

EAST CHICAGO WATERWAY MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
CITY OF EAST CHICAGO, ENGINEERING/ANNEX BUILDING
4444 RAILROAD AVENUE
EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA
June 18, 2026
THURSDAY 5:00 P.M.

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS had in the
above-entitled matter on the 18th day of June, 2026 at
5:00 p.m. held at the City of East Chicago
Engineering/Annex Building, 4444 Railroad Avenue, East
Chicago, Indiana.

A P P E A R A N C E

MR. JOHN FEKETE, PRESIDENT

MR. JOHN BAKOTA, BOARD MEMBER

MR. HENRY RODRIGUEZ, BOARD MEMBER

MR. RAY LOPEZ, BOARD MEMBER

MR. JAYLAN ROBINSON, BOARD MEMBER

MR. FERNANDO TREVINO, FMT CONSULTING

MS. ELLEN GREGORY, ELLEN GREGORY LAW

ALSO PRESENT:

MS. MONICA JOHNSON, CLA

MS. NISSAN, CLA

MS. ELLEN GREGORY, COUNSEL

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MR. FEKETE: Okay. I'd like to call to order
3 the Chicago Waterway Management District Board of
4 Directors regular public board meeting. Today's date is
5 June 18th and the time is 5:01. The first order of
6 business is roll call. Jaylan Robinson?

7 MR. ROBINSON: Here.

8 MR. FEKETE: John Bakota?

9 MR. BAKOTA: Here.

10 MR. FEKETE: Henry Rodriguez?

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Here.

12 MR. FEKETE: Ray Lopez?

13 MR. LOPEZ: Here.

14 MR. FEKETE: John Fekete. Here. We have a
15 quorum. Next order of business is the Executive
16 Director's Report, Mr. Trevino?

17 MR. TREVINO: Yes. Fernando Trevino with FMT
18 Consulting. I'd like to start off by going over the
19 contents of your Board packet. You have a copy of
20 today's agenda.

21 You have a copy of the public meeting posting
22 for today's meeting. The Board minutes for
23 May 21, 2026 Board meeting. The Clifton Larson Allen
24 financial report dated May 31 for the month of May
25 2026.

1 You have a copy of the Claim Docket dated
2 June 18, 2026 along with copies of the purchase orders
3 and check register.

4 You have a copy of the First Merchants Bank
5 statements for the month of May 2026 for accounts ending
6 in 608 along with copies of checks that processed during
7 the month of May and account ending in 616 for account
8 activity in May.

9 You have a copy of the BMO Non-Trust Report
10 summarizing our CDs also dated May 31, 2026.

11 You have an email from Mr. Bob Santori dated
12 June 3rd confirming our new CD terms.

13 You have a copy of the BMO Trust Reports dated
14 May 31, 2026.

15 You have current CD interest rates from BMO in
16 an email dated and sent today, June 18, 2026.

17 You have a copy of the Olga Cosme Correction
18 Agreement Board Resolution 2026-2 amending the second
19 reading amending the District bylaws.

20 You have a copy of the District Professional
21 Liability Insurance Policy, copy of the Finance
22 Committee Agenda and recommendations from the Finance
23 Committee meeting that was held on June 3, 2026.

24 You have a copy of Tetra Tech's monthly
25 Progress Report, Invoice and Budget Summary for the

1 month of May dated June 11, 2026.

2 You have a signed copy of the adjacent
3 Property Owners Listing affiliated with the Construction
4 and the Floodway permit.

5 You have additional information requested from
6 agencies related to the NTDS Permit and Pascal Work
7 Plan.

8 And last but not least, you have a copy of
9 Attorney Ellen Gregory's Report with the revision date
10 of June 15, 2026. And also wanted to hand out an
11 article that was shared by Board member Bakota by
12 Ms. Susan Mihalo "Plants Behave at Home" and Ms. Susan
13 Mihalo happens to be with us today. So welcome Susan.

14 So that is the extent of the items in your
15 Board packet. Go over a few things to report regarding
16 the action items on today's agenda. We have the two
17 routine monthly action items, approval of the May 21st
18 monthly board meeting notes and today's Claim Docket.
19 And then we have five additional items. Actually six
20 additional items. One is the Correction agreement
21 regarding Olga Cosme contract.

22 We have a District Bylaws Amendment, second
23 reading. We have the Renewable Professional Liability
24 Insurance. We have the ratification of the Finance
25 Committee recommendations.

