MERRIAM DRAINAGE DISTRICT
OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS
BUDGET HEARING

The Board of Directors of the Merriam Drainage District met on September 8, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. to sit as a hearing board on the proposed 2027 budget. The following people attended the meeting that was held at Higdon & Hale at 6310 Lamar Ave #110, Overland Park, KS 66202.

Present were:

Eric Jackson, Chairman
Dan Leap, Secretary
Jeff Weisbender, Treasurer
Jim Orr, Attorney
Steve Roth, Alfred Benesch
John Martin, CPA
Rebecca Heatwole, Recording Secretary

Mr. Jackson made a motion to open the budget hearing; seconded by Mr. Leap; unanimously approved. Mr. Martin informed the board that the published rate for MDD 2027 budget was 1.208, which was under the Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR) of 1.210. The published rate would give MDD $228,843.00 in Ad Valorem with the max budget authority of $614,785.00 for the 2027 Budget.

Mr. Martin informed the board that there was enough money in the proposed budget to take care of the repairs to the channel with a reserve of $575,000.00 for Capital Improvements.

Mr. Martin raised the topic of TIF dollars as MDD's revenue was reduced by $42,500 due to TIF properties. Mr. Martin said the idea that RNR gives the same dollars is a fallacy. RNR makes no provisions for increase in construction and new additions. Likewise, it also doesn't affect amount of money when a building is torn down or purchased by the city. Mr. Martin informed the board that MDD may need to look at increasing their rate over the RNR for next year's budget

Mr. Jackson made a motion to close the budget hearing at 7:20pm; seconded by Mr. Leap; unanimously approved.