



Charter Township of Chocolay

5010 US 41 SOUTH • MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN 49855
PHONE (906) 249-1448 • FAX (906) 249-1111



**MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 17, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 17, 2021.

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
Dan Johnston, City of Marquette
Pam Greenleaf, City of Marquette
Eric Stemen, City of Marquette
Tim Konsdorf, Johnson Controls, Inc.
John Crawford, Johnson Controls, Inc.
Dan Schwab, Johnson Controls, Inc.

AGENDA

It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by H. Hayse, to amend the agenda by adding discussion of Flow Capacity to New Business. Approved 4-0.

MINUTES

It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by L. Bodenus, to accept the May 20, 2021 meeting minutes as written. Approved 4-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT MAY

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

- Balance Sheet: The budget remains consistent, with no concerns at this time.
- Revenue Sheet: Trucked wastewater revenue has exceed the projected revenue.
- Expenditures: Purchased power continues to run high. Gas usage should come within budget during the summer months.
M. Brumm asked if the facility would see a savings due to a recent employee resignation. M. O'Neill stated that some overtime may be required because of the vacancy, but that a small savings could be recognized. He also stated the process to find a replacement has begun.



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It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by L. Bodenus, to accept the Financial Report as written. Approved 4-0.

SOLIDS HANDLING PROJECT

M. O'Neill stated that he had briefed City Manager, Karen Kovacs, on the project plan and its benefits. He stated that a project site walkthrough with potential bidders took place on June 8, 2021, and that the bid opening is set for June 29, 2021. He also stated Donohue & Associates, project engineers, will be reviewing the bids and providing a recommendation afterward. He stated that the project bonding recommendation will be heard at the June 28, 2021, City Commission meeting.

OPERATIONS REPORT JUNE

PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH:

- NPDES Permit Compliance: No permit violations occurred since the last board meeting.
- Staff continues to operate under the City's COVID-19 plan
- Staff continue to gather weekly samples of the facility's influent and solids from various stages of the treatment process to be analyzed by Michigan Tech for the presence of COVID-19 genetic material.
- VanDamme Trucking started hauling liquid biosolids to the Cliffs tailings basins to assist in vegetation growth/erosion control.
- Staff completed the repair/rebuild of the #2 Digester Recirculation Pump. In order to keep the #2 Digester online and minimize the potential for disrupting treatment, the unit will be temporarily relocated, and a similar pump put in its place while the repairs are being made.
- Staff continue to address issues with the sodium hypochlorite feed system. Several leaking pipes were repaired, but minor issues continue to exist. Proper chlorination is still occurring throughout the process.
- The shear pin for the drive mechanism in the #2 Secondary Clarifier had broken. Upon replacing the pin staff found that the mechanism worked fine. These shear pins are designed to break in the event of a mechanical obstruction, so the fact that it is up and running again without any problems is both concerning and a relief.
- The equipment for the SCADA system upgrade was received. The software vendor will begin installation of the software and configuration in the coming weeks.

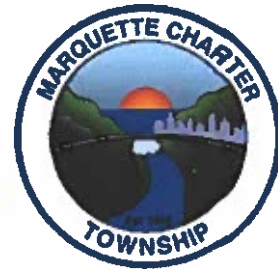
INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR MAY:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| ▪ W.E. leachate: | 63,500 gallons, for \$1905.00 |
| ▪ Tunnel Vision (catch basin sand) | 3 yds ³ + 1500 gallons, for \$590.00 |
| ▪ Total monthly revenue: | \$2495.00 |
- M. O'Neill stated that the BLP will be rinsing down the inside of the decommissioned power plant smokestacks prior to demolishing, and that the Wastewater Facility will be treating the water that is used.



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- M. O'Neill stated that the facility will be looking into what types of fertilizer compounds are being used in the local marijuana grow industry, and what the impact could be to the facility. He also stated that he did not anticipate a large impact to the facility, but it is something that must be monitored. He stated that the Sewer Use Ordinance was provided to all local marijuana grow businesses.

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

- Preventive Maintenance Work Orders: D. Johnston stated staff continues to work on the backlog of maintenance work orders. M. Brumm thanked him the update.

OLD BUSINESS

JCI Energy Savings Project Discussion

JCI presented the board with the first year of savings data for the city-wide project. Board members discussed the savings report along with an independent economic analysis provided by board member H. Hayse which indicates that the facility is losing money. The board asked numerous questions specific to co-gen electrical savings, methane and natural gas consumption, and electrical demand charges, as the report did not break out the savings solely tied to the use of the co-gen units. JCI representatives stated that the guaranteed savings is for the entire city project, and that the guaranteed project savings is being met. After lengthy discussion regarding the data provided in both reports, M. Brumm suggested that she do a comparative review of the information provided in both the reports, and that she reports back to the board with her findings.

It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by H. Hayse, to have M. Brumm do a comparative review of both financial reports, and that she reports back to the board with her findings at their next scheduled board meeting. Approved 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Flow Capacity:

B. Johnson stated Chocolay Township is interested in having their flow capacity measured and asked the board if they had any suggestions on who they could work with to have that done. H. Hayse stated that he could help with the capacity measurement.

BOARD COMMENT

- M. Brumm provided the board with the most recent PFAS contamination news. She stated that PFAS is a daily topic, and that it is not only being found at military air bases, but at civilian airports as well. She also stated PFAS is being found in many cosmetic products.
- M. Brumm stated that she had picked up biosolids from the Ishpeming Wastewater Facility for use in her gardens.



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- M. O'Neill, Board Liaison, stated that the Public Works Sewer Division will be overseeing the grease trap inspection program, and that inspections are ongoing. He also stated Coleman Engineering is working with the Sewer Division to smoke test sanitary sewers that may be infiltrating the storm sewer. He stated smoke testing in south Marquette is just about complete.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Mark O'Neill

Reviewed by:
Mark O'Neill
Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:
Pamela Greenleaf