. Jackson's address for deposit.
- Mr. Orr informed the board that he believes MDD should go ahead with creating their own Dropbox and uploading all the documents that are currently being held on Miss Heatwole's personal Dropbox. Miss Heatwole will create the account and provide login credentials to the board members.

3) Accountant Report:

- Mr. Martin informed there was nothing significant or unusual this month.
- Mr. Martin informed the board that the numbers provided for encumbrance factored in the cost of Geotechnical Survey.

- 4) Mr. Matier questioned if Geotechnical company was based in St. Louis or Kansas City, since Mr. Roth was not in attendance the question couldn't be answered. Bills were approved as presented for payment a motion was made by Mr. Matier to approve bills; seconded by Mr. Becker; unanimously approved.

There being no new business, a motion was made by Mr. Jackson to adjourn at 7:23 P.M.; seconded by Mr. Matier; unanimously approved.

cc: Board and staff

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Heatwole
Recording Secretary