

MINUTES
HAMILTON COUNTY REGIONAL UTILITY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
June 09, 2025

Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center
Commissioners Courtroom
One Hamilton County Square
Noblesville, Indiana

President Mark Heirbrandt called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. declaring a quorum present of Christine Altman, Steve Dillinger and Mark Heirbrandt.

Approval of Executive Session Memoranda June 09, 2025

Dillinger made a motion to approve. Altman second. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Altman moved to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2025, meeting. Dillinger second. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Claims

Altman made a motion to approve. Dillinger second. Motion carried unanimously.

General Manager's Report

C.J. Taylor, the only item I have for you today is a request. I would like authorization to work with the Hamilton County Legal Department and Chris Janak of Bose McKinney & Evans to draft a regional force main connection exemption policy. The policy's intent is to clarify the district's position that unlike a gravity- sewer system or a low-pressure sewer system, a regional force main is a pressurized sewer main designed and intended for transmission of sewage, not collection of sewage. The District should not require or encourage individual connections to the force main because the pressures vary within the force main, and every tap or connection to the force main increases the future maintenance and chance of leaks. Therefore, if a residential property exists along a regional force main route, the District will not require that homeowner to connect to or file for exemption from connection to that force main. The policy will also explain that voluntary connection will be permitted on a case-by-case basis if the homeowner applies and meets all connection criteria. This policy will not apply to new developments or PUD's whether they are commercial, residential , Multi-Family or Mixed-Use. It is my intention to have a draft prepared for your approval at your next regular meeting. Again, this is something we would like to research and go over the legal teams to verify the legality of such a policy.

Altman, moved to approve. Dillinger second. Motion carried unanimously.

Heirbrandt, there's so many people out there that keep saying... that we're mandating people to hook up and it's the statute that's written. *Addressing County Attorney, Connor Sullivan...do you want to talk a little bit about that, on the record, as to why there's so much confusion from people in the public over this?*

Sullivan, it's Indiana code that requires the connection for sewer if your house is within 300 feet of the line. Then you have to get an inspection in order to receive a possible exemption and that is not Hamilton County policy nor the Hamilton County Regional Utility District policy but would rather be Indiana code. I think quite frankly, sir, people don't like to read the FAQ page.
Heirbrandt, I was going to say it's clearly on our website.

Sullivan, people don't like the truth, but it is not something that the three of you have ever instructed us to do and don't have the authority to instruct us or change this, it's Indiana code. Does that help?

Heirbrandt, that helps, thank you.

Taylor, the other item I have is an update that I am working on getting quotes for security cameras and access to the facilities. I have one quote in and another on the way. I should have that for you at your next meeting...that is all I have.

Engineer Report

Derek Urban, Wessler Engineering, I'm going to give a construction update. The booster station for the water system is operational at this time. Reynolds is working on getting the rest of the chemical feed equipment started up and that will be later this week. They've got some temporary chemical feeds going to the system operational. At the wastewater treatment plant, they've been working on some site work and there's a punch list walkthrough scheduled for later this week. There are also some start-ups scheduled for this week on pumps. Next week, the UV and then the oxidation ditch, which is the main treatment process will be the week of June 23rd. In terms of the water towers, the water tower at 236th Street is operational. The water tower at 276th Street, the painting has been completed, including the logos. The only thing left on that is there's some minor electrical work that is needed ahead of the disinfection of that tank, and then that will be operational. Lift station #1, excavation has begun on that. The wet well precast will be delivered later this week. Up at the armory, the National Guard has been working on their meter vaults, and so those meters that the district has in hand will be handed off to the armory once they pass the inspection of those vaults.

Heirbrandt, just curious, what size of line is that? Is it 3" to them, or is it bigger than that?

Urban, so they've got a domestic line where we've got a 2" meter, so a 3" line. Then they've got a fire line with a 6" meter on it that is a separate fire line.

Heirbrandt, any other questions from anyone? Okay, thank you.

Attorney's Report

Connor Sullivan, yes, thank you...I have two items. One, C.J. and his office have worked on a letter of intent type of document that we will give out to developers as they start going through working with our standards and meet our requirements. There's one in particular that's coming up, I believe it's called Sky Lake, they have one. These are very typical for the zoning and planning to require having the developer say that they have some kind of water or sewer availability. So, C.J. prepared a draft, we will put some touches on it and that will be something that C.J.'s normal course of business that if certain things happen that he can sign those in between meetings and then update you at the next one since there's a two-month delay. I understand Sky Lake will be coming to discuss their proposal with the three of you this afternoon as a Board of Commissioners. As long as you are satisfied with what they're proposing, then we'll get with C.J. and make sure he can get them that letter within 24 to 48 hours, but that'll be something that would be part of normal business.

Heirbrandt, would we approve this contingent upon...

Sullivan, yes, if you wouldn't mind, one, the letter will be just in general terms of general practice that C.J. does, but for this one specifically, I would request you guys to authorize C.J. to execute the letter on behalf of the utility district if the three of you are satisfied with your Board of Commissioners hats on later today. So, if you wouldn't mind to provide a motion for that.

Altman, moved to approve. Dillinger second. Motion carried unanimously.

Sullivan, thank you. The second item is contract operations. We've been working diligently, thanks to Adam in our office with Trico. The contract, we believe we are on the same page and they've been very collaborative, collegial and partner-like with us. We appreciate that and we should have it at the next meeting. They have gone out of their way and acted with a lot of good faith and good will helping us, so we are good on that front. As you know, we have one that is temporary with Citizens Energy for the water side due to breakdown in communication and agreement with Indiana American. We will be pursuing and looking at a longer-term contract with Citizens Energy going forward, and we'll update you, the three of you, as progress is made. That's all I have.

Public Comment as per IC 13-26-4-8

None... public portion closed at 10:25 am

Next Meeting Date

July 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

Altman, what I'd suggest is if we do have need for an additional meeting, then we notice it immediately following the Commissioner's meeting on the times that we meet. I think that would solve the six meetings a year to be able to have that flexibility because there will be times when we just have to talk about a contract or something.

Sullivan, and it's one of those things that with the Sky Lake one specifically, there's components of that, that impact Hamilton County general business too, and so the mass developments come along, they'll be ones that are specifically for the Utility District and not with your commissioners hat on too, so I think it would be good to have those lined up and working.

Adjournment

Dillinger moved to adjourn. Altman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Present

Mark Heirbrandt, Trustee
Christine Altman, Trustee
Steve Dillinger, Trustee
Connor Sullivan, Attorney
David Boyer, Assistant Attorney
Adam Willfond, Assistant Attorney
Andrew Upchurch, Assistant Attorney
Chis Janak, Bose McKinney & Evans LLP
Marty Wessler, Wessler Engineering
Derek Urban, Wessler Engineering
Wes Merkle, TriCo Regional Sewer Utility
C.J. Taylor, General Manager
Annette Harlow, Secretary

HAMILTON COUNTY REGIONAL UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mark Heirbrandt, President

Christine Altman, Vice President

Steven C. Dillinger, Secretary

Date Approved: _____

ATTEST:
