



## **MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES April 16, 2026**

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:00 a.m., April 16, 2026, at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

### **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT** Chris Lucas, Chocolay Township (Chair)  
Sean Hobbins, City of Marquette  
George Patrick, City of Marquette

**ABSENT** Jim Compton, City of Marquette  
Leonard Bodenus, Marquette Township

**OTHERS** Mark O'Neill, City of Marquette  
Mary Schlicht, City of Marquette  
Karla Kramer, City of Marquette

**AGENDA** It was moved by S. Hobbins, supported by C. Lucas, to approve the agenda. Approved 3-0.

**MINUTES** It was moved by S. Hobbins, supported by C. Lucas to approve March 19, 2026, meeting minutes as written. Approved 3-0.

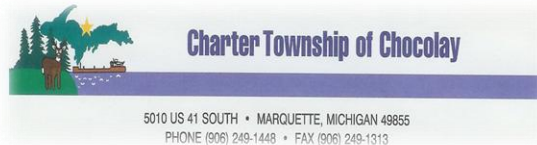
### **FINANCIAL**

- **Financial Report**

M. Schlicht, City of Marquette, presented the Financial Report. M. Schlicht stated there was an operating revenue of 1.5 million offset by 2.3 million in expenditures. It was stated that this is not alarming as there is depreciation and other accounting procedures that need to catch up. M. Schlicht said that though there are variable concerns, like wet weather, staff is managing within their budget expectations.

### **Permit Compliance for March 2026:**

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M. O'Neill stated there was a pH violation for one day in March. The operating limit is 6.5 to 6.8 and we had a 6.4. Moving forward staff was directed to report such variances to M. O'Neill or D. Johnston when issues like this occur. Staff was also instructed to turn up chemicals which can also help with the numbers and take more samples.

**Plant Notes**

- Since just after midnight Monday, we have been staffed 24 hours per day, monitoring and operating three bypass pumps to offset the effects of the high Carp River levels. Our goal is to prevent solids from washing out of our Secondary Clarifiers into the river, and the best way to prevent this is to keep the water level in the plant low enough for proper operation.
- Staff went above and beyond tackling the blizzard that occurred March 16th. Letters of Recognition of service were composed to acknowledge their dedication to the City during the blizzard. Four staff stayed here at the plant for more than 24 hours, as travel to or from their homes was too dangerous. Fortunately, there were no major issues operation-wise, other than dealing with all the snow that seemed to never stop.
- Johnson Controls, Eric Stemen (the City's Facilities Director) and our IT department assisted in getting our security system back up and running. The problem was software that needed to be updated but was no longer compatible with the end use equipment on our site.
- Vendor of sodium bisulfite originally gave a price to the City for the one or two loads we get. Due to a price increase incurred by the vendor they wanted the City to take 4,500 gallons, since the contract stated this. However, the plant can only hold 4,000 gallons. To honor the price the vendor would bring a full load and then charge us for the excess they had to haul back. M. O'Neill stated he reached out to another vendor who bid and who would honor their original amount so we went with them instead.
- Our new B.O.D. incubator arrived and is currently in operation in the Lab. This model is very quiet, unlike the old one. Jarrod is pleased.
- Kraft is supposed to be here this week to service both CoGen units, as well as attempt to address power output issues with the #2 unit.
- Staff replaced the auxiliary oil pump in the #2 CoGen unit.
- I've been working on getting our upgraded WIN 911 alarm dialer software and equipment working. It is a much more complicated program than our current one, which makes the process slow.

**INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR MARCH 2026**

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	9,650	\$1,351.00



<b>UPS</b>	<b>7,568</b>	<b>\$1,059.52</b>
<b>LS&amp;I</b>	<b>40,800</b>	<b>\$5,712.00</b>
<b>RMS</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>\$1,680.00</b>
<b>UP Environmental Services</b>	<b>5,050</b>	<b>\$707.00</b>
<b>Wisconsin Electric</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>75,068</b>	<b>\$10,509.52</b>

**SEPTAGE ACTIVITY FOR MARCH 2026**

<b>Source</b>	<b>Volume (gallons)</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Carey/Sodergren</b>	<b>15,235</b>	<b>\$2,742.30</b>
<b>North Country</b>	<b>6,660</b>	<b>\$1,198.80</b>
<b>Stenberg</b>	<b>17,892</b>	<b>\$3,220.56</b>
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>39,787</b>	<b>\$7,161.66</b>

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Wet Weather**

M. O'Neill stated they were dealing with snow melting, rain, and rising river levels. The only way to deal with river levels is to shut off the valve to the river and pump around the valve. Pumps were set up prior to all these events. On Sunday the river levels were rising rapidly, D. Johnston kept a staff member on due to the river levels. At 12:30 the river crested, flows started coming up at the plant, 6.8 million, when the maximum is 6.2 million. To offset the increase another pump was rented from Midway Rental. Till the river levels drop plant will need to continue to pump around that valve with staff monitoring pumps.

**OLD BUSINESS**

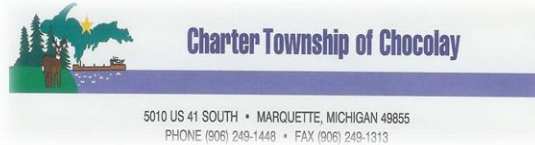
- **Solids Handling Project**

M. O'Neill stated everything closed on our end. I emailed Angela from state for an update but has not heard back from State, but moving forward it will be taken off.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- None

**BOARD COMMENT**



- S. Hobbins asked if we were looking into replacing clarifier. The way things are being handled internally is working was stated by M. O'Neill.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

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

Prepared by:  
Leah LaCasse