



MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES June 25, 2026

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:00 a.m., June 25, 2026, at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT None

OTHERS Mark O'Neill, City of Marquette
Mary Schlicht, City of Marquette
Neil Traye, City of Marquette
Dan Johnston, City of Marquette
Leah LaCasse, City of Marquette
Karla Kramer, City of Marquette

AGENDA It was moved by S. Hobbins, supported by J. Compton, to approve the agenda. Approved 5-0.

MINUTES It was moved by J. Compton, supported by C. Lucas, to approve May 21, 2026, meeting minutes as written. Approved 5-0.

FINANCIAL

- **Financial Report**

M. Schlicht, City of Marquette, presented the Financial Report. M. Schlicht stated we are two thirds of the way through fiscal year 2026 and sees no areas of concern with the budget and how things are operating. M. Schlicht mentioned a few blips in expenditures but nothing that will impact the budget moving forward. M. O'Neill addressed one of the increased expenditures. M. O'Neill stated that due to the high river event in May diesel



pumps had to operate 24/7 causing an increase in the fuel budget. M. Schlicht stated it was an increase to the line item but not the overall budget.

- **FY27 Budget**

M. Schlicht stated the proposed 2027 budget is attached for review. M. Schlicht recommended board members review and bring proposal to their units for input as she would like to have the board's approval at the July meeting for the budget. M. Schlicht indicated there are no capital improvement projects and the budget is standard.

Permit Compliance for May 2026:

We had one permit violation for excessive chlorine residual level in our final effluent. The problem was attributed to sodium bisulfite pumping issues and was resolved as soon as it was discovered.

Plant Notes

- VanDamme hauled biosolids cake from our new 960 storage area to one of their fields near Little Lake. A total of 1008 cubic yards were removed. We are waiting for confirmation for another location to bring the cake that is in our original storage area.
- The liquid biosolids unloading station has been re-constructed after having broken and collapsed over the winter. Prime Industrial will be making some modifications to the structure to make it more secure. Once complete, VanDamme can begin hauling the liquid biosolids from the storage tanks to the Cliffs tailings basins.
- We are waiting for the replacement level transducer for the #2 Digester. In the meantime, we are taking manual measurements.
- We installed a replacement motor for the HVAC unit that serves the plant's main electrical room. Once installed, we realized that the motor's starter had also failed. I also diagnosed and replaced a faulty temperature sensor that was preventing the unit from running. Once these parts were replaced, the unit was put back into service.
- Staff ordered replacement parts for the sweeper attachment of our Mahindra tractor. Parts are now on hand and are awaiting installation.
- Staff replaced the brushes for the DC motor that drives the mixer for the polymer feed system for our original GBT/BFP. Replacing these \$20 brushes allowed us to avoid replacing the motor.
- We had a 4" PVC valve fitting blow apart on our FEW system. After getting the situation under control, staff were able to repair the broken fitting using spare parts we had on hand.
- Kraft was on site to complete scheduled maintenance on both CoGen units.
- Staff completed cleaning and inspection of the #3 Primary Clarifier. It is now back in service.



- Staff stayed late several hours one day to perform repairs to the polymer metering pump for our original GBT/BFP.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR MAY 2026

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	4,117	\$576.38
LS&I	4,200	\$588.00
Wisconsin Electric	74,500	\$2,980.00
Grand Totals	82,817	\$4,144.38

SEPTAGE ACTIVITY FOR MAY 2026

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
A-1 Toilets	440	\$79.20
Carey/Sodergren	61,648	\$11,096.64
North Country	61,127	\$11,002.86
Stenberg	26,982	\$4,856.76
Grand Totals	150,197	\$27,035.46

NEW BUSINESS

- None

OLD BUSINESS

- **Succession Plan**

G. Patrick wanted to know where succession plan was regarding new manager replacing M. O'Neill. Informed that N. Traye has been named manager.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- M. Brumm thanked M. O'Neill for his years of service.

BOARD COMMENT

- Members recognized M. O'Neill for his years of service and congratulated him on his retirement.

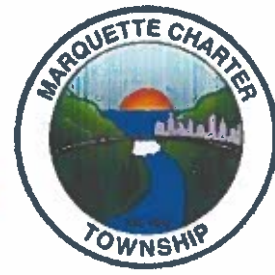
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.



Charter Township of Chocolay

5010 US 41 SOUTH • MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN 49855
PHONE (906) 249-1448 • FAX (906) 249-1713



M. O'Neill

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

Prepared by:
Leah LaCasse