

TECHNICAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
MONTHLY MEETING
WCTS Conference Room
700 Doty Street
Tuesday 1:30 PM, February 21, 2017

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 1:33 p.m.

Roll Call – Present were Autumn Fisher, Nick Leonard, and Paul DeVries. Jordan Skiff and Eric Otte were absent and excused.

Approval of December Minutes– A motion was made by Nick Leonard and seconded by Autumn Fisher to approve the January 2017 meeting minutes. The motion carried.

Communication Session

Reports on:

- **Correspondence Relating to the Regional Wastewater System**
◊None
- **Records Exchange – Update of Contact List**
◊None
- **Sewer or System Improvements Anticipated, in Progress or Completed (Extensions or Rehabilitations)**
 - ◊ Nick reported that sludge has been removed from the area around the North Fond du Lac meter, both upstream and downstream. Great Lakes jetted the line and vacuumed out approximately three yards of sludge.
 - ◊ Paul reported that Visu Sewer would be doing the lining, beginning in April. They will be doing spot excavation first and then the lining will begin. Target areas will be West Johnson Street where there are structural pipe issues and Basins #28 and #31.
- **FP or RSAP Amendments Anticipated, in Progress or Completed**
- **Metering and Sampling**
 - ◊ Autumn reported a problem with the meter for Empire #3. (CR K & Fourth St.) The meter is not communicating with the transducer and not recording flows. The transducer is relatively new and should be covered by warranty. The Plant Electrician checked the problem out but couldn't find anything. B & M Technical services will be contacted by the City to address the problem.
 - ◊ Nick suggested that the metering stations be included with Diggers Hotline polygons. He thought it would be prudent because the City maintains the metering stations and there have been times when the City was not notified when work has been done in or around the stations and damaged has occurred.
 - ◊ Paul said the new flow meters have been installed. Software needs to be installed to complete the installation and then the meters will be placed on-line.
- **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
- **Review Prior Activity**
◊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

- **WCTS Operations Update**
 - ◊Maintenance personnel have been busy with equipment replacement. A new sludge pump arrived this week. This will improve the sludge handling capabilities. The old air diaphragm pumps and air compressors are problematic and will be replaced.
 - ◊Biological Phosphorus Removal (BPR) is going well and producing excellent results. No chemical has been fed for over 30 days.
 - ◊Autumn was contacted by Ovivo, the North American representative for Paques. They are interested in conducting a pilot study at the plant, using a membrane for tertiary effluent treatment. The pilot will begin in March. This may benefit the plant with phosphorus removal.
 - ◊The second of three meetings sponsored by Lake Winnebago Quality Improvement Association (LWQIA) regarding watersheds will be held Thursday evening, February 23, in Oakfield, Wi.
 - ◊Autumn will be meeting next week with Elizabeth Lillard, from the National Wildlife Foundation. She will help us in coordinating a water trading or adaptive management program, at no cost. Paul Tollard, Fond du Lac County Conservation Department and Greg Olsen, Sand County Foundation will also be involved.
 - ◊The renaming of the plant was approved by the City Council on February 8, 2017.
- **ECWRPC Update of SSA**
 - ◊Paul said that City staff met with Joe Huffman in February to go over population projections and boundary areas. The mapping showed that the City would not have enough population to expand into the growth area, based on the agreement that was worked out with the townships. Joe Huffman has met with many of the sanitary districts. Nick said he has not been contacted by Joe. The Boundary Agreement was signed off on by the City Council earlier this year.

- **Deammonification Status Update**

◇Autumn had conversations with City staff and a financial advisor who works with Strand Associates in evaluating financing options. Based on those discussions, the City has elected to finance this project, rather than use cash reserves. Interest rates favor such an election at this time. The City scored high on the Priority Evaluation Ranking Formula (PERF). This makes the City eligible for approximately \$650,000 in principal forgiveness.

◇Nick had several questions for Autumn. What is driving the need for this project and what is the term of the loan? Autumn will prepare a summary and email that to Nick. Autumn said the design phase would be complete in fall; the project will be bid in early winter, with the project to begin in spring 2018.

- **Multi-Discharger Variance**

◇The Multi-Discharger Variance was approved. The City is still waiting for the TMDL to be completed. The variance allows more time for the City to reach the phosphorus limit. Strand Associates recommends the variance approach at this time. The City would have three permit cycles to meet the Water Quality Based Effluent Limit (WQBEL). Each permit term would have the limit step down; 0.8, 0.6, 0.5 and then go to the TMDL limit. Any discharges over the TMDL limit would then be assessed a fine of \$50 for each pound of phosphorus discharged that is over the limit. The annual cap on the fine is \$640,000. For the first permit cycle, fines would be assessed on the difference between 0.8 and .04. The second cycle would be the difference between 0.6 and .04 and the third permit cycle would be the difference between 0.5 and .04. The City would have options to trade for those pounds to get closer to the .04, which means penalties would be less. The monies collected from the City fines are then distributed to areas in the watershed to pay for improvements. Autumn said our current permit expires this year and the 0.8 could go into effect in 2018. The Fond du Lac Regional Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Facility would need to meet the .04 limit by 2022. Autumn said the variance application is presently being worked on and should be submitted and accepted by June 2018. The TMDL should also be known by that time.

Adjournment

◇A motion to adjourn was made by Paul De Vries and seconded by Nick Leonard. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2017.