

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LEWISTON-AUBURN WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

The regular meeting of the Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority was held on Thursday September 15, 2022 at 7:30 a.m. at the Authority offices at 535 Lincoln St. Lewiston.

Directors Present: Dan Goyette
 Mark Adams
 Jeff Beaulé
 Mary Ann Brenchick
 Norm Lamie
 Sid Hazelton
 Steve Ness

Directors Absent: n/a

General Manager: Travis Peaslee

Assistant General Manager: Absent

Secretary: Candace Taylor

Treasurer: Ralph Lenfestey

Mark Adams called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Megan McDevitt and Barry Sheff from Woodard & Curran and Glenn Adams from Sargent presented their conceptual design report and recommendations for next steps. The subcommittee will be scheduling a follow up meeting soon to discuss the final report and hope to come back to the October Board meeting with their recommendations.

Mary Ann Brenchick and Dan Goyette left the meeting at 8:55 A.M.

Minutes

Norm Lamie made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 12, 2022 regular meeting. Sid Hazelton seconded, all others approved and the minutes were placed on file.

Financial Reports

Travis Peaslee gave a brief overview of the financials. Norm Lamie made a motion to accept the financial reports. Steve Ness seconded. All approved and the motion passed.

After a brief overview of the Cost Apportionment, Norm Lamie made a motion to set fourth quarter Cost appointment 63% Lewiston, 37% Auburn. Steve Ness seconded. All approved and the motion passed.

Public Comment- None

Report from Cities/Sewer Districts- Sid Hazelton mentioned that sewer rates in Auburn would be increasing by 9.5% this year.

General Manager's Report-

Travis gave a brief update on the monthly operating reports, and noted that operationally things are going smoothly. Septic receiving is more than budgeted for the month, YTD we are 706,695 gallons or \$84,803 over budget. Travis is unsure what is driving the significant increase but plans to discuss with haulers a bit to try to understand it.

Old Business

Biosolids & PFAS- DEP is planning to start sampling our effluent for PFAS soon. They intend to finalize a plan and submit it to all dischargers. We expect sampling to start in October. Travis has been working with MEWEA and DEP on a communication plan once this data becomes publicly visible.

Travis had a meeting with DEP, IF&W and Ag Dept to discuss the possibility of them using our compost facility to compost PFAS impacted animal carcasses. A better plan would be for them to bring the milk to LAWPCA for disposal into the Digester which would boost the energy. The Ag Dept is supposed to be contacting Travis to be discussed further.

Travis met with the DEP last month and didn't make much progress other than to express concerns over how we respond to the upcoming effluent sampling results and to discuss a possible state funded study that will help the regulators, legislators, and utilities to better understand the full breadth of PFAS impacts and to start working towards solutions. Travis is working closely with the SRF group to explore the possibility of LAWPCA taking the lead on an SRF funded study to look at all of this. We will know whether or not this is feasible by October or November.

Travis is continuing discussions with the Hartland landfill, has been evaluating a Hydrothermal carbonization (HTC) solution with Brown & Caldwell, and had a meeting with Waste Management who is looking to build infrastructure to provide a regional solution. The Waste Management details are fairly vague because we won't sign their NDA, but Travis feels he has a decent sense of what they are looking to do. Travis plans to stay in communication with them and will keep the subcommittee updated, and if necessary, we may need to sign the NDA to be able to better understand if this is something we want to consider pursuing or not. They anticipate needing to have deeper level discussions and possible commitments by early spring 2023. Travis had a meeting with Casella and was able to negotiate an amendment to our contract price from \$134.75/ton to \$124.75/ton. He is still having active conversations with different technology vendors, landfill operators, and the DEP, so we probably need to start scheduling more frequent biosolids subcommittee meetings to decide what we do and do not want to be pursuing.

Closed Landfill Ownership: Jeff and John obtained approval for the subdivision from the Lewiston Financial Committee, the Planning Board, and City Council last month. The plan is to now create 1 lot with the now two LAWPCA parcels. We will need an easement to use the gravel parking lot and for sewer access to the city pump station. Travis is working with Titcomb to finalize the record drawing and draft up easement language. We then plan to have Skelton, Taintor & Abbott develop then register the

deed. CMA is getting DEP pre-approval for the license changes before we register the deed and will then process the license changes after the deed is registered. That should wrap this project up.

