

MERRIAM DRAINAGE DISTRICT
OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
May 5, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Merriam Drainage District of Johnson County, Kansas, was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mr. Jackson at Higdon & Hale 6310 Lamar Ave #110, Overland Park, KS.

Eric Jackson, Chairman
Dan Leap, Secretary
Jeff Weisbender, Treasurer

John Martin, CPA
Steve Roth, Engineer
Jim Orr, Attorney
Rebecca Heatwole, Reporting Secretary
Guest: Billy Croan

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve April 7, 2025 as amended by changing “March bills to April bills”; seconded by Mr. Leap; unanimously passed.

1) Engineering Report:

- The COE held a 3 day series of risk analysis meetings this past month that Mr. Roth attended for half the day. There have been no other meetings regarding the Upper Turkey Creek Project.
- Mr. Roth informed the board that Catch-It has caught 10 groundhogs thus far and he has asked them to move their traps as he spotted more groundhogs while he was walking the channel along Merriam Drive from Johnson Drive to Shawnee Mission Parkway.
- While walking the channel Mr. Roth noticed that the limestone overhang in the warterfall area has failed. He will review previous pictures and confirm that there has been movement. He will also contact COE to determine if this area will be included in their plan. Mr. Roth does not believe the fix needs to be immediate, but it should be definitely be added to the repair list over the next year or two. Mr. Roth will speak to Max Rieke about options to repair the section.
- Mr. Roth informed that Max Rieke will begin the wall repair on West bank North of the Farmer’s Market, removing trees, and filling holes on May 12, 2025.

2) Attorney Report:

- Nothing to report.

3) Accountant Report:

- Mr. Martin informed that the financials look good through the 1st Qtr 2025. He informed the board that he will put together a draft budget for June meeting keeping everything status quo. He does not have the Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR) so the draft budget will be based on previous dollar amounts.
 - a) Mr. Roth informed that the 2026 Budget for channel maintentance should be around \$315,000.00

4) Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve the May bills as presented; seconded by Mr. Leap; unanimously passed.

- Mr. Leap asked Mr. Jackson to speak with Mr. Maldonado to verify why he did not mow section B & D.

5) Miss Heatwole informed the Board of the letter received by First Interstate Bank informing that the service fee for having sweep accounts would increase to \$150.00 per month beginning in June 2025. The board requested that Mr. Orr contact the bank to review the new charges.

6) Mr. Jackson reminded the Board Members that the deadline to register as a candidate for their seats is June 2, 2025 by noon.

7) Mr. Jackson also informed that he would not be in attendance at the June meeting.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 P.M. was made by Mr. Jackson; seconded by Mr. Leap; unanimously passed.

cc: Board and staff

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Heatwole
Recording Secretary