

TECHNICAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Minutes - Monthly Meeting
WTRRF Conference Room - 700 Doty Street
Tuesday 1:30 PM, April 20, 2021

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Roll Call –Paul DeVries, Cody Schoepke, Ben Propson, Nick Leonard, Mitch Vis and. Eric Otte.

Approval of March Minutes– A motion was made by Eric Otte and seconded by Cody Schoepke to approve the March 2021 meeting minutes. The motion carried.

Communication Session

Reports on:

- **Correspondence Relating to the Regional Wastewater System
LaClare Family Creamery**
◇Eric reported that the Calumet sanitary district and LaClare have reached an agreement on the previous unsettled issues and expect a finalized agreement within the next month.
- **Records Exchange – Update of Contact List**
◇Mary received the new contact information from Nick for the new Commissioner in Empire #1.
- **Sewer or System Improvements Anticipated, in Progress or Completed (Extensions or Rehabilitations)**
◇Eric reported that the Mary Hill Park sanitary sewer rerouting will begin the week of April 26. The contractor is Kin-X Construction.
◇Paul reported that the 2021 Street and Utility work has begun on Carpenter St.
- **FP or RSAP Amendments Anticipated, in Progress or Completed**
◇None
- **Metering and Sampling**
◇Cody reported that WTRRF removed the laser meter from Johnsborg. The new radar sensor has not been installed by the contractor yet.
◇The laser meter removed from Johnsborg could be installed for use in Mary Hill Park after their project is complete. Eric thinks there's a new manhole that would be a good manhole to install the laser meter. Eric will keep Cody in the loop on this.
- **Clearwater Reduction Fund Status and Party Activity**
◇None
- **Receive Sewer Project Closeout Records and Shared Sewer Cost Calculations**
◇None
- **Distribute Updates to Regional Sewer Design and Constructions Standards and TGM Revisions**
◇None

Technical Session – Consent Agenda

Review as needed:

- **Review and evaluate new products and technology for incorporation into the standard specifications.**
- **Monitor the assessment, accumulation and use of the Clearwater Reduction Funds**
- **Maintain procedures and protocol for compliance with the Agreement**
- **Review and recommend proposed changes, revisions, clarifications, and amendments to the Parties regarding the Agreement and the TGM**
- **Consider and decide requests for specification waivers**
- **Prepare appropriate specification amendments**
- **Review shared sewer cost calculations for compliance with TGM procedures**
Conduct review of proposed revisions to the 2000 RSAP to identify potential regional impacts

Additional Items

- **WTRRF Operations Update**
 - ◇ Ben reported the Biorem cleanout was performed. The sulfur that was removed was land applied.
 - ◇ Primary clarifier sludge is now being pumped directly into the digesters. Previously it was pumped to a separate tank and then pumped to the digesters. The results have been good. This new change allows for more tank space.
 - ◇ The plant had a peak flow of 20mgd during the 1” rain event at the end of March. The plant had a peak flow of 13mgd for the ½” rain event last week.
 - ◇ The UV disinfection system will be back for seasonal operation beginning the first week of May. UV disinfection does not occur during the winter months when temperatures are not conducive to bacteria growth.
 - ◇ Biosolids dewatering has been producing great results. The cake that’s hauled for land application has been at 25%-26% solids, a very dry cake. This results in reduced hauling charges.

Clearwater Reduction - Continued Discussion from January Meeting

This item will remain on the agenda for the May meeting.

- **2022-2026 WTRRF CIP**
 - ◇ Cody distributed a timeline and summary of the planned CIP projects. He explained the adjustments in the timeline for the CIP.
 - ◇ The Excess Flow Rehab and Mixed Liquor Splitter Structure have been pushed back to 2024-2025. They were originally scheduled to begin in 2022. If WTRRF qualifies for the MDV extension, which WTRRF will apply for next summer, then the extension would take WTRRF to February or March of 2027, instead of having to reach the lower phosphorus limits by the spring of 2023.
 - ◇ The Filter, EQ Tank and Head Works Pump Upgrade have been pushed back to 2025-2026. Continued improvements made in the collection system and consistent Bio-P operations have made this possible.

◇The Biosolids project cannot be pushed back. It's essential to move forward with this because more and more farmers are planting crops that prohibit WTRRF from being able to land apply biosolids, and thereby WTRRF incurs increased dewatering, hauling and disposal charges. The installation of a dryer will decrease the amount of biosolids by approximately 70%-75%. Additionally, the biosolids will be a Class A product, providing more options for reuse and disposal. Preliminary design will begin in 2021 and the majority of design in 2022. Construction would begin in 2022 and be complete in 2023. This will be funded by a Clean Water Fund loan.