1 We have the delegation of authority regarding
2 the Great Lakes Legacy Act Projects Permit submittals.
3 And I'd like to ask the Board's approval to present our
4 Grand Cal River Remediation Project at an International
5 Sediment Remediation Conference, which I'll explain
6 further later on during today's meeting.

7 Regarding the District's finances, the Board
8 approved a budget amendment of 160,000 and affiliated
9 with the Great Lakes Legacy Act Project that transfer of
10 funds has been completed to our operating account.

11 The review of the West Shore Pipeline check
12 that we received in the amount of \$23,527.50 is ongoing.

13 The District held a Finance Committee meeting
14 on June 3rd. A copy of the agenda is in your Board
15 packet and a summary of the recommendation is in your
16 packet as well. I will review the recommendations that
17 we're requesting the Board ratified when we get to that
18 topic on the agenda.

19 Is Vanessa with us or is it Monica?

20 MS. GREGORY: Monica.

21 MR. TREVINO: Okay. Monica Johnson of CLA
22 will be present presenting the District's monthly
23 financial report.

24 Regarding the Great Lakes Legacy Act Project
25 updates, the Lake George Canal East and Middle projects,

1 the design for the South Tank Farm Barrier Wall
2 Groundwater Management System is ongoing. ARBP has
3 reported that the design is at 60%.

4 Regarding the Lake George Canal East, the
5 forest managing that part of the project, of course,
6 work on Phase II of the Lake George Canal East dredging
7 design is ongoing. The Project Team recently reviewed
8 the 90% design. The Corps is working on finalizing the
9 dredging design.

10 Phase II of the Lake George Canal East
11 dredging is scheduled to be bid and awarded this year.
12 However, the start of the dredging will be dependent on
13 the contracting schedule, but most likely the dredging
14 will occur in 2027.

15 As reported in the past, the project currently
16 plants use the local CDF to dispose of dredged sediments
17 from that part of the project and the Cleveland Cliff
18 SEP dredging is currently forecast to be done in 2028.

19 Regarding the Lake George Canal Middle CAP
20 project, the Army Corps of Engineers is managing that
21 section of the project. The CAP construction has been
22 completed. However, ECO construction activities and
23 adaptive management plan activities are ongoing. The
24 Corps is currently coordinated field activity related to
25 the depth of management plan.

1 Regarding the Lake George Canal West
2 remediation project, that work is ongoing and that work
3 is between BP and EPA. Based on the latest site
4 characterization data, BP is recommending no further
5 action is necessary. The Corps and EPA continue to
6 assess BP's no further action recommendation, which is
7 expected to include additional sampling.

8 Regarding the Grand Cal River Junction Reaches
9 Remediation Project, Tetra Tech's remedial design work
10 is ongoing. The project team is currently reviewing and
11 incorporating stakeholder comments for 95% design.
12 Ongoing project activities include completing the
13 remedial design. Junction Marsh Coordination with the
14 former city dump site which coincidentally we had a
15 meeting today with various stakeholders. Coordination
16 with the Marquette Trail Project property access
17 coordination including pursuing various agreements with
18 certain landowners.

19 Community Engagement, the project team
20 currently is scheduled to hold a public meeting after
21 our regular October 15th public meeting.

22 I had previously reported that public meeting
23 was going to happen in September, but the project team
24 agreed to move it to October.

25 The project team continues to work on various

1 permits necessary for construction. And on today's
2 agenda is a request for the Board to approve delegating
3 authority to myself, Board President Fekete and Attorney
4 Gregory to submit necessary follow up information when
5 requested by affiliated agents.

6 Tetra Tech Project Manager, Carol Nissan, is
7 in attendance today and will present the project update.
8 Also, Project Manager Carol approached me earlier today
9 with the idea to present our project at this year's
10 annual Battelle International Sediment Conference, which
11 I think is a great idea and I recommend the Board
12 approve the request. We'll discuss that in additional
13 detail when we get to that update on the agenda. But
14 presenting at this conference will give the District a
15 great opportunity to showcase a major part of our \$200
16 million investment in a large scale environmental
17 remediation project. It will demonstrate the challenges
18 we overcame, leadership and commitment to restore
19 environmentally impacted sites and also provides our
20 project and the District visibility and credibility on a
21 national and international stage. So we'll talk about
22 that a little bit more during Carol's report.

23 Regarding the schedule for the Grand Cal River
24 Junction Reaches, we're forecasting completing the
25 remedial design this year. Contractor procurement

1 process in the fourth quarter of this year. Contractor
2 award in early 2027. Mobilization and construction
3 begin in the spring of next year. And construction is
4 anticipated to continue for approximately two years.

