

MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 19, 2022

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 9:57 a.m., Thursday, May 19, 2022 at the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT Brad Johnson, Chocolay Township (Chair)
Leonard Bodenus, Marquette Township
Margaret Brumm, City of Marquette
Harold Hayse, City of Marquette
Mary Schlicht, City of Marquette

ABSENT None

OTHERS Mark O'Neill, City of Marquette
Lyle Michaels, City of Marquette
Melissa Erkkila, City of Marquette

AGENDA It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by L. Bodenus to amend the Agenda to add CoGen Economics under Board Comment. Approved 4-0.

MINUTES It was moved by L. Bodenus, supported by M. Brumm to approve the April 21, 2022 meeting minutes as written. Approved 4-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY

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

- Balance Sheet: Numbers are as expected.
- Revenue Sheet: Revenue is as expected.
- Expenditures: Expenditures are as expected.
- M. Schlicht stated she is working on getting a better prediction of the end of year true up bill for the City and Townships. This will help everyone predicting their next fiscal year budget. Depreciation is generally not billed during the year. It is estimated that this year's depreciation will be an estimated \$700,000.



- The 2021 fiscal year audit is completed and ready to present to the board. Presentation is expected at next month's meeting.

PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH:

- 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.
- Arrangements have been made for land application of our dried biosolids. We are waiting for soil sample results from the application site and weather conditions to improve.
- CoGen #1 started showing signs of erratic power output and engine speed. Kraft arrived and diagnosed a bad crankshaft position sensor. The unit was off for about 10 days due to parts availability. On a good note, both units are in good mechanical condition.
- I've begun recording monthly totals for each CoGen units power output and the amount of power imported to the plant (units in KWh). I am also gathering heat output-related data.
- One of the mixers in our Bio-P tanks is making noise. We are gathering quotes to replace at least two of the units (two of the six mixers are already out of service...one has been out of service for at least five years). The Bio-P system is critical for phosphorus removal so we need to keep this zone of the plant operating as efficiently as possible.
- Staff installed a new pump in the decant pump station that serves our drying bed and liquid biosolids storage tanks. Modifications were required to get the new pump to work with the original pump's rail mount system.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR APRIL 2022

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	3,200	\$416.00
UPS	9,700	\$1,261.00
LS&I	33,700	\$4,381.00
RMS	9,300	\$1,209.00
Wisconsin Electric	100,000	\$3,000.00
Grand Totals	155,900	\$10,267.00

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

- Preventive Maintenance Work Orders: We have finally caught up with the backlog of work orders. I have been working on developing a more user-friendly approach to help streamline the whole work order completion process. I have also begun to create the work orders that were never created since we began using the Lucy program. This process will take many months to complete.



Charter Township of Chocolay

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OLD BUSINESS

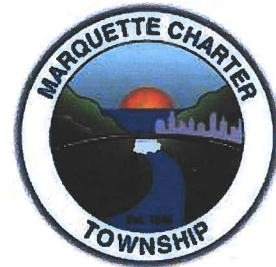
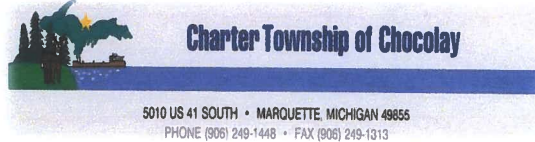
- Solids Handling Update: M. O'Neill stated there is no new information at this time but expecting to hear more soon. Fire Alarm bids request is out to the public and bid opening is scheduled for June 2, 2022.
- Co-Gen Operation: M. O'Neill stated at the last meeting a question arose if it was reasonable to run the second Co-Gen on natural gas and how that effects the utility savings. He reached out to JCI who is expected to give an updated analysis on how/when to run the engines with the current utility fees. After looking at maintenance costs, previous bills, calculating therms, demand charges, and reaching out to Donohue to capture heat required, it has been found that the plant does save money to run both engines.
- Spring Biosolids Application: M. O'Neill stated biosolids hauling was expected to begin this week. It was found that the PFAS sample conducted July 2021 to allow application is not adequate. A new PFAS sample in the calendar year is required before application can begin. A test kit was rush ordered, a sample was taken and then overnighted to the lab. Results are expected by Monday, May 23, 2022. This sample result must also be entered into MiWaters for two weeks to provide time for EGLE approval before application. Due to the full storage units, M. O'Neill contacted EGLE and they agreed to expedite the approval once the results are received. Public Works brought a machine to the plant and stacked the biosolids to allow more room until hauling can begin. M. O'Neill also stated he received information that lands that have verso from the paper mill applied cannot have biosolids applied also. These two are not to be intermingled. The plant has been doing this on a property in Trenary since 2018 with prior approval from EGLE. After several phone calls, EGLE is looking into it and will notify M. O'Neill when a decision is made. Application to this property is on hold until further notice. A backup property plan is in place.

NEW BUSINESS

- No new business.

BOARD COMMENT

- L. Bodenus brought to the boards attention the Collection System Operator Certification Program being developed requiring communities to be certified so they are knowledgeable in addressing sewer backups, breaks, clogs, etc. B. Johnson stated EGLE is still working on a test but he believes it will be beneficial because of the knowledge and the networking involved.
- M. Brumm distributed a news article regarding PFAS spending. A new study estimates \$1 billion will be spent each year on PFAS treatment by 2030. PFAS is being detected in ground water throughout the country, including where biosolids have been spread on farm fields. It is expected the PFAS issue will lead to a new drinking water standard. M. Brumm also stated a new cigarette butt drop off is being opened today at the BLP parking lot on Wright St. This will help eliminate cigarette butts being thrown on the ground and eventually ending up in Lake Superior through storm drains.
- H. Hayes distributed a CoGen Economic Analysis Summary Report. This report looks at the WWTF reduction in annual utility billings vs the cost of Co-Gen maintenance and TELP



payment. H. Hayes states his calculations project a loss of 2.7 million over 20 years. He is planning on speaking with the City Manager regarding his concerns.

- B. Johnson requested the agenda become available the Monday before the meeting. He also requested the Board be issued a copy of the Intergovernmental Agreement to refresh board members of their duties.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.



Reviewed by:
Mark O'Neill
Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:
Melissa Erkkila