



MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES October 21, 2021

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, October 21, 2021 at the Marquette Township Hall.

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
Melissa Erkkila, 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 September 16, 2021 meeting minutes as written. Approved 5-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT SEPTEMBER

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

- Balance Sheet: M. Schlicht stated the fiscal year ended September 30. The FY21 statement is preliminary but appears to be in line with the budget.
- Revenue Sheet: Operating right on budget.
- Expenditures: Expenditures are down \$300,000 due to the pension expense reporting adjustment.
- Reserves: M. Schlicht stated that \$300,000 is transferred annually to the Wastewater reserve fund. She asked that any expenditures that need to come out of the reserves instead of the operational fund be brought to her attention for consideration. M. O'Neill stated \$79,000 of capitol outlay for the SCADA system will need to be rolled over into



the next fiscal year for network switches that need to be purchased once IT completes their process.

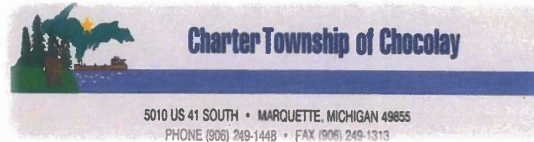
- M. O'Neill stated he met with the State Representative for SRF regarding the Solids Handling project. No loan forgiveness will be offered next year. If the Federal Government moves forward with infrastructure project funding, the state will apply it to the 2023 SRF. Our options are to enter the SRF the end of 2022 or 1st quarter of 2023.

PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH

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

PLANT NOTES

- Pam Greenleaf has retired. We wish her the best and we will all miss her and the huge help she has been to all of us. We welcome her replacement, Melissa. It is great to have someone to continue to fill this invaluable role for us.
- On a similar note, Neil Traye, a WWTP operator since 2002, has taken the role of WFP Supervisor. Even though we will remain in close contact, his absence at our facility will be significant. The gap left in handling the biosolids removal program alone will be a tough one to fill. In the meantime, he will continue to assist us in this role.
- 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. We conducted additional testing of the Prison effluent for two weeks due to the ideal nature of the site: a specific source of wastewater flow with a known population of COVID positive subjects provided the potential for a direct correlation between test results and real-world conditions.
- VanDamme finished hauling all our biosolids cake to the Kempker farm. The total haul out was about 918 cubic yards. VanDamme continues to haul our liquid biosolids.
- Prime Contracting performed preventative repairs to potable water lines inside the facility. Leaking and corroded fittings were replaced on the main water line coming into the plant.
- Staff attended the 65th annual MWEA Section 21 UP Wastewater Operator's conference.
- Another round of W.E.T. (Whole Effluent Toxicity) sampling was completed. Results are pending.
- Kraft performed routine maintenance on both CoGen units. While they were on site, Unit 1 experienced another internal catastrophic mechanical failure. It will be out of service until repairs can be completed. Unit 2 remains in operation.



INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR SEPTEMBER:

➤ Fabick/Cat	1,800 gallons, for \$250.00
➤ LS&I	4,200 gallons, for \$546.00
➤ Enbridge Energy	6,600 gallons, for \$858.00
➤ W.E. leachate:	119,000 gallons, for \$3570.00
➤ Total monthly revenue:	\$5224.00

- M. Brumm requested an update at the next meeting regarding what Enbridge Energy was doing that required a disposal and if it was related to the pipeline.

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

- Preventive Maintenance Work Orders: Staff continues to work on the backlog of work orders. D. Johnston believes that more work orders are being completed than this time last year. M. O'Neill stated they expect to be at full staff in January and intend preventative maintenance to increase.

OLD BUSINESS

- TELP Review: The Wastewater Treatment Plant received \$3,193,096 worth of capital improvements out of the \$26,771,432 total project costs. That is approximately 11.9% of the total project. In turn, 11.9% of the yearly lease payment is charged to the WWTP. The total payback of \$4,344,613 is with the lease amortized at 2.74% for 19 years (i.e. through FY37). At the time these improvements were performed, the WWTP did not incur any expenditures for the capitol outlay. These payments are a way to recognize the expense of the asset over the term of the lease. It would be a very similar accounting relationship if the WWTP were to purchase these improvements and then recognize depreciation through FY37. H. Hayes questioned why the amortization schedule fluctuates. M. Schlicht explained the payment amount each year is dictated by TELP and she follow up.

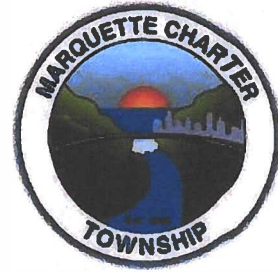
NEW BUSINESS

- 2022 Proposed Meeting Schedule: M. O'Neill requested a discussion to change the November 17, 2022 date. M. Brumm suggested the week before, November 10, 2022. It was moved by M. Brumm to approve the 2022 Meeting Schedule with the change to November 10, 2022 and supported by L. Bodenus. Approved 5-0



Charter Township of Chocolay

5010 US 41 SOUTH • MARQUETTE MICHIGAN 49855
PHONE (906) 249-1448 • FAX (906) 249-1313



BOARD COMMENT

- M. Brumm stated she joined a voluntary PFAS Citizen Advisory Response Board for the State of Michigan and is astonished by the number of people involved and their desire to force Michigan manufacturers to change their labeling on how much PFAS is in their product. She suggested the PFAS board investigate where the product is going because each jurisdiction has different labeling requirements. M. O'Neill stated it is now a requirement for the WWTP to be tested every year for PFAS.
- H. Hayes requested an update on the cigarette butt collection. M. Brumm stated in the last two months, The Lake Superior Partnership and the City of Marquette has collected 26 lbs. of cigarette butts and shipped them to a recycling plant in Illinois. They process them into a resin and make lawn furniture.
- B. Johnson stated the Chocolay lift stations project is nearing completion. Lift stations #1, #2 and #3 are currently online, #4 is in place and currently being bypassed, #5 is expected to be set and plumbed into the forced main next week along with placing #4 online. Flow meters are up and running, SCADA software is in process.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Mark O'Neill

Reviewed by:

Mark O'Neill

Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:

Melissa Erkkila