

**MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 19, 2026**

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:00 a.m., March 19, 2026 at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT Chris Lucas, Chocolay Township (Chair)
Sean Hobbins, City of Marquette
Jim Compton, City of Marquette
Leonard Bodenus, Marquette Township

ABSENT Mary Schlicht, City of Marquette
George Patrick, City of Marquette

OTHERS Mark O'Neill, City of Marquette
Dan Johnston, City of Marquette
Karla Kramer, City of Marquette

AGENDA It was moved by L.Bodenus, supported by S. Hobbins, to approve the agenda.
Approved 4-0.

MINUTES It was moved by J.Compton, supported by C. Lucas to approve the February 19, 2026, meeting minutes as written. Approved 4-0.

FINANCIAL

- **Financial Report**

Board saw no issues or concerns with finances.

Permit Compliance for February 2026:

Violated our total phosphorus units for February. Cold water temperatures are thought to be cause, as similar violations occurred in years prior at this time of year. Steps are being taken to mitigate issue by adding polymer to aeration basins to offset phosphorus particles.



Charter Township of Chocolay

5010 US 41 SOUTH • MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN 49855
PHONE (909) 249-1448 • FAX (909) 249-1313



Plant Notes

- Our new Admin, Leah LaCasse, has been adapting well to our environment. She is already proving to be a great addition to our group.
- The BLP sent a group of engineers and technicians to get a first-hand look at the strange problems we've been experiencing with random circuit breaker faults that have been happening with our CoGen units, along with erratic tripping of much of our three-phase equipment on the weekends. The circuit breakers connect the CoGens to the grid. These faults sometimes occur even when the units were not running; the controls for the circuit breakers would detect something was wrong with the grid and prevent them from operating. They gathered a lot of data and asked a lot of questions, and even looked at the programming for the anti-islanding relay that separates the CoGen units from the grid.
- I have been having issues with the power output of the #2 CoGen unit...it doesn't perform well when programmed to output more than 50kW. I haven't contacted Kraft about this problem because I'm waiting to see what the BLP says about the other issues. I believe that this unit's problems are with itself and are not grid-related because the output of the #1 CoGen is just fine.
- We are still waiting for someone to get back to us regarding the HVAC issue in the new 200 building. The affected air handler appears to be running most of the time, so it is not a critical issue.
- One of the pressure belts on our old belt filter press ripped. Fortunately, we had enough spare belts on hand to perform a replacement of both pressure belts.
- Staff got us all prepped for another spring thaw/high river level event by setting up both of our large trash pumps at the Chlorine Contact Tanks. The melt was progressing nicely, then the weather turned and we got nailed with cold and more snow, as you all know. But at least we're ready for the next thaw.
- Staff replaced the block heater element on our portable generator.

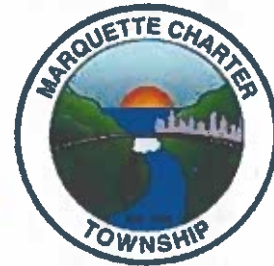
INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR FEBRUARY 2026

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	11,700	\$1,638.00
UPS	8,200	\$1,148.00
LS&I	28,400	\$3,976.00
RMS	4,000	\$560.00
Wisconsin Electric	63,500	\$2,540.00
Grand Totals	115,800	\$9,862.00



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SEPTAGE ACTIVITY FOR FEBRUARY 2026

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Carey/Sodergren	10,326	\$1,858.68
North Country	11,879	\$2,138.22
Stenberg	3,978	\$716.04
Grand Totals	26,183	\$4,712.94

NEW BUSINESS

- **2026/2027 Biosolids Hauling Contract**

Proposal from M.J. Vandamme for biosolids was received due to expiration of contract. A four percent increase in cost per year was noted, but pricing is guaranteed for two years. Purchasing own truck for biosolids hauling has been considered, but due to cost and coordination with farmers not in best interest. M.O'Neill stated he will go to City Commission the first week of April to request waiving competitive bidding process. Needed due to limited vendors and vendors with expertise in hauling biosolids. C.Lucas supports securing rates with Vandamme.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Solids Handling Project**

M. O'Neill stated everything closed on our end. It continues to be in EGLE's hands for closeout.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

BOARD COMMENT

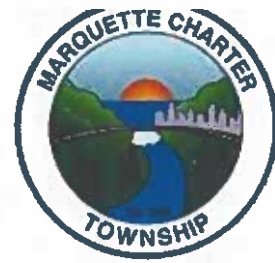
- None

ADJOURNMENT



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M. O'Neill

Reviewed by:
M. O'Neill
Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:
Leah LaCasse