

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 September 8, 2023, at 7:30 a.m. at the Authority offices at 535 Lincoln St
Lewiston

Directors Present: Norm Lamie
Dan Goyette
Mark Adams
Steve Ness
Mike Broadbent

Directors Absent: Jeff Beaulé
Mary Ann Brenchick

General Manager: Travis Peaslee

Assistant General Manager: Paula Drouin

Secretary: Paula Drouin

Treasurer: absent

Norm Lamie called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Dan Goyette made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 11, 2023, meeting. Mike Broadbent seconded, all others approved, and the minutes were placed on file.

Financial Reports

Travis Peaslee reviewed the financial reports. Dan Goyette made a motion to approve the financial reports. Mike Broadbent seconded, all others approved, and the motion passed.

Mike Broadbent made a “**motion to approve a \$250,000 1-year CD at Auburn Savings**”. Dan Goyette seconded, all others approved, and the motion passed.

Cost Apportionment

Travis Peaslee reported on influent BOD/TSS data. Travis commented that the Authority has been seeing two to three times as much grit as normal. Mike Broadbent commented that Auburn has done some investigations but has not found anything that would indicate additional solids loading. Travis commented that the Authority will be flushing the grit observed in the Lewiston influent line. There was a brief discussion about monitoring that influent line more often. Mike

Broadbent made a motion to set Q4 cost apportionment at 60% Lewiston/ 40% Auburn. Mark Adams seconded, all approved, and the motion passed.

Public Comment

No members of the public were present, and no public comments were received.

Report from Cities/Sewer Districts

Mike Broadbent reported that the city of Auburn completed their lining project and are currently doing camera work to make plans for next year's lining projects. Their vacor truck is 10 years old and has been out of service for the past couple of weeks. Mike commented that the water district will be getting a new vacor truck.

General Manager Report

Biosolids Delivery

Travis Peaslee reported that LAWPCA produced 542 yds of material in August. Most was delivered directly to Hartland and all remaining material at the compost facility was removed.

Anaerobic Digestion & Cogeneration

Travis Peaslee reported that things are operating well at the digestion complex. Both co-generation units are operational and fair amounts of gas and power were produced, but more feedstocks would be beneficial.

Septic Receiving

Travis Peaslee reported that 455,450 gallons of septic was discharged in August, which is 71,950 gallons or \$8,634 more than budgeted. Year-to-date: 606,400 gallons or \$72,768 more than budgeted.

Effluent Quality

Travis Peaslee reported that effluent quality is good but there were multiple severe wet weather events which delivered a steady amount of rain over the entire month, resulting in three influent bypass events and one secondary bypass event. There were no effluent violations.

Dan Goyette made a motion to put the operations report on file, Mike Broadbent seconded, all others approved, and the report was placed on file.

Old Business

Biosolids & PFAS

Travis Peaslee reported that the statewide comprehensive biosolids study is underway and he is representing MEWEA and working with the DEP and Brown & Caldwell.

Travis Peaslee reported that staff are still working on biosolids handling trials that may eventually lead to some infrastructure changes. He will keep the Board updated.

Travis Peaslee reported that SME provided the final report for the Lewiston Landfill waste mix study as well as the results of the gas generation study and that all reports have been submitted to the DEP. A pre-application meeting has been requested.

Travis Peaslee reported that the compost facility spring ground water monitoring results were submitted to the DEP in June and Authority staff does not need to pump the biofilter any longer unless bi-annual test data show increases in groundwater nitrate.

Travis Peaslee reported that the required effluent PFAS sampling program is nearly done. DEP requested participation in a phase II voluntary testing program, and the Authority agreed. There was also a request from Friends of Merry Meeting Bay to take a sample of effluent for PFAS testing. They were informed of the DEP program but would still like to take their own samples. There was a brief Board discussion, including acknowledgement that PFAS sampling methods are difficult and prone to error. It was decided that the DEP sampling and data is sufficient and Friends of Merry Meeting Bay will be advised to use those data.

CSO Project:

Travis Peaslee reported that the RFP was put out on August 14th and a mandatory pre-bid meeting was held on August 30th where there appeared to be two to three DB teams, as well as subcontractors and vendors. A project timeline was sent to the two cities. Initial concept presentations are expected October 12th.

Travis Peaslee reported that the influent pump project was awarded to the Sebago/AECOM team last month. EII was onsite September 7th to scope and price out the installation, which will hopefully be available for the October board meeting.

Public Relations Project

Travis Peaslee reported that the subcommittee continues to work with Black Fly Media and presented the subcommittee's proposal for a new facility name and logo. It was decided to table it until the October meeting when all board members are present.

Auburn Property Solar Request

Travis Peaslee reported that no response has been received from the AG's office regarding the 15-acre conservation easement, so resolution is not expected until at least the October board meeting.

Travis Peaslee reported that the property transfer closed on August 31st which provides Roger Gauthier with two 10-acre parcels, and the Authority with full ownership of the access road.

New Business

Industrial Pretreatment: Travis Peaslee reported that no public comment was received regarding the aluminum local limits. The DEP has approved the local limit determination and Travis has worked with Auburn Manufacturing on a compliance schedule. Mike Broadbent made a “**motion to approve the allocated local limit on Aluminum of 325 mg/l for Auburn Manufacturing Incorporated, and 75 mg/l for all other Significant Industrial Users (SIU)**”. Dan Goyette seconded, all others approved, and the motion passed.

Bates Sampling: Travis Peaslee reported that Bates biology students will be collecting samples from various points on the Androscoggin River and plan to isolate DNA and use sequencing and computational analysis to identify the major bacterial species present in each sample and can compare how the bacterial populations change along the river. They requested that the Authority provide them with one influent and one effluent sample for use in the project. There was a brief discussion, and it was decided that this would be allowed, provided the samples are used only for the purposes stated above and that the results are deemed unofficial and not able to be reported in any formal study or document. Paula Drouin will communicate this to the course instructor.

Mark Adams made a motion to enter executive session at 8:18 a.m. Steve Ness seconded, all others approved, and the Board entered executive session.

The Board exited executive session at 8:28

Adjourn

Dan Goyette made a motion to adjourn at 8:28, Steve Ness seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

Attest



Travis B. Peaslee, General Manager