



Charter Township of Chocolay

5010 US 41 SOUTH • MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN 49855
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MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES JULY 15, 2021

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 15, 2021.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Brad Johnson, Chocolay Township (Chair)
Leonard Bodenus, Marquette Township
Margaret Brumm, City of Marquette (via telephone)
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

AGENDA

It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by L. Bodenus, to approve the agenda as written. Approved 4-0.

MINUTES

It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by L. Bodenus, to approve the June 17, 2021 meeting minutes as written. Approved 4-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT JUNE

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

- **Balance Sheet:** The budget remains consistent.
- **Revenue Sheet:** Trending within budgeted expectations.
- **Expenditures:** Purchased power continues to run high, but overall expenditures are within expectation. The board discussed the calculation of the Wastewater Facility's portion of the annual JCI Savings Project TELP payment of \$140,010.
- **Annual Audit:** M. O'Neill stated that the City's auditor will be attending the next board meeting to present the annual Wastewater Facility audit.



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- **Budget Preparation:** M. O'Neill stated that he has been working on next year's budget and that there are no capital improvement project requests being submitted for FY21-22.

SOLIDS HANDLING PROJECT

M. O'Neill stated that three bids were received for the project and that that lowest of those bids came in at \$1.8 million higher than the engineer's estimate. He stated upon review of the bids it was determined that material costs, especially steel, and the mechanical portion of the project came in much higher than anticipated. He also stated that he and the project engineer from Donohue and Associates tried to find areas of the project to cut but found that in order to keep the project scope intact, they could only come up with roughly \$100,000. He suggested that the board consider postponing the project until next year and reapply for state funding next year with the hope of increased funding, and to provide additional time for material prices to come down. The board discussed the pros and cons of postponing the project and found it to be in the best interest of the city, and the townships, to rebid the project in the spring of 2022.

OPERATIONS REPORT JULY

PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH:

- **NPDES Permit Compliance:** No permit violations occurred since the last board meeting.
- Weekly COVID-19 samples that were being sent for testing to MTU has been discontinued. NMU will restart their COVID-19 testing in wastewater. Facility staff have been collecting samples from various lift stations throughout the city. NMU is reimbursing the city for this service.
- Staff disassembled the #2 digester recirculation pump. The main shaft of the pump was wearing out and the price of a new one was approximately \$1,900. Staff reached out to Marquette Machining to refurbish the old shaft but found it to be more cost effective to have an entirely new shaft fabricated. The cost of the fabricated shaft was \$1,300.00.
- The issue with the sodium hypochlorite feed pumps was resolved. One of the metering pumps needed a new roller head assembly.
- Five candidates were chosen to interview for the Wastewater Operators position. M. Brumm asked if the facility utilized students through internships or co-op programs. M. O'Neill stated that the facility does have interns on occasion and that the most recent hire had interned through Bay-De-Noc Community College. M. Brumm stated she was happy to hear students are being offered the opportunity.
- The facility is continuing to treat the wash water used to rinse down the smokestacks in conjunction with the power plant demolishing.
- VanDamme Trucking began hauling out liquid biosolids.
- The WWTP Supervisor began installing PLC programming of the new SCADA computers.
- Staff replaced the media in the biogas conditioning skid.
- Kraft was on site on June 30, 2021 to perform regular maintenance on both Co-gen units. Both units have been running approximately two months problem free.
- The outer bearing on the gravity belt thickener screw conveyor was repaired.



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- Plans are being made to repair portions of the potable water lines inside the plant. Prime Specialty Contracting will be performing the work.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR JUNE:

▪ Fabick	3,600 gallons	\$468.00
▪ WE Leachate	73,000 gallons	\$2,190.00
▪ Tunnel Vision (catch basin sand)	3 yds ³	\$390.00
▪ Board of Light and Power	20,000 gallons	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
▪ Total monthly revenue		<u>\$5,048.00</u>

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

- Preventive Maintenance Work Orders: D, Johnston stated staff continues to diligently chip away at pending work orders.

OLD BUSINESS

JCI Energy Savings Project Discussion – M. Brumm’s Review of Johnson Control Cost Savings Presentation as Compared to Board Member’s calculations.

M. Brumm stated that she had compared the JCI Energy Savings Year-1 Report (JCI Report) to the Co-Gen Economic Analysis Report of April 15, 2021 (Hayse Report), and found that it is impossible to do a comparison of the reports for the following reasons:

- The timeline for each report is different. The JCI Report is dated November 2020 and the Hayse Report is dated April 2021.
- The source of the JCI report is unknown, there are two separate names on the JCI Report (JB Carson and Dan Schwab) and the JCI report was prepared for Eric Stemen (Director of Facilities and Maintenance). The JCI report was written for the entire City of Marquette. The Hayse Report was written for the Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- The JCI report focuses mostly on “Water Meter/AMI Upgrades” and “the building improvement measures”. The Hayse Report focuses on the recently installed electrical generation system at the Wastewater Treatment Facility only.
- The details on the JCI report that focus on the Wastewater Treatment Facility are included in Appendix C-Supporting Data. The source of this data is not given.

The board discussed M. Brumm’s comparison of the reports and concluded that the JCI Report did not address project savings specific to the use of the co-gen units at the Wastewater Treatment Facility.



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It was moved by M. Brumm, seconded by H. Hayse, to have the Wastewater Facility Director notify JCI Controls that their energy savings presentation given to the board was found to be "unresponsive" to the issues raised by the Hayse Report. Accordingly, the Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board requests that JCI Controls review the Hayse Report and respond to the specific information in that report. Approved 4-0.

BOARD COMMENT

M. Brumm stated that she is going to meet with the Lake Superior Watershed Partnership to discuss the cigarette butt recycling program.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Mark O'Neill

Reviewed by:

Mark O'Neill

Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:

Pamela Greenleaf