5 Regarding the Great Lakes Legacy Act Work in
6 Kind Reporting, in March I submitted the District 2020
7 five-year end working time report to EPA for their
8 review and consideration. In the fourth quarter of last
9 year I submitted the proposed Work in Kind report
10 affiliated with the City Dump Work. EPA has submitted a
11 response that they intend to approve our proposal. I
12 continue to work on the City CSO Work in Kind report to
13 submit that to EPA for their consideration. EPA's
14 review on our 2024 and prior year Work in Kind Report is
15 ongoing.

16 Regarding the Canal Street Bridge area, the
17 railroad bridge that was hit, we have received reports
18 that railroad bridge is scheduled for demolition. We
19 haven't heard a timeline on this replacement. I have
20 recently heard that the Coast Guard and BP are exploring
21 temporary options, temporary options to reopen that
22 railway bridge.

23 Attorney Ellen Gregory will be completely
24 providing an update on various legal matters. And last,
25 but not least, I'd like to congratulate Mayor Copeland,

1 Board Member Jaylan Robinson, and the rest of the city
2 team on receiving the Clean Air Award for the city's use
3 of electric and lower emissions vehicles. And the award
4 was featured in the United Times. So congratulations,
5 Board Member. That concludes my report.

6 MR. FEKETE: Any questions for Mr. Trevino?
7 Okay. I'll entertain a Motion to Approve the Board
8 Meeting notes from May 21st.

9 MR. BAKOTA: Motion to approve?

10 MR. FEKETE: Have a second?

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Second.

12 MR. FEKETE: All in favor signify by saying,
13 "aye".

14 (A CHORUS OF "AYES")

15 MR. FEKETE: Accountant Consultant's report
16 the financials through May 26th.

17 MS. JOHNSON: Hello, everybody.

18 MR. FEKETE: Yes.

19 MR. TREVINO: Oh, hang on, Monica, we're gonna
20 bring you closer.

21 MS. JOHNSON: Wonderful. Awesome. Well,
22 thank you. All right. So I'm going to get us started
23 by reviewing the Statement of Cash Receipts and Cash
24 Disbursement for the five months ending May 31, 2026.
25 That's on Page 3. Oh, Page 2, excuse me. For the

1 compilation report, we'll start with receipts. You had
2 total receipts of \$449,429.35. Your disbursements for
3 this period totaled \$324,972.39. This resulted in an
4 increase in cash of \$124,456.96. Adding this to your
5 Cash Balance on January 1, 2026 of \$14,951,631.56 brings
6 your cash balance on May 31, 2026 to \$15,076,088.62.

7 This is comprised of your Operating Account
8 balance of \$1,474,247.35. Your User Fee account of
9 \$1,614,199.46 and your Certificates of Deposits of
10 \$11,987,641.81. For that \$15,076,088.52.

11 Moving into the Schedule of Cash Account
12 activity on Page 3, you started with your Operating
13 Account Balance on January 1, 2026 of \$1,308,102.21.
14 The activity for this month resulted in an increase o.
15 \$166,145.14. That brought your Operating Cash Balance
16 on May 31st to \$1,474,247.35.

17 Your User Fee account on January 1st had a
18 balance of \$1,900,236.71. The activity in this account
19 resulted in a decrease of \$286,037.25, bringing your
20 User Fee account balance on May 31st to \$1,614,199.46.

21 In your Certificates of Deposit on January 1st
22 you had \$11,743,292.74, interest earned of \$244,349.07
23 bringing the Certificates of Deposit balance on May 31st
24 to \$11,987,641.81.

25 Moving to the schedule of 2026 available

1 budget as in June 18, 2026 on Page 4. June 18, 2026 on
2 Page 4 your 2026 budget appropriation is \$1,553,089.

3 You had Accounts Payable on 12/31/2025 of
4 \$70,695.50 and a 2026 budget amendment of \$160,000
5 bringing your total 2026 total appropriation to
6 \$1,783,784.50.

7 You have Cash disbursements for the five
8 months ending May 2026 of \$324,972.39.

9 A Claim Docket on June 18th of \$64,267.62.
10 Saving your unused budget for 2026 of \$1,394,544.49.

11 All right. Thanks for your patience. Any
12 questions?

13 MR. FEKETE: Thank you.

14 MR. TREVINO: Thanks, Monica.

15 MR. FEKETE: The next item of business is the
16 Approval Consideration for the accounts payable voucher
17 register dated June 18th.