Bar Screen Project: Project is going well and the first of the two screens was removed on September 7th. The contractor is doing some concrete repair and installing some new structural steel and should be installing the new screen on September 21st. We are trying to schedule a start-up date, but at this point it may be as late as the 10th of October before we can get Headworks personnel onsite. We did submit an RFP to the contractor for installation of new windows in the bar screen room and screenings garage. This project was listed on our 2022 CIP, but probably makes the most sense to just have the contractor handle that work while they are already in the space working. With only one screen online during this project, we are hoping for smooth and quick work from the contractor. We did ask to keep the removed screen onsite in case any parts are needed for the remaining unit.

LAWPCA Branding: We discussed a possible name change at the last board meeting, and have since pulled together some possible options. We ran each of the options by our staff and even asked for new suggestions. We got no new suggestions and the consensus being in favor of LAWRRF or LACWA. (LAWRRF: Lewiston Auburn Water Resource Recovery Facility, LACWA: Lewiston Auburn Clean Water Authority) these two were the clear favorites. At this point, we would like the Board to weigh in. Travis will send the Charter to the Board and then provide name change information to the board to think about before the next meeting. Travis plans to bring the charter and name change considerations back for the October meeting, then submit it all for a proposed legislative change in November after the election.

Incoming power project: CMP has nearly all of their equipment up and ready, including primary wires pulled. EII has all their conduits in and plans to install the secondary wiring the week of September 12th. CMP is currently scheduled to set the new transformer on September 20th. Once that arrives, we will schedule the facility shutdown for installation of the remaining junction boxes and secondary cable connections. We are planning to rent a stand-by generator to have onsite for the duration of the 8+ hour shut down and will also have AC Electric onsite at the same time to perform gear PM while it is offline.

New Business:

Wastewater monitoring program: Black & Veatch is partnering with Verily on a national initiative to sign up wastewater treatment plants to participate in a sampling program for COVID-19, Monkeypox, and other viral pathogens with a pandemic potential. Their goal is not only to develop nationwide standards, but also to establish a framework to establish early warning platforms. They are targeting facilities with populations over 25,000 and have somewhere between 50-100 already participating. Travis has checked with PWD and they just began this program last week. Stipends are available to offset labor costs of gathering samples. We would be paid \$150/ sample, totaling up to \$23,400 annually if we provide the samples 3 day/week they are requesting. The study is currently set to run for 12 months and would require us to enter in to an agreement to provide samples for the specified period. All sampling materials and prepaid shipping packages would be provided. The ask of us would be to obtain samples, package them, store them under refrigeration until the pickup, send out samples 3x/week, and invoice Verily monthly. We currently do this same thing 2 times/week as part of the CDC covid study so don't see this as being overly burdensome. All results would be posted to a publicly viewable website. Travis needs to review the agreement closer but was ok conceptually with

participating if the board is comfortable with the results/information being somewhat out of our control. Travis will send the agreement to the Board Chair for review.

Solar Project: ECENERGY stated that the Brown project currently has a very low chance of getting built. At the transmission level, the project's cluster has moved through the I.3.9 phase, but CMP still has not determined how this cluster of projects will interconnect without +\$4.7m in transmission upgrade costs and 5–7-year timeline to interconnect the project. On the distribution side, CMP recently estimated that the project will require +\$2.3 million in distribution upgrade costs. Lastly, the site's landowner has grown impatient and wants to terminate the site control. Travis recommended that we wait for more clarity from CMP on the project's interconnection costs, knowing that the chance of success is very low, but that we aren't out anything and could always terminate the contract at any point in the future if we don't see progress.

Other Business:

Staff: We have hired anew mechanic and new operator so are finally back to full stuff.

Safety Works inspection: We requested and received a courtesy safety works inspection on September 1st. We try to do them every 3 years to address issues proactively. We haven't received the final report, but the inspector appeared very happy with our written programs and only had a few items he noted we need to address within the facility. Once we have the final report, we will address all the small items immediately and will then add to the budget any larger items.

October Board Meeting: Travis is planning to have all board members arrive at the compost facility at 7:30 a.m. on October 14th for a quick tour, then head back to the treatment facility for an 8:15 board meeting.

Adjourn:

Steve Ness made a motion to adjourn. Norm Lamie seconded. All approved and the motion passed.

Attest



Travis B. Peaslee, General Manager