◇Nick asked if there is a dollar amount estimate for the operational savings of the Biosolids project. Cody replied that hauling costs would be reduced by approximately \$350,000 to \$400,000. Cody said the goal is not to have any hauling costs.

◇Nick also asked if any of the funds from the Covid Relief American Rescue Plan could be used in WTRRF. Cody has a list of things he'd like to use this money for but the decision will come from the US Treasury guidelines and Comptroller approval. The monies must be spent by the end of 2024.

- **2000 Wastewater Agreement Revisions**

◇Eric and Nick received an electronic copy of the agreement with comments from WTRRF for review prior to the meeting. WTRRF received their comments prior to the April meeting and the following items were discussed at the April meeting:

◇1.0 - It was agreed that "Exceedance" and "MDL" should be added to the "Definitions" section of the agreement.

◇1.33 – Who has the updated TGM? No one knows who has the electronic copy. The TGM may have to be retyped.

◇4.1 – Eric asked if there is an updated RSAP map to include in Exhibit 1 of the agreement.

◇4.1 - Eric said there are connection points that need to be updated so if the RSAP map is being updated, the connection points should be too.

◇4.1 – Eric said Exhibit 1 has errors in it and suggested the TSC should meet to go over it.

◇4.1 – Paul said the RSAP map is in AutoCad right now and suggested putting that into the GIS system. Paul asked who maintains the mapping for the sanitary district boundaries. Eric said there is a GIS layer on the Fond du Lac County website that shows all the sanitary districts but doesn't know how accurate it is. Eric said he does have the majority of the sanitary district boundaries in AutoCad. Eric will get those to Paul. Paul will have City GIS personnel work on incorporating the files from Eric and will email a link to review the updates in advance of the May meeting.

◇5.3.1 – Each district should know what their present capacity is. Eric will meet with Riley from R.A. Smith next week to discuss the interceptor capacity and connection points. They will also go over the numbers in Exhibit 2. Eric will bring the updated version of Exhibit 1 to the May TSC meeting.

◇5.3.1 – It was agreed to keep the 2000 column and add a 2021 column to Exhibit 1.

◇5.3.3.1 – It was agreed that the word "charge" should not be used with "clearwater reduction"

- ◇5.3.3.1 – The existing language states the MDL for each connection point must be recalculated quarterly. Cody asked if this could be done annually instead?
- ◇Nick said there is already a timeline listed for this in 10.7.2
- ◇6.2.1.7 – There was agreement that an administrative fee equal to 2% of eligible construction costs is still valid.
- ◇10.7 – It was agreed to change the heading to “Clearwater Reduction”
- ◇10.7.1 – It was agreed “Charges” should be removed from the heading and replaced with “Investments.”
- ◇10.7.1.1 – It was agreed that more than 4 exceedances would trigger a clearwater investment.
- ◇It was agreed that the number of exceedances that would trigger a clearwater investment could be adjusted upon review and discussion by the TSC.
- ◇10.7.1.2 – It was agreed that the sanitary districts would have the MDL returned by the February TSC meeting.
- ◇10.7.1.2 - It was agreed that the City would provide the number of exceedances for the prior three year to the sanitary districts by February of each year.
- ◇10.7.1.2 – It was agreed that the sanitary districts would need to provide their plans for investments in the current year, to the TSC for review by March 31 for review at the April TSC meeting.
- ◇10.7.1.2 - There should be a form with approved practices listed on it that would be given to the sanitary districts to select from. Ben suggested adding a column to the form that asks if the sanitary district completed their projects from the previous year.
- ◇10.7.1.2 - It was agreed that the sanitary districts will need to provide valid documentation of their clearwater investments in the prior year, to the City, by March 31 of each year.
- ◇10.7.3 – It was agreed that 4 or less exceedances would qualify a sanitary district for the Clearwater Reduction Investment Exemption.
- ◇10.8 – It was agreed to change the heading to “System Maintenance”, removing the word “Minimum”.
- ◇10.8 – It was agreed to remove the minimum funding level amounts from the language. Paul said this will be discussed again at the May TSC meeting. It was suggested to add language that encourages system maintenance and sewer cleaning.
- ◇11.2.5.1 – It was suggested to add language that states when the TSC would review the sanitary district’s prior year exceedances.
- ◇14.2.2 – Does the 61% need to be recalculated and the % updated?

Adjournment

◇A motion to adjourn was made by Nick Leonard and seconded by Cody Schoepke. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for **May 18, 2021**.