18 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

19 MR. ROBINSON: Second.

20 MR. FEKETE: Do I have a second?

21 MR. ROBINSON: Second.

22 MR. FEKETE: All in favor, signify by saying
23 "aye".

24 (A CHORUS OF "AYES")

25 MR. FEKETE: Okay. Moving around the table,

1 The next item is the BMO Trust and Non-Trust reports.

2 MR. TREVINO: Yes, Mr. Santori of BMO wasn't
3 able to make today's meeting, but he did provide his
4 report summary of the trust and the Non-Trust Report.
5 The Non-Trust report has the updated CD in it, the one
6 we just opened for 18 months. And the trust shows the
7 one CD that we have under the trust account shows a CD
8 expiring today.

9 Mr. Santori also emailed us the current rates.
10 So during the Finance Committee meeting there was
11 certain thoughts about what we would do with that
12 expiring CD. The Committee was leaning towards a
13 18-month CD contingent upon the rates. And now that we
14 see the rates, it's 4.221 which is slightly higher than
15 the -- when we approved the 18-month one a couple of
16 weeks ago.

17 So unless the Board wants to have the finance
18 Committee further discuss this, you know, I would
19 recommend that we approve the expiring CD to another
20 18-month CD at 4.221.

21 MR. FEKETE: Any comments? You have three
22 members of the Finance Committee, right here. I think
23 it was our agreement that we wanted to go for the 18
24 months, right?

25 MR. TREVINO: Yeah. And it was contingent

1 upon looking at the rates. And now that we see the
2 rates --

3 MR. FEKETE: They're higher than they were at
4 that point in time.

5 MR. TREVINO: So I recommend that we transfer
6 it to a subsequent 18-month CD.

7 MR. FEKETE: Somebody entertain a motion to do
8 that.

9 MR. ROBINSON: I'll entertain a motion.

10 MR. BAKOTA: Second.

11 MR. FEKETE: Okay, we'll have a roll call
12 vote. Jaylan Robinson?

13 MR. TREVINO: We've got a second.

14 MR. FEKETE: Second?

15 MR. BAKOTA: Second.

16 MR. FEKETE: John Bakota?

17 MR. BAKOTA: Yes.

18 MR. FEKETE: Jaylan Robinson?

19 MR. ROBINSON: Yes.

20 MR. FEKETE: Henry Rodriguez?

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

22 MR. FEKETE: Ray Lopez?

23 MR. LOPEZ: Yes.

24 MR. FEKETE: Kevin Guadalupe?

25 (NO RESPONSE)

1 MR. FEKETE: John Fekete? I vote yes. That
2 motion is approved.

3 MR. BAKOTA: Do we -- would it be okay to
4 address this before the -- it matures?

5 MR. TREVINO: Well, it matures today.

6 MR. FEKETE: Ten-day grace period.

7 MR. TREVINO: We have a ten-day grace period.
8 But we're making -- we're making the motion when it
9 expires this is what we're going to do with it. So I
10 think it's okay. Do you agree, Ellen?

11 MS. GREGORY: Yes.

12 MR. FEKETE: Okay. Good with that. Thank
13 you. Good. The next order of business is approval
14 consideration of the correction agreement with the Olga
15 Cosme contract. You want to explain that?

16 MR. TREVINO: Yeah. So at the beginning of
17 the year I just -- I just go through my due diligence
18 and I look at all the contracts to make sure the new
19 year we're paying the correct rates. So when I was
20 reading Olga Cosme's contract, I noticed a typo. There
21 was an incorrect reference to -- the first modification
22 agreement had an incorrect reference of the original
23 agreement. And there was another typo that I found and
24 I met with Attorney Ellen Gregory on the best path
25 forward to fix this. And so she recommended a

1 correction agreement, which is what this is. And it
2 basically says that, you know, both parties agree that
3 these were typos and the original intent of the
4 provision of the contract applies. So it's just dotting
5 our Is and crossing our Ts to make sure that, you know,
6 the contract reflects correctly.

7 Ellen, anything to add?

8 MR. FEKETE: No.

9 MS. GREGORY: The exhibit to the unit is the
10 modification showing the changes to correct --

11 MR. FEKETE: Okay. I'll entertain a motion to
12 make the corrections to the old Cosme contract.

13 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to Approve corrections?

14 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Second.

