

MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 18, 2023

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 9:57 a.m., May 18, 2023, at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT None

OTHERS Mark O'Neill, City of Marquette
Melissa Erkkila, City of Marquette
Mary Schlicht, City Marquette

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

MINUTES It was moved by S. Hobbins, supported by J. Compton to approve the April 20, 2023, meeting minutes as written. Approved 5-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

M. Schlicht stated everything through April has been standard. The bonding is continuing and should be closing June 5th. The 2.1 million reserves will be reduced by 1.5 million that has been committed to the Solids Handling Improvement Project. Audit presentation will occur next month.

OPERATIONS REPORT

M. O'Neill, City of Marquette, presented the Operations Report.



Charter Township of Chocolay

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PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH(S):

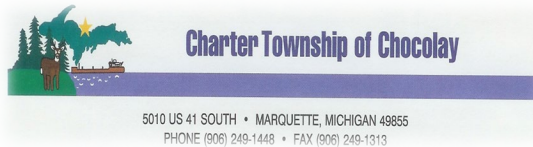
- PERMIT COMPLIANCE: No violations occurred during the month of April.

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.
- We survived the initial snowmelt event without violating our permit, but then an end of April snowstorm threw us for a loop. M. O'Neill stated the new pump arrived in time with a backup pump set up. Staff stayed on site 24/7 for a couple of weeks keeping watch on the flows and pumps. Total daily plant flow reached a record high of 8.472 million gallons, only to be beaten the next day with a total of 8.555 million. These daily flows are 2 million higher than our facility is designed to handle. This was due to the slush covering the storm sewers creating water ponding on the roads. There were also some manhole covers under water. These have been marked and Public Works will work on raising them this summer and note in the GIS system for future reference. It is also suspected that due to the water table being so high, basements were flooding and that water was being sent down to the plant. However, we did whatever we could to ease the impact on treatment quality. We also had to contend with higher-than-normal Carp River levels and by using three large pumps to force the plant's flow to the river. We had minimal violations and EGLE is aware of the scenario. The staff did a wonderful job and learned a lot. The City's investment in the infrastructure over the past few years and the diligent work from Engineering and Public Works kept this event from being a disaster. As of late last week, we are back to normal operations. It's been a busy springtime, for sure. B. Johnson asked for an update regarding the regeneration issue with the new pump.
- Our WIN911 alarm dialing system has stopped working properly. All diagnostics pointed towards a defective TAPI modem, but the problem remains. The POTS line is scheduled for inspection on Monday, May 15. A fix among the staff is in the works.
- A temperature probe on the gas conditioning skid for our CoGen units has failed. I made some system programming changes in order to allow us to continue running the skid until the new probe arrives.
- Staff replaced the diaphragm on the #4 Primary ADP. The failed unit had over two million strokes on it since it was last replaced in September 2013.
- Staff repaired a broken fitting for the sodium aluminate feed line from the #3 metering pump.
- Staff rebuilt the polymer feed pump for the BFP/GBT.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR APRIL 2023

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
UPS	5,500	\$770.00
LS&I	44,400	\$6,216.00
Wisconsin Electric	65,000	\$2,600.00
Grand Totals	114,900	\$9,586.00



MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

- **Preventive Maintenance Work Orders:** staff continues to perform routine maintenance tasks. I continue to create work orders that have not been created since we began using Lucy.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Annual city Commission Presentation:** All the advisory boards have to present to the Commission each year. It is scheduled for June 26. B. Johnson stated he should be able to make present it.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Solids Handling:** M. O'Neill stated a preconstruction meeting is scheduled for June 2. Miron did a walk through with their subcontractors this week. The lead time for some of the specialized equipment is very far out. He expects a lot of sitework, piping and building the new buildings while we wait for the equipment. Miron also visited the site previously during a pre-bid meeting.
- **Fire Alarm Project:** S&T Electric have been working on the conduit. The hold up is the two main panels which are on back order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public attended.

BOARD COMMENT

- J. Compton stated he has a plan to address each sanitary manhole from the plant to Chocolay Township. He will be sending a technician to take pictures. Two manholes southeast of the prison are in the ditch. There are other ones that are on the edge of the ditch, but the contours have changed since the MDOT reconstruction of US41. The timing of the rise in flows to the plant also coincides with the reconstruction project. There is also a plan to video the interceptors along the highway. Some of those manholes are in ditches and some that are very close to the creek. J. Compton stated he will be questioning the contractor to make a determination on the chances of ditch water or if Whetstone could possibly become high enough to start running into the casting. Also, the top part of the manhole is made out of block and if a block is missing, that would also create an issue. It is unsure what the fix could be at this time but it is worth looking into.
- S. Hobbins stated next week is National Public Works week. If anyone can find a way to celebrate our public workers, please do it.
- L. Bodenus stated they have been checking manholes for water infiltration issues. They are planning on having the interceptors televised this summer. The township is still working on a lift station generator project. However, the generator is not coming in until February 2024.



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- B. Johnson stated they are also conducting manhole inspections for infiltration and have found a couple that are in need of repairs this summer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Mark O'Neill

Reviewed by:

Mark O'Neill

Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:

Melissa Erkkila