



**MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 18, 2021**

A regular virtual meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:07 a.m. on Thursday, March 18, 2021.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Brad Johnson, Chocolay Township (Chair)
Leonard Bodenus, Marquette Township
Margaret Brumm, City of Marquette
Harold Hayse, City of Marquette
Gary Simpson, City of Marquette

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Mark O'Neill, City of Marquette
Pam Greenleaf, City of Marquette

AGENDA

It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by L. Bodenus, to approve the agenda as presented. Approved 5-0.

MINUTES

It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by H. Hayse, to amend the February 18, 2021 meeting minutes by correcting the adjournment time from 11:44 a.m. to 10:44 a.m. Approved 5-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT FEBRUARY

- Balance Sheet: The fiscal year is 41.7% complete. G. Simpson stated that the balance sheet remains in good shape.
- Revenue Sheet: Trucked wastewater revenue continues to be a great source of revenue. WE Energies leachate disposal remains consistent.
- Expenditures: Electrical usage is higher than anticipated but not too far off from the approved budgeted. The board discussed demand charges applied by the BLP whenever a "power bump" trips the BLP's relay switch. M. O'Neill stated that he would contact the BLP to see if something can be done to reduce the sensitivity of the switch. Township representatives, B. Johnson, and L. Bodenus, provided additional information regarding demand charges and how they are calculated. M. Brumm asked if cold



weather contributed to power demand charges. M. O'Neill stated that any small disruption of power will trip the relay and that cold weather is not a factor.

- The Solids Handling Project consulting fees are currently being paid through the Wastewater Facility's professional and contractual line item. These expenditures will be reimbursed through the State Revolving Fund Loan.

SOLIDS HANDLING PROJECT PRESENTATION

M. O'Neill provided the board with an update on the Solids Handling Project. The following items were presented and discussed:

- Final project pricing
- Vactor pad piping replacement and upgrade
- Replacement of the waste gas flare
- Alternate foundation system for the solids handling storage area resulting in an approximate project cost savings of \$150,000 - \$200,000.

OPERATIONS REPORT MARCH

- NPDES Permit Compliance: No permit violations occurred since the last board meeting.
- Staff continue to operate under the City's COVID-19 plan with six staff members from the Water and Wastewater Facilities having been partially or fully vaccinated.
- Sampling for the presence of COVID-19 in the city's wastewater continues.
- JCI provided the annual boiler inspection on all four boilers.
- Staff repaired a leaking sodium hypochlorite feed line on one of the chlorine contact tanks.
- The sewer crew attempted to televise a pipe that runs between the Wastewater Facility and the decant pump station that serves the liquid storage tanks and drying beds. Due to internal calcification/buildup inside the pipe, the camera could not reach the end.
- In effort to increase biosolids storage capacity, staff placed large concrete blocks in front of the biosolids cake storage bins. M. O'Neill stated that he had talked to the biosolids haulers and they confirmed that they are ready to haul. Weather permitting, biosolids could start being removed from the facility by mid-April.
- Industrial Wastewater Acceptance Activity:
 - 4,000 gallons of industrial wastewater from Fabick was accepted.
 - 73,000 gallons of leachate from Wisconsin Energy was accepted.
 - 17,600 gallons of industrial wastewater from LS&I Railroad was accepted.
 - Total monthly revenue \$4,998.00



Preventive Maintenance: M O'Neill provided the following list of items currently being addressed.

- New staff members began training on the computerized maintenance management system. Other staff continue to work on preventative maintenance items.
- A cost estimate of \$5,700 was received for replacement parts needed to repair one of the facility's recirculation pumps.

NEW BUSINESS

JCI – Energy Savings Measurement & Verification Report:

Board members were provided a copy of the Energy Savings Report. M. O'Neill summarized the project improvements specific to the Wastewater Facility noting that after the City's TELP payment is made a savings to the facility is being recognized. He also stated that JCI representatives are willing to attend a future board meeting to answer any questions they may have. M. Brumm stated that there is a savings being recognized where there were no savings before, and that she would like to invite JCI to a meeting toward the end of the summer. G. Simpson suggested JCI provide a project update quarterly or semiannually. H. Hayse submitted specific questions pertaining to the co-gen savings and asked if it was possible that the board be provided answers to those questions by day's end. He stated that he did not see a need for JCI to do a presentation as he did not know what more could be provided. B. Johnson stated that he would like JCI to attend an upcoming meeting.

BOARD COMMENT

- M. Brumm stated that the State of Michigan has been monitoring PFAS for a period of one year. She also stated that she provided M. O'Neill with information regarding nets being placed on storm drain outlets to catch debris that would otherwise end up in the lake. M. O'Neill stated he passed the information along to the City Engineer for his consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by H. Hayse, to adjourn at 10:42 a.m.
Approved 5-0.

Reviewed by:
Mark O'Neill
Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:
Pamela Greenleaf