15 MR. FEKETE: We have a second. Roll call
16 Vote? Jaylan Robinson?

17 MR. ROBINSON: Yes.

18 MR. FEKETE: John Bakota?

19 MR. BAKOTA: Yes.

20 MR. FEKETE: Henry Rodriguez?

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

22 MR. FEKETE: Ray Lopez?

23 MR. LOPEZ: Yes.

24 MR. FEKETE: Kevin Guadalupe.

25 (NO RESPONSE)

1 MR. FEKETE: John Fekete? Yes. That motion
2 is approved.

3 Next item is the Waterway Management District
4 Bylaws Amendment, second reading. Ellen?

5 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. This is just some changes
6 that we made to the bylaws. We did the first reading
7 last month. It just requires a second reading to
8 approve the changes. So it's nothing different than
9 what was presented.

10 MR. FEKETE: Can you refresh our memories as
11 to what the --

12 MR. TREVINO: I think it was the attendance,
13 in-person attendance, the minimum in-person attendance
14 required at a Board meeting was the crux of it. Because
15 before there was some -- it wasn't clear how many Board
16 members had to be physically present during a Board
17 meeting versus, you know, virtually. And I think the
18 amendment clarifies that, that there has to be at least
19 four board members present.

20 MS. GREGORY: The confusion was around --
21 there's two different provisions. One provision says
22 you have to have this number of people in-person to have
23 a meeting. The other provision was more of a quorum
24 issue. This is how many people need to participate in
25 order to have a quorum and they were different. And

1 because we didn't have -- the Board didn't have all
2 seven members, we had just confusion about the five
3 members that are actually active members. Of the seven
4 members, this is how many we should have, how many the
5 Board is authorized to have. And so the amendments
6 basically clarifies exactly how many people we need to
7 have present.

8 MR. FEKETE: Okay, everybody good with that?
9 Okay. So I'll entertain a motion to continue with the
10 Waterway Management District Bylaw Amendment.

11 MR. ROBINSON: Motion to Approve.

12 MR. FEKETE: A second?

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Second.

14 MR. FEKETE: Yes. John Bakota?

15 MR. BAKOTA: Yes.

16 MR. FEKETE: Henry Rodriguez?

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

18 MR. FEKETE: Ray Lopez?

19 MR. LOPEZ: Yes.

20 MR. FEKETE: Kevin Guadalupe?

21 (NO RESPONSE)

22 MR. FEKETE: John Fekete? I vote, yeah. The
23 renewal of our Professional Liability Insurance.

24 MR. TREVINO: Yes. So every year we go
25 through renewing our insurance. So this is just getting

1 Board concurrence to renew it. So when the Board moves
2 to renew our professional liability insurance, I also
3 wanted to include in the motion that the -- that
4 Attorney Ellen Gregory will pay for the insurance and
5 then the District will reimburse Ellen. Just the way
6 the timing worked out, the bill didn't make it in time
7 to get in on our Claim Docket and if we waited until the
8 July Board meeting, our insurance would lapse and
9 there's all kind of gymnastics that would be required
10 for renewing our insurance. So Attorney Ellen Gregory
11 graciously agreed to pay it and we would reimburse her.
12 So that's the recommendation.

13 MR. FEKETE: So entertain a motion to proceed
14 with that procedure.

15 MR. LOPEZ: So move. I make the motion.

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Second.

17 MR. FEKETE: John Bakota?

18 MR. BAKOTA: Yes.

19 MR. FEKETE: Henry Rodriguez?

20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

21 MR. FEKETE: Ray Lopez.

22 MR. LOPEZ: Yes.

23 MR. FEKETE: John Fekete? I vote yes. Okay.

24 Ratification of the Finance Committee

25 Recommendations.

1 MR. TREVINO: Yes. So in your Board packet is
2 a summary of the items that the Finance Committee had
3 decided on and recommended. I'd like to go over -- read
4 those out loud in a second. So the recommendation
5 included regarding the recent expired BMO CD, transfer
6 those funds into a new 18-month term CD at 4.124%.

7 Consistent with the District's prior direction
8 and Finance Committee recommendation and current
9 practice, maintain the non-operating money market funds
10 at First Merchants since our operating funds are held
11 there and unless there's a good reason to change
12 direction. So basically the money market fund at First
13 Merchants, the non-operating money would stay there for
14 now. Work on opening a money market fund at BMO in the
15 event we need to transfer and hold funds from future
16 expired CDs. Regarding the CD expiring on June 18th, we
17 will review rates then. The Finance Committee is
18 considering transferring the funds to a new 18-month CD,
19 which we did and that's been approved.

20 And then Bob Santori presented a BMO credit
21 card proposal. And after careful consideration the
22 committee recommended that we decline a proposed BMO
23 Credit Card Program. Although there were some benefits
24 to the credit card, there were a lot of unknowns and how
25 it would work with the State Board of account policies.

