

MEETING MINUTES
SANGAMON VALLEY PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT
EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 29TH, 2020
11:00AM

Held via GoToMeeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Meghan Hennesy, Bud Parkhill, Kerry Gifford, Lindsey Stroud-Rodts. A Quorum was present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS PRESENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Hennesy called the meeting to order at 10.59am

2. APPROVE AGENDA: Chairman Hennesy asked if everyone had a chance to review the agenda and if there were any recommended changes to the agenda as presented. Gifford and Stroud asked to add Covid 19 Wastewater Testing to new business. No other changes were recommended.

Motion by Parkhill to approve the agenda with addition, 2nd by Hennesy. All voting yes, motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

4. NEW BUSINESS:

A. COVID-19 (CORONA VIRUS) LEVELS DISCUSS – Gifford noted that a decision was made to go back from Level 2-Cautionary to a Level 3 – Dangerous based off of the local decisions made to hold unofficial proms and the respective spike in cases in Mahomet. Gifford also made this decision because of cases nationally as well. This Level doesn't affect maintenance, this just separates the office staff. Chairman Hennesy asked if we should think through a certain number of cases locally that would prompt us to go back to a Level 4. Gifford noted that we would do some more research to determine what a good benchmark for this would be. In the meantime Chairman Hennesy asked what can be done in level 3 to help mitigate the potential for exposure. She suggested limiting 1 person

per truck. Gifford noted that we are one truck short of doing that right now all the time. Some of the times they can do it, but then someone would have to take their own vehicle. Gifford also noted that we do have it budgeted for a new truck, but we were waiting on that due to covid. Chairman Hennesy asked if there was something else we could do, such as a higher level mask when they are in a truck with another person. Gifford noted that he will not buy a new truck right now when folks can't even buy groceries. Chairman Hennesy stated to go ahead and add to level 3 that masks are required. Single person to a truck whenever possible, masks are required when that is not possible. Gifford noted that we do already have N95 masks. She thinks that this policy combined with the actual covid testing may be the best we can do right now. Chairman Hennesy asked what else needs to be added into this Level 3. Parkhill agreed that he is in favor of keeping the maintenance crew separated and suggested some alternate means of transportation opposed to purchasing a brand new truck. He suggested a golf cart, ATV, or used truck. Gifford noted that the problem with a smaller vehicle like that would be not being able to carry their tools with them. Chairman Hennesy asked Gifford to investigate a bit and see what other options are. Chairman Hennesy also asked Stroud and Gifford to look into mileage rate reimbursement and insurance if we were to ask an employee to use their own vehicle. Gifford noted that we do have past practice of paying the IRS rate for mileage. Chairman Hennesy asked what else is lacking from Level 3 and 4. She recommended that any level prior to a vaccine, should require the covid testing.

B. REQUIRED EMPLOYEE COVID TESTING DISCUSSION –

Chairman Hennesy noted that part of the discussion last week was to get all employees on the same 14-day testing schedule, possibly half of the staff in the morning and half in the afternoon and another part of that discussion was what do to if someone refuses to get tested. Gifford also noted that he did some research and discovered that as of right now, testing is completely free, but he did obtain a billing code from a Brenda a Carl. He discovered two testing facilities locally. One being at Marketplace Mall, however this facility does not report back to employers directly, it would be on the honor system. The other facility is Carl on S. Mattis does report back to employers so long as the employee signs a HIPPA waiver at the time of testing. All agreed to utilize the Carl on Mattis. Parkhill recommended us considering to not have employees get tested who are not running a fever. Hennesy and Gifford disagreed due to the number of people that are still testing positive that are asymptomatic. Chairman Hennesy agreed that we should do the temperature check, but based on an article she read that in Texas right now, they are thinking for every person that shows up to get testing that have symptoms there are 10 others who are positive that are asymptomatic. Chairman Hennesy stated that we really need to stress to the employees that this is not out of a desire to control, but out of a desire to protect, both internally and those that we

serve. She also stated that this is a fairly standard process for all of those essential workers such as doctors, EMTs, police, firefighters, etc. Gifford reiterate that he agrees especially knowing that this is in the wastewater and the maintenance team are in direct contact with the wastewater facility. Gifford also mentioned that we mistakenly got away from temperature screening but we are going to be re-implement this. Parkhill agreed with this.

Motion by Hennesy and 2nd by Parkhill to incorporate employee Covid-19 testing into all of our pandemic levels, until such time that this committee or the Board feels likes it is no longer necessary. All voting yes, motion carries.

Chairman Hennesy then asked what our policy will be for when an employee is unable to get tested on the regular testing schedule. Consensus agreed that if someone misses the regular testing day, that employee is unable to return to work until they have been tested and have received their results. Chairman Hennesy stated then that would be added to the testing procedure. This time off will be without pay unless previously requested off time was approved. Gifford and Chairman Hennesy also discussed employees going on vacation out of the state and following CDC guidelines for being tested and having those results prior to returning to work. Chairman Hennesy also stated that we should refraining from creating a penalty until we have an issue.

C. COVID-19 WASTEWATER TESTING – Gifford stated that he just sent everyone the letter he was going to send to the Village regarding wastewater testing for covid. He has a couple typos to fix and other corrections to make. He also had sent out the report from the lab. Chairman Hennesy stated that she would prefer to handle it a different and have a meeting with the Village first and asked Stroud and Gifford to schedule a GoToMeeting with them if possible. She'd like to present this to them first, and then follow up with the letter and documents from the lab. Chairman Hennesy asked who would like to attend. Parkhill and Gifford would both like to attend. Chairman Hennesy asked Gifford to reach out to Sean Widner directly and ask to schedule meeting to discuss this testing. Gifford suggested scheduling this somewhere between July 6th-10th. Chairman Hennesy asked Parkhill what his thoughts were if the Village decides not to assist with paying for this testing. Parkhill noted that he would like to explore other sources that could do the testing. Gifford stated that he wished he had some contacts at the U of I because he is confident someone there is smart enough to be able to do this. Gifford stated he was trying to get a hold of the sanitary district as well for this. Gifford asked for Stroud to assist with research other possible testing facilities other than Biobot. Chairman Hennesy also stated that there is something to be said about their level of expertise that they have. If the village decides that they do not want to assist with this, that there may be

some grants or help in other ways. Chairman Hennesy asked to add this topic to the Regular Meeting agenda as well to get the other Trustees opinion on this.

Parkhill asked to discuss another topic related to wastewater and wondered if Sangamon Valley was utilizing the services of Area Garbage. Gifford confirmed that we are. Parkhill noted that we need to have a discussion with Mr. Bowler because of the waste depositing onto property that he is leasing from Mr. Parkhill which raises concerns with the EPA. Gifford noted that we had switched from Republic due to them billing for services that they were not completing. PDC Area from Champaign does not want the work from us at this time because they do not have a front loaded. Gifford confirmed that Area Garbage doesn't have quality equipment. Chairman Hennesy suggested writing a letter to them reviewing processes with them so they know to dispose of the waste immediately. Gifford recommended not writing a letter so that this doesn't come back on us in any way. Chairman Hennesy stated that that was fine for now, but we need to look into this with Legal to see where the district's liability lies. Gifford stated that our responsibility never ends and that he would have conversation with Mr. Bowler. Chairman Hennesy asked to also put a call in with legal.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Parkhill, and 2nd by Hennesy to adjourn at 11:54am. All voting yes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Stroud-Rodts
Secretary, Board of Trustees