

MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES November 9, 2023

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:00 a.m., November 9, 2023, at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

ROLL CALL

- PRESENT** Brad Johnson, Chocolay Township (Chair)
Leonard Bodenus, Marquette Township
Jim Compton, City of Marquette
Sean Hobbins, City of Marquette
- ABSENT** George Patrick, City of Marquette
- OTHERS** Mark O'Neill, City of Marquette
Melissa Erkkila, City of Marquette
- AGENDA** It was moved by S. Hobbins, supported by L. Bodenus to approve the agenda.
Approved 4-0.
- MINUTES** It was moved by S. Hobbins, supported by J. Compton to approve the October 19, 2023, meeting minutes as written. Approved 4-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT

M. O'Neill, City of Marquette, presented the Financial Report.

- **Financial Report:** M. O'Neill stated the financial report is the first snapshot of the new fiscal year and standard. J. Compton asked when the new approved rate will go into effect. M. O'Neill stated and B. Johnson concurred that the new rate is effective immediately with the October 2023 bills.

OPERATIONS REPORT

M. O'Neill, City of Marquette, presented the Operations Report.

PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH(S):

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



Charter Township of Chocolay

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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.
- Kraft was on site to perform routine service to our #1 CoGen unit. They also made some slight adjustments to the tuning to improve reliability at startup on biogas.
- Staff worked to revive our waste gas burner. This equipment is vital for the safe removal of excess biogas. This situation only occurs if we have an issue with a CoGen not being able to use biogas for more than a few hours. If this excess gas is not safely burned off, it will pool up in low-lying areas. This is never desirable, but it is especially dangerous for the contractors as they work in these low-lying areas.
- VanDamme continues to haul liquid biosolids from our #2 storage tank.
- VanDamme completed haulout of all our biosolids cake. A total of 560 cubic yards were hauled to the Kempker farm. Staff may haul any new cake accrued with a Public Works truck if the weather holds and the farmer will take it.
- I completed the installation of six new dissolved oxygen probes and two new controllers in our Aeration Basins.
- Staff installed the new #2 pump in the RAS Room sump. They also cleaned out the #1 pump and its corresponding piping and check valve.
- Staff repaired a leak in the main F.E.W. supply piping in the Pre-Treatment Room.
- Staff replaced the relief valve in the water heater that serves the lab and original locker rooms.
- Staff replaced the STOP limit diaphragm switch in one of the sump stations in the Primary ADP Room. The failed switch was not telling the pumps to shut off.
- The BLP has been replacing the poles along the highway. A brief power outage was necessary when they replaced the pole that serves the plant. B. Johnson asked if there were any issues and M. O'Neill stated BLP communicated well, and everything went smoothly. Plus, the plant has previously ran during an 18-hour power outage with no permit violations. It helps the plant runs on gravity.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR OCTOBER 2023

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	2,900	\$406.00
Wisconsin Electric	55,500	\$2,220.00
Grand Totals	58,400	\$2,626.00

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.

NEW BUSINESS

- None



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OLD BUSINESS

- **Solids Handling:** M. O'Neill stated change order #3 was executed for the sludge line that goes out to the #2 liquid storage tank for \$14,968.58. The plans did not show the correct location and it was in the way. M.J. VanDamme moved the line. The original line to be installed was supposed to be a glass lined ductile pipe, but the availability was limited so the contractor requested a CPVC line be installed instead. Donohue approved the change since it is the same type of line being used after this section of pipe. Due to the expense of the glass pipe vs the CPVC, the change saved the project \$28,000. J. Compton suggested Donohue provide Engineering with as built drawings of the project on AutoCAD, if possible, and they will record it into GIS. This will help future issues with site piping locations.

M. O'Neill stated with the good weather still holding, the last big concrete pour will occur next week. Smaller pads still need to be poured but this is the last big pour needed. Then the iron work over the cake storage cover will begin. The block on the septage receiving station is starting today and then Miron will get the temporary roof panels on. The receiving station will be completed in the spring. The roof is on the solids handling building. If the weather holds, Bell Roofing will come and finish the roof. Once the buildings are enclosed, they will come back in the spring to do the rest of the digging, site restoration, and paving. This is expected to be completed around July. Once the MCC panels arrive, possibly August, they will begin wiring those in. B. Johnson asked how it has been receiving supplies overall. M. O'Neill stated the unique wastewater equipment is about six months out. The electrical equipment seems to take the longest. We are seeing this with the Fire Alarm Project as well.

- **Fire Alarm Project:** M. O'Neill stated S&T has been here almost every day. They will begin running wiring and the devices soon. All the equipment is in except for the main panel.

PUBLIC COMMENT

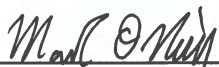
- None

BOARD COMMENT

- None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.



Reviewed by:

Mark O'Neill

Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:

Melissa Erkkila