1 Also a credit card is more conducive to the needs of on
2 the spot purchases which the District doesn't really
3 have those type of needs. And there was also a concern
4 with penalty fees and interest in the event we couldn't
5 have our monthly board meeting to make the monthly
6 credit card payment.

7 And then the other recommendation was to move
8 forward to rectify to fix the typos and errors in Olga
9 Cosme's contract.

10 So that's the summary. And the recommendation
11 is for the Board to approve that.

12 MR. FEKETE: I'll entertain a Motion to Accept
13 the Finance Committee recommendations.

14 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I make a motion to accept.

15 MR. FEKETE: Do we have a second?

16 MR. ROBINSON: Second.

17 MR. FEKETE: Roll call vote. Jaylan Robinson?

18 MR. ROBINSON: Yes.

19 MR. FEKETE: John Bakota.

20 MR. BAKOTA: Yes.

21 MR. FEKETE: Henry Rodriguez?

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

23 MR. FEKETE: Ray Lopez?

24 MR. LOPEZ: Yes.

25 MR. FEKETE: Kevin Guadalupe?

1 (NO RESPONSE)

2 MR. FEKETE: John Fekete? I vote yes. That
3 motion is approved.

4 And the next item for consideration is the
5 delegation of authority regarding the Great Lakes Legacy
6 Act projects permit submittals.

7 MR. TREVINO: Yes. So as the Board may
8 recall, at the last couple Board meetings, the Board
9 approved certain permits in support of the Great Lakes
10 Legacy Act Grand Cal River project. After those permits
11 have been approved, the agencies have since requested
12 additional information. So rather than coming back with
13 the Board every time they're requesting additional
14 information, we're asking the Board to approve the
15 delegation of authority to myself, Attorney Ellen
16 Gregory and Board President John Fekete to basically
17 respond to any additional information, requests,
18 signatures, whatever is necessary to fulfill the
19 obligations of the initial permit application. And we
20 did that. We did that similar to the settlement
21 agreement. And we've done that a couple times when
22 there's a complicated process that requires certain
23 documents and approvals in between board meetings. So
24 that's the recommendation is for the Board to approve
25 delegating authority to myself, Attorney Ellen Gregory

1 and Board President Fekete?

2 MR. FEKETE: I would like to add that
3 basically there's no material change in the intent of
4 the document that we're working with. It's just a
5 matter of sometimes there's fine-tuning that has to be
6 done on a request by EPA or the Army Corps or somebody
7 like that for a piece of information. And, you know,
8 it's just -- rather than slow things down to get
9 complete Board approval, we're just looking for a
10 blanket approval.

11 MR. TREVINO: Right. And it's -- and the
12 request is not just for the Grand Cal River Project, but
13 it's for any of the Great Lakes Legacy Act projects
14 scope of work.

15 MR. FEKETE: I'll entertain a motion to
16 approve that recommendation.

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Motion to approve.

18 MR. LOPEZ: Second

19 MR. FEKETE: Another roll call vote. Jaylan
20 Robinson?

21 MR. ROBINSON: Yes.

22 MR. FEKETE: John Bakota?

23 MR. BAKOTA: Yeah.

24 MR. FEKETE: Henry Rodriguez?

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

1 MR. FEKETE: Ray Lopez?

2 MR. LOPEZ: Yes.

3 MR. FEKETE: Kevin Guadalupe?

4 (NO RESPONSE)

5 MR. FEKETE: John Fekete? I vote yes. That
6 motion is approved. Now, Great Lakes Legacy Act Grand
7 Cal River Junction Reaches project update.

8 MR. TREVINO: Carol, you with us?

9 MS. NISSAN: I'm here. Hi, everybody.

10 MR. FEKETE: Hi.

11 MS. NISSAN: Yeah. So we have been updating
12 the design for the Junction Reaches project. We've been
13 incorporating all the comments that we received from the
14 reviews from EPA and the Army Corps. And we are
15 preparing the 100% design now. We plan to submit it
16 before the 4th of July. So we're very close to
17 completion at this point. We have also been working on
18 the permit applications as Fernando mentioned, and
19 receiving requests for additional information or
20 requests for clarification. So thank you for approving
21 that motion so that we can keep all these permit
22 applications moving forward. And that's about it for
23 design. Are there any questions on design?

