



MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES April 18, 2024

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:00 a.m., April 18, 2024, at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT None

OTHERS Mark O'Neill, City of Marquette
Mary Schlicht, City of Marquette
Dan Johnston, City of Marquette
Harold Hayes

AGENDA It was moved by S. Hobbins, supported by J. Compton, to approve the Agenda with the removal of 5b. Presentation. Approved 5-0.

MINUTES It was moved by L. Bodenus, supported by S. Hobbins, to approve the January 18, 2024, meeting minutes as written. Approved 5-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT

M. Schlicht, City of Marquette, presented the Financial Report.

- **Financial Report:** M. Schlicht stated the financial report is standard for this time of year with no surprises. Some of the expenditures are over the 50% benchmark due to some up-front costs and the Capital Outlay Project. Once we are at the end of the year, those project figures will be moved from the statement and will be smoothed over the life of the bond. The project has been moving well. Reimbursements are processed quickly allowing adequate cash flow for the project and continuing operations. The debt service interest payments did go out today.



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OPERATIONS REPORT

D. Johnston, City of Marquette, presented the Operations Report

PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH(S):

- PERMIT COMPLIANCE: There were no permit violations for the months of February or March.

PLANT NOTES:

- Staff continues weekly COVID-19 tracing sampling for NMU from the WWTP's influent, our four major lift stations, and from the sewer leaving the Marquette Branch Prison.
- Construction on the Biosolids Handling Project continues. Installation of underground conduit banks is almost completed. Modifications to the #1 Primary Clarifier are complete. Final connections to our drying bed are expected to be complete within a week.
- Staff assisted the contractors by cleaning out and securing the #1 Primary Clarifier so they could get into the tank and install the planned upgrades.
- The new fire alarm system installation continues alongside the Biosolids Improvement Project.
- Staff removed a large wad of weeds from one of our high pressure FEW pumps. The whole pump had to be removed from its location in order to remove the blockage.
- Staff struggled greatly to get the polymer feed pump for our GBT/BFP to work properly. In the process we obtained repair parts that were installed, and we eventually managed to get the system to operate properly. Confirmation was received this week that the new pump we ordered in February is finally on its way (one month later than expected).
- Supervisor worked with staff to get our Total Phosphorus Analyzer back into service. Multiple issues had to be addressed to bring it back to life.
- Kraft Power staff were on site to perform routine maintenance on both CoGeneration units. They also repaired oil leaks at the oil filter adaptors on both engines.
- Staff repaired the engine oil circulation pump for the #2 CoGen unit.
- The new fiber network switches are now physically installed at the WWTP. Installation has begun at the lift and water stations. Once the switches are in place, we can begin to commission them into service.
- Staff replaced the beacon on our Volvo front-end loader.
- Staff has been prepping for land application of our biosolids by taking soil samples from the fields at the Kempker farm in Trenary. The results of the soil analysis have been received and they will determine the amount of material we can safely apply to each location. Special thanks to WFP Supervisor Neil Traye for continuing to aid us with this process.
- Staff responded to a power outage the evening of 4/3 at the WWTP and our Edgewater lift station. The portable emergency generator was needed at the station until utility power was restored. The same situation occurred on the afternoon of 4/8. These power loss events almost always cause strange things to happen when power is restored, which makes bringing the plant back online a challenge.
- An additional power outage occurred on 4/15 while the BLP was performing a transformer replacement. This outage was also unplanned, and the plant was without power for several hours.



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- Staff from LaForce Security Systems repaired failed hinges on two doorways here at the WWTP and one at our Lake Street Lift Station. They were very efficient, and their work was of very high quality...we are very pleased to be able to use these doors again without having to worry about them falling out of their frames.
- Staff found two of the four wheels on our portable emergency generator were bad. New wheels are on order.
- Staff replaced the inlet check ball seat on our #2 Primary Air Diaphragm Pump.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR FEBRUARY 2024

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	1,700	\$250.00
UPS	4,200	\$588.00
LS&I	14,400	\$2,016.00
Wisconsin Electric	54,000	\$2,160.00
Grand Totals	74,300	\$5,014.00

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR MARCH 2024

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	1,600	\$250.00
UPS	9,700	\$1,358.00
LS&I	12,600	\$1,764.00
RMS	5,000	\$700.00
Wisconsin Electric	54,000	\$2,160.00
Grand Totals	82,900	\$6,232.00

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

- Preventive Maintenance Work Orders: staff continues to perform routine maintenance tasks. We are currently keeping up with the load of PMs. I am still working to create work orders that have not been created since we began using Lucity.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Biosolids Hauling Proposal:** M. O'Neill stated the biosolids hauling contract has expired. MJ VanDamme submitted a two-year proposal with a first year 7% increase, which is lower than what was received in the past, and a second year 4% increase. This two-year contract will allow staff a chance to evaluate operations with the new cake storage area. MJ VanDamme is the only contractor we work with because they are allowed on CCI property, and they work with the farmer in Trenary. M. O'Neill requested approval from the board. B.



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Johnson stated he is instructed to bring any purchasing to the Chocolay Township Board for approval. He requested the vote be tabled until next month. M. O'Neill stated the time extension will hinder the plant operations because he needs to begin hauling in early May and the proposal is expected to be presented to the City Commission April 29th for approval. S. Hobbins asked if this is Chocolay Townships stance on all contracts presented. B. Johnson stated he is not authorized to spend the Townships money and the next board meeting is May 13th. M. O'Neill stated if this is delayed, the plant will have to rent trucks and haul the solids to the landfill or to the farmers' field in Trenary which will be expensive. M. O'Neill stated this is already a part of the budget that has been approved by the Board and a vote may not be necessary. L. Bodenus moved to approve the proposal as presented because it is within the parameters of the budget, supported by S. Hobbins. Approved 5-0. S. Hobbins suggested we research the Inter Gov Agreement and clarify the financial expectations of the board for future implications.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Solids Handling:** M. O'Neill stated the project is moving along. The underground work should be done next week. The area that has been impacted will be graveled until pavement is installed. Miron has been very good about allowing access during this process. More employees are arriving for the mechanical and electrical work. However, it looks like the project will not be wrapped up until late fall or early winter. Change order #6 is being processed. It involves two items. The ferric chloride room has a slope in the floor, so a sealed pad needs to be laid with piping modifications for an amount of \$5,530.19. The second item includes asphalt on the driveway towards the gate that is deteriorated and needs replacement. This came in at \$13,723.25. There is plenty of contingency money available and it has been submitted to the City Manager for approval. There may be a small change order coming through regarding the walkway into the septage receiving station. It ends at grass so a small extension to the walkway needs to be added for safety and snow removal.
- **Fire Alarm Project:** M. O'Neill stated everything is in place and tested. It should go live next week.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Harold Hayes presented an analysis of CoGen costs and benefits 2019-2023.

BOARD COMMENT

- L. Bodenus stated grease trap inspections are being conducted. A capacity analysis on the sewer system was completed a couple of months ago and everything looks good. There will be significant projects coming up over the next couple of years, which will increase the sewage flow.
- B. Johnson stated all the homes at the Casino are tied into the sewer system and working. The Casino is building an RV park that will tie in as well. That should be up and running this summer.



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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

Mark O'Neill

Reviewed by:

Mark O'Neill

Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:

Melissa Erkkila