



Charter Township of Chocolay

5010 US 41 SOUTH • MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN 49855
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MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES September 21, 2023

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:00 a.m., September 21, 2023, at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT Leonard Bodenus, Marquette Township
George Patrick, City of Marquette
Jim Compton, City of Marquette
Sean Hobbins, City of Marquette

ABSENT Brad Johnson, Chocolay Township (Chair)

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

AGENDA It was moved by S. Hobbins, supported by G. Patrick to approve the agenda. Approved 4-0.

MINUTES It was moved by J. Compton, supported by S. Hobbins to approve the August 24, 2023, meeting minutes as written. Approved 4-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

- **Financial Report:** M. Schlicht stated the financial report is through the end of August. This month she looked at the per unit rate calculation because it will factor into the fiscal year end billing. The city has been billing out at \$2.204 per unit rate. With current expenditures and flow, the rate is at \$2.367 per unit rate. Flows are a little lower than expected but the rate seems to be on point.

OPERATIONS REPORT

D. Johnston, City of Marquette, presented the Operations Report.



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PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH(S):

- **PERMIT COMPLIANCE:** There were no permit violations for the month of August.

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.
- Staff completed draining, cleaning and inspecting all three aeration basins. Each basin holds approximately one million gallons. Repairs were performed to the effluent weirs on all three basins.
- Staff completed annual maintenance on the mixers and recirculation pump in our Bio-P system.
- Annual calibrations were performed on our influent flowmeter and all of the plant's combustible gas detectors.
- VanDamme completed all 760 cubic yards of our hauling biosolids cake to the Kempker farm.
- Kraft was on site to perform routine maintenance to the #1 CoGen unit. #2 experienced a catastrophic failure and will require major repairs to be put back in service. M. O'Neill stated a top end rebuild was expected. However, during the failure event, one of the cylinder sleeves broke and damaged the cylinder walls. Repairing the unit was not considered a confident long term fix at the cost of \$45,000. A new engine is the better option for \$55,000 which is in the budget.
- The supervisor was able to get the new SCADA data acquisition server up and running.
- EGLE was on site to perform their annual inspection.
- Supervisor installed and set up the standby/spare sodium bisulfite metering pump.
- One of the temperature probes for the admin area's air handling unit failed, preventing the AC from working during our recent hot streak. The supervisor installed a device to fool the unit into running the AC until a new probe could be installed the next day.
- Staff replaced one of the pressure belt alignment switches on the belt filter press.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR AUGUST 2023

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	1,300	\$250.00
Wisconsin Electric	73,000	\$2,920.00
Grand Totals	74,300	\$3,170.00

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.



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NEW BUSINESS

- None

OLD BUSINESS

- **Solids Handling:**
 - **Change Order #1:** M. O'Neill stated change order #1 was under the \$25,000 threshold and approved by the City Manager. It was for moving the waste gas burner control station, provide bollards for the waste gas and Donohue wanted to use a heavier rebar on one of the foundations. This totaled \$12,758.64.
 - **Change Order #2:** M. O'Neill stated that the removal of the unforeseen buried concrete as reported at last month's meeting totaled \$129,334.13. This is on the agenda for City Commission approval Monday the 25th. Both items are being paid for by the contingency fund.

M. O'Neill stated the project is going well. The solids' handling building is going up. The iron work for the cake storage building is in process. Concrete is being poured for the basement and the septage receiving station. The MCC's were ordered July and are not scheduled to arrive until September 2024. The project is projected to be completed and go live December 2024. Another change order will be coming soon. A sludge line that runs out to one of the liquid lines is not at the elevation stated on the plans. This line runs into a sanitary line for a new building and will need to be cut out and rerouted. G. Patrick asked how often Donohue is on site. M. O'Neill stated they are here about once a month but has contracted GEI to be onsite as needed.

- **Fire Alarm Project:** M. O'Neill stated S&T has almost all of the devices in, but the panels have not arrived yet.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

BOARD COMMENT

- G. Patrick congratulated Marquette Township on winning the best-tasting water in the state of Michigan.
- J. Compton stated the Public Works Sewer Department raised three manholes that are in the bottom of the US41 ditch. They were raised, a rubber sleeve was put in and sealed to the casting to the manhole. This should help with water infiltration.
- S. Hobbins stated the City settled the DPW Supervisor contract and the City Hall contract. They are on the Commission agenda for approval at Monday's meeting.
- L. Bodenus stated the OHM sewer capacity study was completed. It was found that it can accommodate more growth. This is good news considering the US41 Main installation. The Wright Street lift station will be able to handle the new Forestville development. There



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have also been more development interests recently which means there is a potential for significant flows from the Township to the plant in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.



Reviewed by:

Mark O'Neill

Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:

Melissa Erkkila