24 MR. FEKETE: Any questions for Carol?

25 MR. TREVINO: No questions on the design,

1 Carol.

2 MS. NISSAN: Okay. And then there's also
3 the -- for us to present at the Sediment Conference.
4 It's upcoming in January. Fernando mentioned that it's
5 a great opportunity to showcase all the great work that
6 East Chicago's been doing to clean up these waterways.
7 So Tetra Tech would like to prepare a presentation on
8 your behalf. You know, I would work with Fernando. It
9 would be at no cost to the Board, of course. And you
10 all would have an opportunity to review the
11 presentation, assuming we get selected to present at the
12 conference.

13 MR. TREVINO: Yeah. So as I mentioned, we'd
14 like to ask for Board approval to move forward for Tetra
15 Tech to submit the proposal. And if the proposal's
16 approved, then our project would be presented at the
17 conference in January.

18 MR. FEKETE: Can I entertain a motion to
19 proceed with that recommendation?

20 MR. BAKOTA: Motion to proceed.

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Second.

22 MR. FEKETE: I'll take a voice vote. All
23 those in favor signify by saying "aye".

24 (A CHORUS OF "AYES")

25 MR. FEKETE: Any objections? Abstentions?

1 (NO RESPONSE)

2 MR. FEKETE: Hearing none, the motion is
3 approved.

4 MR. TREVINO: Thanks Carol.

5 MR. ROBINSON: Fernando, you still going to
6 attend even if we --

7 MR. TREVINO: I probably will.

8 MR. FEKETE: Army Corps.

9 MR. TREVINO: Yeah, the Army Corps.
10 Mr. Santori wasn't able to make it.

11 MR. FEKETE: What's that?

12 MR. TREVINO: I'm sorry, Mr. Coolman, Vaughn
13 Coolman.

14 MR. FEKETE: Yeah.

15 MR. TREVINO: Thank you. Vaughn wasn't able
16 to make it. He had personal stuff going on. So he gave
17 me a verbal update. So he basically said that the
18 update that he provided last month is the same other
19 than the following. Dredging is scheduled to begin in
20 early to mid September. Groundwater treatment testing
21 is done and the water treatment plant started in
22 operation today and will soon be discharging into the
23 canal if it hasn't started already. And that's the
24 Corps update.

25 MR. FEKETE: Any questions?

1 MR. BAKOTA: Yeah, I have a question as far as
2 how do they determine when to change absorbents at the
3 bridge there?

4 MR. TREVINO: It's usually visual.

5 MR. BAKOTA: Like I'll take a walk every once
6 in a while and at one time I see heavy grease and oil
7 because the wind direction was from the north. It was
8 piled there. And then the absorbents to my view look
9 like they need changing. But I don't know if they do it
10 on Instagram inspection or they do it on a regular
11 calendar.

12 MR. TREVINO: I could find out. It's a good
13 question. If you make that observation again, give me a
14 call and then I'll send them an email that, you know.
15 Take a picture of it. Or, you know, if I'm able to go
16 out there, we'll take a look at it and take a picture
17 and forward it to the --

18 MR. BAKOTA: I'll tell you, there was a heavy,
19 right at the spillway there, heavy grease floating on
20 the water probably two, three inches thick. Looks like
21 an oil grease mixture. I don't know if it's coming out
22 of the same farm.

23 MR. TREVINO: Where was the boom located?

24 MR. BAKOTA: The boom is on the -- it'd be on
25 the west side of the bridge.

1 MR. TREVINO: So just west of the Indianapolis
2 bridge?

3 MR. BAKOTA: Yes. It crosses the whole canal
4 there. The entire --

5 MR. FEKETE: From north to South Shore. I
6 mean, across the whole thing.

7 MR. BAKOTA: Yes. It was within a couple
8 weeks. I'll go check it again. But I mean, to my view
9 it looked like they were well absorbed.

10 MR. FEKETE: You know, you would think
11 somebody else would notice that from the Army Corps.

12 MR. BAKOTA: Yeah, I don't -- like I say, I
13 don't -- well, I don't know who judges what when it
14 needs changing, you know. I mean my eye may look at it
15 and say it needs changing. The company that's
16 responsible, justifiable, you know, yeah.

17 MR. FEKETE: And your concern is to be
18 considered. So when you see that, just notify Fernando
19 and he can run over there and take a picture of it.

20 MR. TREVINO: That way, you know, that way
21 when I do forward our observation, it'll be, you know,
22 current.

23 MR. FEKETE: Okay. John, you know,
24 commendation for all the observations you've made in the
25 past really hard to clean up. I think that's -- that's

1 a very good point. And we really appreciate that
2 because it's just, you know, not all of us are nearby.

