
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE THORN CREEK BASIN SANITARY DISTRICT
HELD MAY 17, 2023 AT 1:00 P.M.**



CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following trustees were present at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District, held May 17, 2023:

Raymond C. Robertson, Vice President/Treasurer
Frank V. Alston, Sr., Clerk

Absent: Francisco Perez, President

Also present were: Eric T. Stach, Attorney; and staff members: Jennifer Hindel, Executive Director; Lucas Streicher, Director of Operations; Jeremy Stubbs, Technical Services Director; and Norma Cash, Finance Director.

GUESTS: None.

Trustee Alston Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, that Trustee Robertson be appointed as President Pro Tem for the purpose of the board meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The President, acting as Chairman, called for the nomination and election of officers for the new fiscal year.

The Board of Trustees shall elect one of their number as President, one of their number as Vice President, and from within or outside their membership, a Treasurer, a Clerk and an Assistant Clerk.

Trustee Alston, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, that Attorney Stach be named Chair for the purpose of nomination and election of officers.

Trustee Robertson nominated and Trustee Alston, Sr. seconded Francisco Perez for the office of President. Trustee Alston, Sr. nominated and Trustee Robertson seconded Raymond C. Robertson for the office of Vice President. Trustee Alston Sr. nominated and Trustee Robertson seconded Raymond C. Robertson for the office of Treasurer. Trustee Robertson nominated and Trustee Alston, Sr. seconded Frank V. Alston, Sr. for the office of Clerk and Jennifer Hindel for the office of Assistant Clerk. As there were no further nominations, the Chair declared the nominations closed.

SLATE OF OFFICERS

FRANCISCO PEREZ	PRESIDENT
RAYMOND C. ROBERTSON	VICE PRESIDENT
RAYMOND C. ROBERTSON	TREASURER
FRANK V. ALSTON, SR.	CLERK
JENNIFER HINDEL	ASSISTANT CLERK

Trustee Alston Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, accepting the slate of officers and that the nominated slate be the elected slate of officers. On roll call vote, all Trustees presented voted "Aye." The Chair declared the motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF APPOINTMENT-ATTORNEY AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Trustee Robertson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Alston, Sr., that Eric T. Stach be retained as Attorney for the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District on a fee basis, and that Jennifer Hindel be retained as Executive Director, and that both appointments shall be subject to the pleasure of the Board of Trustees. On roll call, all Trustees present voted "aye". Motion carried.

MINUTES

Trustee Alston, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, approving the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 19, 2023, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Trustee Robertson asked for public comments. Individuals will be given the opportunity to address the Board of Trustees on matters related to the agenda. Each individual must state his or her name and will be limited to five minutes.

No comments were made.

RECESS OF THE REGULAR MEETING

Trustee Alston, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Robertson, that the meeting be recessed until the completion of the public hearing, scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

OPENING OF THE PUBLIC HEARING

CALL TO ORDER

Publication of Notice of Public Hearing

Report by Executive Director Hindel, that upon the direction of the Board of Trustees, publication of the “Notice of Public Hearing” for the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance, and amendments to Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges for the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District, was made in the Daily Southtown newspaper on May 3, 2023, and that a copy of the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024 was available for public inspection on May 1, 2023, in the Administration Office of the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District.

Budget and Appropriation Ordinance - Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Executive Director Hindel presented the proposed Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2023 and ending April 30, 2024. (Budget Book – Introduction, Page 17)

Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges

Executive Director Hindel presented the proposed Ordinance amending the Establishing Fees and Charges for the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

No attendees.

REMARKS FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD

No comments were made.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING

Trustee Alston, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, that the public hearing on the proposed Budget and Appropriation Ordinance, and amendments to the Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges for the for the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2023 and ending April 30, 2024, be adjourned and the regular meeting be reconvened at 1:18 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

CALL TO ORDER OF THE RECESSED MEETING

Budget and Appropriation Ordinance – May 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024

Trustee Alston Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, that the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024, be approved and adopted in words and figures, and the Executive Director is hereby directed to have the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance published in the Daily Southtown newspaper. On roll call, all Trustees present voted “Aye.” The motion carried and the ordinance was approved and adopted.

Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges

Trustee Alston, Sr., made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, that the amended Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges for the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District, be approved and passed in words and figures and the Executive Director is directed to have the amendments to the Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges for the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District published in the Daily Southtown newspaper. On roll call, all Trustees present voted "Aye." The motion carried and the ordinance was approved and adopted.

