

# Executive Council of Cities & Villages Served by Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD)

Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2021

12 p.m.

Virtual meeting (via Zoom)

## Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82974279532?pwd=THIBUTk3ZnhweEh4eIJOSIQyM08rZz09>

Meeting ID: 829 7427 9532

Passcode: 856825

Or join by phone: 1 312 626 6799

*\*\* Please enter your first and last name, as well as your city or village,  
when you enter the Zoom meeting.*

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Introductions of the Executive Council Members and Other Attendees
- III. Review, Amendment and Approval of the Proposed Agenda (*Discussion \ Actionable Item*).
- IV. Approval of Minutes of Sept. 30, 2020, Meeting
- V. Reports of MMSD Appointees (Thomas Hovel, Mary Swanson, Ken Clark)
- VI. MMSD Operations & Budget Update – Michael Mucha, MMSD
- VII. Recognition of Outgoing Commissioner Mary Swanson
- VIII. Review Nominations Received for Appointment to Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District Commission (*Discussion*)
- IX. Approval of Executive Council Nominations to MMSD Commission (*Discussion \ Actionable Items – Vote*) \* (Voting Deadline Friday, Sept. 24, 12 PM Noon)
- X. Other Decision Items to Be Considered \ Acted Upon by the Executive Council (*Discussion \ Actionable Item*)

**XI.** Identify Next Meeting Date, Time and Location.

**XII.** Adjournment.

*\* Executive Council Members Have Until 12 PM Noon on Friday, Sept. 24, 2021, to Indicate By Email or Letter Their Ballot Vote For MMSD Commissioners.*

POSTED:       Dane County Cities and Villages Association website  
                  MMSD Website  
                  Wisconsin State Journal legal notice

## MINUTES

**Executive Council of  
Cities & Villages Served by Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District  
7 p.m. Wednesday, September 30, 2020  
Virtual meeting (Zoom)**

### ATTENDANCE

#### Cities:

Fitchburg

Middleton

Monona

Verona

Mayor Gurdip Brar, Finance Director Bill Burns

Mayor Mary O'Connor

#### Villages:

Cottage Grove

Dane

DeForest

Maple Bluff

McFarland

Shorewood Hills

Waunakee

Windsor

President Judd Blau, Administrator Steve Fahlgren

President Brad Czebotar

Administrator Todd Schmidt

President Robert Wipperfurth

#### Other Attendees:

Forbes McIntosh & Ann Gryphan, Dane County Cities & Villages Association

Michael Mucha, MMSD chief engineer and director

Dana Burmaster, MMSD comptroller/budget manager

Thomas Hovel, MMSD Commissioner

### 1. Call to Order/Introductions.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Middleton Mayor Gurdip Brar, council chair. Introductions were made.

### 2. Approval of Agenda.

Bob Wipperfurth made a motion to approve tonight's agenda, seconded by Todd Schmidt and approved on a voice vote.

**3. Minutes of Sept.18, 2019, Meeting of Executive Council of Cities and Villages Served by MMSD.**

Mary O'Connor made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Judd Blau and approved on a voice vote.

**4. Reports of MMSD Appointees.** Thomas Hovel, MMSD Commission president, made a few remarks. He said it's been a trying time, with MMSD affected by loading and volumes. Last year was cold and the ground froze, reducing biosolids spreading.

**5. MMSD Operations and Budget Update.** Michael Mucha, chief engineer and director, provided information about the proposed [2021 MMSD operating and capital budgets](#).

Mucha said MMSD had to landfill some biosolids in early 2020 at a much higher cost due to frozen ground, so started the year off needing a budget amendment of about \$750,000, using reserve funds to cover this cost. MMSD is also expecting revenues to be down in 2020 by about \$1.6 million of the \$43 million budget, due to reduced flows and loadings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They are reducing expenditures to absorb that lost revenue and deferring some maintenance projects. For 2021, MMSD is projecting flows and loadings to continue to be lower, which will mean higher rates to user communities but overall not significant expense increases due to lower usage. The total 2021 proposed budget calls for \$45.4 million in expenditures, a 2.8 percent increase over 2020, with an average increase in service charges of 5.2 percent.

The MMSD 2021 Budget timeline:

- Sept. 24 - Public hearing and commission discussion
- Oct. 1 - Deadline to receive written comments from the public on the proposed budget
- Oct. 15 - Commission deliberates budget
- Oct. 29 - Commission adopts operating, capital and debt service budgets and service charge and septage disposal rates
- Nov. 1 - Notify customers and septage haulers of new rates and estimated charges

Bob Wipperfurth publicly thanked Thomas Hovel for his years of service on the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District Commission and leadership on the commission as president.

**6. Review Nominations Received for Appointment to Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District Commission.**

Cities and villages served by MMSD have one of the three MMSD Commission seats up for appointment/reappointment this fall. Thomas Hovel (C. of Fitchburg) has served on MMSD Commission since 2015 and his current term is expiring in October 2020. The

Executive Council received one nomination for the seat; Thomas Hovel is seeking re-appointment for another three-year term, to expire in fall 2023. No other nominations were received for this seat prior to the Sept. 25 nomination deadline.

**7. Voting on Executive Council Nominations to MMSD Commission.**

Judd Blau (V. of DeForest) made a motion to reappoint Thomas Hovel to the MMSD Commission, seconded by Bob Wipperfurth (V. of Windsor), supported by a vote of the other four council members present. Voting will remain open until 12 p.m. Friday, Oct. 2, for those who were not able to attend today's meeting who wish to cast a vote via mail or email. The voting results will formally be announced after Friday. Those who were present today and voted in support of Clark were: Gurdip Brar (Middleton), Mary O'Connor (City of Monona), Judd Blau (DeForest), Brad Czebotar (Village of McFarland), Todd Schmidt (V. of Waunakee) and Bob Wipperfurth (Village of Windsor).

**8. Other Items.** No other items presented for discussion or action.

**9. Next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Executive Council of Cities and Villages Served by MMSD likely will be held in September 2021. Although these meetings have typically been held either immediately preceding or following the September DCCVA meeting, the Executive Council members discussed a preference to either have this be a separate meeting on a separate date or else make it not such a long meeting.

**10. Adjournment.**

Bob Wipperfurth made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m., seconded by Mary O'Connor and approved on a voice vote.

**\*\* MINUTES ADDENDUM** – In addition to the six chief elected officials or designees who were present at the Sept. 30 meeting to vote in support of Hovel's appointment, the following individuals cast votes via email in support of Thomas Hovel by the noon Oct. 2 voting deadline.

- John Williams – Village President, Village of Cottage Grove
- Dave Benforado – Village President, Village of Shorewood Hills

This brought the vote total of 8-0 in support of Thomas Hovel's re-appointment to the MMSD Commission for a three-year term. Four cities/villages did not cast votes by the deadline (Fitchburg, Verona, Maple Bluff, Verona)