3 MR. BAKOTA: I include that in my walk. Yeah.
4 That's down the spillway. Look at the canal and the
5 phragmites, you know.

6 MR. TREVINO: Thanks for bringing that up,
7 John.

8 MR. BAKOTA: You're welcome.

9 MR. FEKETE: Good. So definitely we'll have a
10 follow up. And Fernando, can you, when you follow up on
11 that, even before our next Board meeting, can you give
12 us an email response?

13 MR. TREVINO: I will.

14 MR. FEKETE: Okay. Appreciate that. Thank
15 you, John.

16 Attorney Ellen Gregory's Report.

17 MS. GREGORY: Ellen Gregory of Ellen Gregory
18 Law. The legal matters, we have been working with
19 Fernando on the Correction Agreement for all the
20 contracts that were approved today and various reviews
21 commenting on permits related to the project and review
22 of the Professional Liability Insurance Policy as
23 Fernando mentioned.

24 MR. FEKETE: Any questions for her? I have a
25 question? Are you aware of any lawsuits yet on that

1 bridge collision?

2 MS. GREGORY: No.

3 MR. BAKOTA: I just wonder is there any chance
4 we would be included in this?

5 MS. GREGORY: I doubt it. I think that the
6 viable parties would be probably the company that was
7 operating the barge.

8 MR. FEKETE: Right. On the railroad bridge.

9 MR. TREVINO: Yeah. We don't know the details
10 of it.

11 MR. FEKETE: Yeah.

12 MS. GREGORY: I'm sure it is going to be a big
13 insurance fight over it. I just see the insurance
14 battles.

15 MR. BAKOTA: Sometimes I think they include
16 everybody that's in that area.

17 MR. TREVINO: Yeah, well, I don't know. You
18 never know.

19 MR. BAKOTA: There's nothing that we're doing
20 materially to influence that event. But we did do, we
21 did put dolphins up on one obstruction.

22 MR. TREVINO: Right.

23 MR. FEKETE: And they may say well, you should
24 have.

25 MR. TREVINO: Yeah, well, no. That's a good

1 point because they could -- they could create all kinds
2 of different arguments. But the barge that hit it, it's
3 my understanding was eastbound.

4 MR. FEKETE: Oh, it was coming out of the --

5 MR. TREVINO: Yeah. So it didn't cross our
6 dolphins until after it hit.

7 MR. FEKETE: Oh yeah. And you said they're
8 going to take the bridge down? Are they going to
9 replace it?

10 MR. TREVINO: Yeah. That was the last report
11 that I heard.

12 MR. FEKETE: Because there's an active rail.

13 MR. BAKOTA: They're shipping everything else
14 around. You'll see a lot of tank cars going on Kennedy
15 Avenue, that rail crossing there.

16 MR. TREVINO: I just got an email from the
17 Coast Guard that they're exploring temporary means of
18 reopening that bridge. It was hard to understand, but
19 it sounded like they wanted to use a barge to bridge the
20 canal.

21 MR. FEKETE: Anchor a barge and then put
22 tracks across it?

23 MR. BAKOTA: That's asking for trouble. Yeah,
24 I'll tell you, that sounds like me playing with my toy
25 train. That train coming through and the barge ain't

1 there.

2 MR. FEKETE: Any other Board business? Okay.
3 Our next meeting will be July 16th at 5 p.m. in this
4 facility. I'll entertain a Motion to Adjourn.

5 MR. BAKOTA: Motion to adjourn.

6 MR. FEKETE: Second?

7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Second.

8 MR. FEKETE: All in favor signify by saying
9 "aye".

10 (A CHORUS OF "AYES")

11 MR. FEKETE: Any objections? Abstentions.

12 (NO RESPONSE)

13 MR. FEKETE: Hearing none. We are dismissed.

14

15

16 (WHEREUPON the hearing was
17 adjourned at 6 o'clock p.m.)

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1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)

2)

3 COUNTY OF C O O K)

4

5 C E R T I F I C A T E

6

7 The within and foregoing hearing was taken
8 before GWENDOLYN BEDFORD, Certified Shorthand Reporter
9 in the City of Chicago, County of Cook and State of
10 Illinois, and there were present at the interview
11 Counsel as previously set forth.

12 The undersigned is not interested in the
13 within case, nor of kin or counsel to any of the
14 parties.

15 IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
16 hand this 23rd day of June, 2026.

17

18



GWENDOLYN BEDFORD, C.S.R.

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No. 084-003700

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