DISBURSEMENTS

Trustee Alston, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Alston, Sr., that the accounts be allowed and warrants drawn on the Treasurer for payment of the same. Check numbers 60074 through 60149, and 10329 through 10331 were issued in the amount of \$529,386.80 for the Corporate Fund expenses, in the amount of \$148,734.67 for the Capital Improvement Fund expenses, and in the amount of \$6,598.12 for the Treatment Plant Upgrade Fund expenses. Motion unanimously carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Trustee Robertson reports the ILF funds paid \$4,000.74 and the NOW account paid \$22.28 in April, 2023.

Trustee Alston, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, that the Financial Report be accepted as of April 30, 2023. Motion unanimously carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Legal Report

Attorney Erich T. Stach reported:

- The legal report regarding pending, threatened or imminent litigation matters will be discussed in executive session.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Hindel reported:

- Illinois EPA has elected to use its discretion to include a population cap for loan projects that qualify for loan principal forgiveness. This currently renders the District ineligible for future loan principal forgiveness. Various entities are taking issue with Illinois EPA's approach. Staff will continue to track this issue.

Operations Report

Director of Operations Lucas Streicher reported:

- It has been a quiet month with no excess days, no HEF discharges and no bypasses, and the plant is operating very well. For the April 1st excess flow day, the District had a monthly average BOD excursion with a discharge of 38 mg/l and a limit of 30 mg/l. Staff have investigated all aspects of plant operation and have ruled out all likely causes. It also doesn't appear that anything unusual came into the plant. The sample may have been contaminated. Staff sees no reason this will happen on the next excess day, but will investigate further if it does happen.

Engineering Report

Technical Services Director Jeremy Stubbs reported:

- Two connection permits were issued for a total of \$2,180.50. No extension permits or annexations were issued this month.

Finance Director's Report

Finance Director Norma Cash reported:

- See below.

PURCHASE OF SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT NOT REQUIRED TO BE BID

None.

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS

None.

EMERGENCY PURCHASES

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Establishment of the Decennial Committee on Efficiencies

Trustee Robertson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Alston, Sr., to form a committee, in compliance with Illinois' "Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act," (50ILCS 70/1, *et seq.*) to study local efficiencies and report on recommendations regarding efficiency and increased accountability, being called the "Special Committee on Local Government Efficiency." On roll call, all trustees present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Trustee Alston, Sr. made a motion, Seconded by Trustee Robertson, to table appointment by Board President of two District residents to the Committee, with the Advice and Consent of the Board. Motion unanimously carried.

The Board President directed that the first meeting of the Committee shall take place on the same day as the July 2023 Board meeting, and shall be scheduled to start at the same time as the Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Health Insurance Renewal

Finance Director Cash presented contracts for a one year period with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois for health and Delta Dental for dental and vision insurance plans for the District employees, beginning July 1, 2023 and expiring June 30, 2024.

Trustee Alston, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, to accept the renewal rates of the one year contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield Illinois for health and Delta Dental for dental vision insurance for the District's employees, beginning July 1, 2023 and expiring June 30, 2024. Motion unanimously carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Director Hindel requested an executive session to discuss pending, threatened or imminent litigation matters, personnel matters, matters regarding possible acquisition of property, collective bargaining matters.

Trustee Alston Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, to enter into an executive session to discuss pending, threatened or imminent litigation matters, personnel matters, matters regarding possible acquisition of property, collective bargaining matters. On roll call, all Trustees present voted "Aye". The motion carried.

Trustee Alston made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the regular meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:50 p.m.

Compensation for Non-union Employees

Trustee Alston, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, that the compensation scheduled for non-union employees be accepted and approved, and that the Executive Director is directed to set each employee's salary not to exceed as specified in the schedule as of May 1, 2023. On roll call, all Trustees present voted "Aye." Motion unanimously carried.

Executive Director's Compensation

Trustee Alston Sr. made a motion, seconded by Trustee Robertson, that the compensation scheduled for the Executive Director be accepted and approved for the fiscal year 2023/24. On roll call, all Trustees present voted "Aye." Motion unanimously carried.

After a brief discussion with the Trustees and Attorney Stach, Executive Director Hindel was advised to solicit suggested names of potential Decennial Committee members, and to forward the names to Trustee Perez for his consideration before the June board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Robertson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Alston Sr., that the meeting be adjourned.
Meeting adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

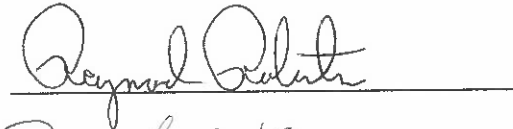


CLERK

APPROVED:



PRESIDENT



TRUSTEE



TRUSTEE