



MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES October 17, 2024

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:14 a.m., October 17, 2024, at the Marquette Township Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT Brad Johnson, Chocolay Township (Chair)

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

AGENDA It was moved by J. Compton, supported by S. Hobbins, to approve the agenda as written. Approved 4-0.

MINUTES It was moved by S. Hobbins, supported by J. Compton, to approve the September 19, 2024, meeting minutes as written. Approved 4-0.

FINANCIAL

- **Financial Report**

M. Schlicht, City of Marquette, presented the Financial Report. M. Schlicht stated this is the preliminary view of the end of the fiscal year. All of the amounts are prior to the end of fiscal year adjustments. Revenue still needs to be adjusted for September as well as the true up bill that you will be receiving around January or February. Most of the budget is in green so we have not gone over budget for the year, which is fantastic. The line items that are over budget are minor other than the items that are being capitalized. We do have some larger costs in Professional and Contractual as well as in the Capital Outlay funds. Once those are capitalized, they will be moved from the statement to the balance sheet and we will begin recognizing those as costs for the life of the asset. Everything should fall in line for the end of the fiscal year.



OPERATIONS REPORT

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

PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH:

- **PERMIT COMPLIANCE:** We had one pH permit violation during the month of September. M. O'Neill stated it has been contributed to a reduction in a digester to replace some piping. To do this we had to process a large amount of biosolids. The side streams are full of ammonia, so when we nitrify that in the aeration tanks, we use up alkalinity. Lake Superior is low in alkalinity so when this happens, our pH drops. Our previous permit was at 6.0 but the current permit is 6.5 creating a violation. G. Patrick asked if this piping job was a part of the construction project. M. O'Neill stated it was not. The valves were from the 1979 project and unable to operate anymore. So, we installed piping and stainless steel valves that cost about \$1,300.

PLANT NOTES:

- Plant Operator Adam Kiddle and his wife Natalie welcomed their daughter Josie to their family a few weeks ago. Congratulations to the new family unit!
- VanDamme began hauling liquid biosolids on August 12th and has continued since.
- The output signal to our SCADA system for the plant's Influent Flowmeter has begun to fail. The daily totalizer function of the flowmeter is still operating properly, which allows us to take daily readings and manually calculate the daily flow totals. A new meter is on the way.
- Prime Specialty Contracting completed the replacement of valves and piping for Digester #3's supernatant selector.
- Staff replaced backup power supply batteries in two of our Aeration Blowers.
- Kraft was on site to perform routine maintenance on both units. They also performed a scheduled engine coolant replacement procedure.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	1,100	\$250.00
Wisconsin Electric	19,000	\$760.00
Grand Totals	20,100	\$1,010.00

NEW BUSINESS

- None



Charter Township of Chocolay

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OLD BUSINESS

- **Solids Handling Project:** M. O'Neill stated the MCC panels was scheduled to arrive at the end of the month. They have extended it to February because the main factory is in Fayetteville, NC as well as the port strike. They tried to push it to November or December. The start up is tied to that.

A possible issue with the storm sewer that was installed has developed. M. O'Neill provided a visual assessment to the board. The installation verses the site plan is off by fourteen inches and causing water to back up. If the contractor had done a field assessment, a change order could have been processed to correct the issue. The pipe was also installed backwards causing it to go uphill. The only solution is to dig it up and redo it. The pipe will be installed correctly, another pipe will need to be raised two inches and then repaved. A piece of reinforced concrete piping also needs to be replaced due to the age of it. We are waiting for an estimate from GEI. J. Compton recommended concrete be placed back in there if possible due to heavy equipment. The contingency fund has plenty of money available for this. Startup is now expected to occur in January.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

BOARD COMMENT

- J. Compton asked about the deposition M. O'Neill attended. M. O'Neill stated he was asked if he inspected the separator at the dental office and what occurred during his inspection. This is due to a conflict between the lessee and the building owner.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Reviewed by:

Mark O'Neill

Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:

Melissa Erkkila