



MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 19, 2021

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:04 a.m. on Thursday, August 19, 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 Michael Grentz, Anderson Tackman & Company
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 5-0.

MINUTES

It was moved by M. Brumm, supported by L. Bodenus, to approve the July 15, 2021 meeting minutes as written. Approved 5-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT JULY

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

- Balance Sheet: M. Schlicht stated that the revenue and expenditure accounts are within the projected budget.
- Revenue Sheet: Revenues received are in good shape with trucked wastewater exceeding budget expectations.
- Expenditures: Purchased power and natural gas costs have been running high for some time. The overall expenditures are within budget.
- The board discussed the Wastewater Treatment Facility's annual JCI Energy Savings Project TELP payment of \$140,010, and how the wastewater portion of the payment was calculated.



Charter Township of Chocolay

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- Annual Audit: Michael Greutz, Anderson, Tackman and Associates, presented the facility's 2020 financial audit period ending September 30, 2020. He stated that the facility ended in a net position of \$6,533,503 an increase from the 2019 net position of \$6,115,005. Board members found no notable concerns with the audit.
- Budget Preparation: M. O'Neill presented the 2022 proposed Wastewater Facility operating budget. He stated that he requested an increase in funds to the professional and contractual line item to assure that there are enough dollars to complete both co-gen engine overhauls. He also stated that he increased the gas and electrical line items to reflect actual expenses being realized from the use of the co-gens. He stated that there are no capital outlay project requests being made in FY22.
- FY22 Per Unit Rate for Flow: M. O'Neill stated that the 2022 proposed kgal rate for flow is \$1.797/kgal, a slight decrease from the 2021 rate. He also stated that a kgal equals 1,000 gallons. M. Brumm suggested that the kgal unit of measure include (US) in the description to eliminate any question as to what form of measurement is being used.

PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH

- Permit Compliance: No permit violations have occurred since the last Advisory Board meeting.

PLANT NOTES

- Staff continues weekly COVID-19 tracing sampling for NMU at the plant itself, the four major lift stations, and from the sewer leaving the Marquette Branch Prison.
- All twelve of the computers for the SCADA system upgrade project are now on site. Prepping the machines for the installation of the Wonderware software has begun. This means ensuring they all have the latest software updates before they are placed on the SCADA network, as this network has no access to the outside world (the internet). Staff will be installing critical programs that are used for maintaining and programming the PLCs around the WWTP, WFP, wastewater lift stations and water pumping stations. Once this process is complete, staff from Wonderware will be on site to install the new version of the software used to monitor and control the WWTP and stations. The computers at the WFP will be replaced as well.
- Quarterly W.E.T. sampling and laboratory analysis was successfully completed. This sampling period was extended because one of the samples failed to arrive on time due to a weather-related event. M. O'Neill stated that W.E.T. sampling tests the effluent by means of studying fish placed in it and their survival.
- Interviews for the open operator's position were completed. M. O'Neill provided a brief background of each candidates work experience and qualifications. The new hire will begin work on August 23, 2021.
- Staff took part in a webinar on chemical dosing pumps presented by Crane Engineering.



- Liquid biosolids haul out by VanDamme Trucking has been halted until fall.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR AUGUST

➤ Fabick/Cat	1,600 gallons, for \$208.00
➤ W.E. leachate:	55,500 gallons, for \$1,665.00
➤ S.E.T. Environmental (Shiras Plant Demo)	4,060 gallons, for \$406.00
➤ Total monthly revenue:	\$2,279.00

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

- Preventive Maintenance Work Orders: Staff is still working on reducing the backlog of work orders.

OLD BUSINESS

JCI Energy Savings Project Discussion: M. O'Neill stated that he spoke with the City Manager regarding the boards concern that the co-gen units projected savings is not being met. He stated that there are other areas of the project being looked at as well, and that the City Manager will become more involved with the issue once the current budget process is over.

Solids Handling Project: The board discussed various aspects of the project related to the project scope and related costs.

BOARD COMMENT

M. Brumm provided the board with information regarding the Lake Superior Watershed Partnership cigarette butt recycling program. She stated that she personally collected five pounds of recyclables which were sent to the Terracycle Recycling Center through the organizations prepaid mailing system. She stated that the program is a great way to keep butts out of storm sewers and Lake Superior, and that the City of Marquette could lead the way in the effort to keep our water clean.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Reviewed by:
Mark O'Neill
Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:
Pamela Greenleaf