

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
SANGAMON VALLEY PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2023  
5:30 PM**

Held in Person at the SVPWD Water Treatment Plant

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bob Buchanan, Monte Cherry, Michelle Grindley, Meghan Hennesy, Colleen Schultz, Kerry Gifford and Lindsey Wallen. The full governing body was in attendance.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mike Melton

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Ed Flynn – District Attorney

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**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Hennesy called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

**2. APPROVE AGENDA:** Chairman Hennesy asked if everyone had a chance to look at the agenda.

**MOTION** by Grindley and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cherry to approve the agenda as presented.  
All present members voting yes, motion passes.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chairman Hennesy asked if anyone wanted to speak for public comment.  
There was no public comment.

**4. EXECUTIVE SEESION:**

**A. Personnel Discussion/Litigation – 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)(11)**

**MOTION** by Grindley and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hennesy to go into Executive Session at 5:34pm for the purpose of discussing personnel & potential litigation **5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)/(11)**.

Roll call Vote as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:**

Hennesy: Yes	Melton: Absent	Schultz: Yes	Grindley: Yes
Buchanan: Yes	Cherry: Yes		

**With a vote of 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, and 1 Absent motion carries.**

Discussion was held regarding litigation. During Executive Session the board came back into open session to allow for public comment for those who arrive late to the meeting.

**MOTION** by Cherry and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Schultz go back into Open Session at 5:40 pm.

Roll call Vote as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:**

Hennesy: Yes	Melton: Absent	Schultz: Yes	Grindley: Yes
Buchanan: Yes	Cherry: Yes		

**With a vote of 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, and 1 Absent motion carries.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chairman Hennesy allowed public comment for those who arrived to the meeting after the public comment section was closed.

**Tate Survance and Jaelyn Survance** spoke for public comment. Mr. Survance noted that he has already spoke with Kodiak and they have barred him from their office, because he called them out on the legalities of everything and he knows a lot of it falls back on them. He said he isn't here to place blame or anything like that, but stated they just got their water pressure issue fixed and he knows they are not the worst off in the park. His yard is still flooded from the neighbors' pipes so he believes they are fixed on the top side by Kodiak but asked the board to look into the water main and some of the other pipes coming off of it. He stated that he knows public health has come in and this is posing a major issue for the residents of the park and their safety. He asked the board to put the blame aside for 5 minutes and help out the community members. He asked for even minor communication, and that would be better than what they have been given. He stated that he is frustrated because Kodiak won't respond to him and he has been firm but not aggressive. He asked that the board make their communication with the public more clear. He understands that there has been communication with the EPA and that a boil order was issued. He stated that he has read the statement that was released by the EPA regarding whose responsibilities are what. He realizes that this issue has been up for debate for quite some time. Jaelyn Survance stated that she also feels that communication is one of the biggest things and that she realizes that there are legality issues between the board and the property owners and that makes it very difficult to go in the community members, but she feels that it is something we need to work on. Tate Survance suggested that we may bring to the courts attention that this is an emergency issue and that we need to go in and do what we can even if it is not much. He stated that he knows that there were pipes that could have been addressed by either side and it was refused to be addressed. He stated that he is aware of the no contact no work order and that we are unable to go in without facing the potential of legality. He stated that he feels that how quickly became a growing issue including up to 52 houses. Tate stated that they are still having issues despite the fact that work is now being done finally, so that number is still growing slowly but not as fast as it was. He was peeved that the board could not work to at least go in and check the system. He gets the no contact no work order but, it was an emergency and you guys still have a portion of responsibility there according to public health and he feels that it could have been handled better. The chairman explained that Sangamon Valley Only has ownership of the pipes that go to the middle of the street of the residence. Tate then asked if that included the pipes that are in Candlewood and the chairman then explained that that was not the case. That Sangamon Valley is only responsible for the water mains up to where the property starts. Tate questioned the water pressure. The chairman explained that SVPWD only tests the pressure up to the property line and that the pressure was as required, and stated that the board would do its best to see if there is communication that they are able to put out there to better clarify. Jaelyn Survance requested that the board could post communication on Mahomet/Seymore Talk and stated that people were questioning whether the boil order was still in place. The chairman informed Ms. Survance that yes, the boil order was still in place and that SVPWD would send a notification out when the boil order can be lifted also, stating that all boil orders/lifts are posted to the SVPWD site. Ed Flynn introduced himself as the attorney for the district and stated that the lack of communication from the district

was at his direction.

Following Public Comment, the Board went back into Executive Session.

**MOTION** by Hennesy and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Grindley to go back into Executive Session at 6:07pm for the purpose of discussing personnel & potential litigation **5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)/(11).**

Roll call Vote as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:**

Hennesy: Yes	Melton: Absent	Schultz: Yes	Grindley: Yes
Buchanan: Yes	Cherry: Yes		

**With a vote of 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, and 1 Absent motion carries.**

Further discussion was held regarding litigation.

**MOTION** by Hennesy and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Grindley go back into Open Session at 6:18pm.

Roll call Vote as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:**

Hennesy: Yes	Melton: Absent	Schultz: Yes	Grindley: Yes
Buchanan: Yes	Cherry: Yes		

**With a vote of 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, and 1 Absent motion carries.**

**5. BUSINESS**

- A. Litigation Decision** – No further discussion was held regarding litigation in open session.

**6. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** by Cherry and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hennesy to adjourn at 6:19 pm.  
All present members voting yes, motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Wallen  
Secretary, Board of Trustees