

**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 via Zoom on Friday, June 12, 2020 at 7:30 a.m.

Directors Present:	Sid Hazelton Norm Lamie Pete Preble Mark Adams Denis D'Auteuil Dale Doughty Peter Crichton
Absent:	N/A
Interim Superintendent:	Travis Peaslee
Assistant Superintendent:	N/A
Secretary:	Candace Taylor
Treasurer:	Ralph Lenfestey

Mark Adams called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

**Minutes**

Pete Preble made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 8, 2020 regular meeting. Norm Lamie seconded, all approved, and the minutes were placed on file.

**Consent Agenda**

Sid Hazelton made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Dale Doughty seconded and the motion passed.

**Financial Reports**

After a quick review of the financial reports, Peter Crichton made a motion to accept the Financial Reports. Norm Lamie seconded and the motion passed.

Sid Hazelton made a motion to set third quarter Cost Apportionment to Lewiston 64% Auburn 36%. Dale Doughty seconded and the motion passed.

**Old Business:**

**ACA Update-** Biofilter closure project was completed and came out really well. SME will develop and provide to the Department the required final closure report. Monthly and semiannual inspections and reporting still need to be done. (Liquid level checks in collection system, annual mowing, etc.) The only other items to wrap up the ACA is the SEP that Auburn Sewer will begin next week, Monday or Tuesday on Route 4. Jim Pollack has been kept up to speed and Sid will take photos after job is complete.

**PFAS and Biosolids-** Travis had a zoom meeting with Carla Hopkins and Jim Pollack of the DEP to discuss where things were at with PFAS. Nothing new has changed and Carla expects things to stay the same through June 2021. The department is in the process of adding new testing wells in addition to using existing wells at five land application sites to gather additional data in order to evaluate model parameters to better determine risk so that they can do a risk/benefit analysis. With impacts from the pandemic it is uncertain whether or not the Department will be able to continue current levels of PFAS testing which could extend this already lengthy process.

We removed 836 yards of material at the Barker Farm Pad and will be leaving the remaining material till next spring. At that point the stockpile will be cleaned out. We will finish the Libby Farm this month then will need to return to landfill until we can apply some hay fields starting late August through September. After that we will have to either return to landfill or start up the compost facility.

The Auburn agreements have been merged into one document that would be good contract to work with and has been sent to Eric Cousens. We are waiting to hear what the next steps are with the planning board or City council.

The third round of compost facility groundwater PFAS testing happened on May 26, expect results back before the end of June. The second round of data indicated no elevated levels in the drinking water supply, but we will need to see what the round three results show. We did see elevated levels in dug well down stream of detention pond #2, so if that remains elevated, we will likely need to address that if we decide to continue operation at the compost facility.

Compost facility operation- license amendments are going up the chain at DEP for approval and we were expecting that by the end of May but that didn't happen so have inquired with DEP staff and am waiting for an update on when it may be expected.

Landfill-Month to month approval at this point with CWS Norridgewock to take 5-7 loads per week for \$87/ton. Juniper Ridge is cheaper but further to travel. Casella offered a 2-year guarantee price of \$95/ton for Casella to pick up loads at the Compost Facility and haul to Juniper ridge. The benefit of the Casella pick-up is that it would allow us operational flexibility to press the solids slower seven days per week and produce drier solids. (Put on agenda for next month with contract for Board approval with the financial analysis sheet submitted this month.)

Alternative biosolids management evaluation- Short and long term for the facility. Dryer technology to 90%solid. It shrinks the volume to something that is manageable. Have spoken to NORESCO a few times about doing a pre-feasibility study emphasized on dryer technology and possibly tie-in expansion on digester feedstock acceptance and biogas utilization to fuel a new technology. NORESCO has offered to speak to the Board about such an approach if desired. If composting continues, we need to determine how long of a plan this is for and determine how much we want to invest in that infrastructure and what that means for staffing, while we take slower look at alternatives. Travis will submit information for a dryer technology on the SRF needs survey.

Have Casella provide agreement, and then discuss at the next meeting rather we are going to mothball or look into reopening the Compost Facility. Travis recommends entering the two-year agreement and then see where it shakes out with the regulatory end up. Put on agenda for next month for formal vote.

**CSO-Clean Water Act Master Plan-** Dale is coordinating a meeting for next Wednesday with Tighe & Bond to discuss putting an addendum together for the CSO master plan update. Once that is established all three entities will need to discuss with their respective boards/councils before submitting to the DEP.

**Solar Power-**Everything is signed and moving forward. Power production is expected in late Spring 2021.

**Well Test-**DEP sampled the Wright residence last Friday and we should have results by next month. No one from LAWPCA was present due to the request from DEP and their Covid-19 staff protocol.

**Personnel Policies-** Had several meetings, originally policy was too wordy, bit of an overhaul. Should have a draft ready for next Board meeting for approval.

**Pandemic/Staffing Plan-** Back to full staff as of May 26. A return to work plan was developed, and all staff were provided copies. We will remove from agenda going forward.

**Industrial Pretreatment Program Fees-** Several concerns with the current program model. Travis recommends simplifying to two categories, Categorical and Non-Categorical. The proposed change will reduce the amount billed to Auburn and Lewiston annually. Sid requested time to evaluate impacts and that the item be put back on agenda for next month.

### New Business:

**Cost Apportionment RFP-** At the May meeting the Board indicated a desire for LAWPCA to get a cost sharing analysis completed for construction of a storage tank. Auburn Sewer had a similar RFP on the street and received proposals from Weston & Sampson and Tata & Howard. IF this now gets sent under the LAWPCA umbrella we need to decide if it should be put out to all interested parties or just the two that submitted to ASD. Put on next month agenda to move forward.

**Clerk Vote-** Historically Mac had served as the Board Clerk. This was not discussed or voted on at the last meeting so believe it would be appropriate to vote to have Travis serve as Clerk or Interim Clerk.

Dale Doughty motioned to point Travis serve as Clerk. Sid Hazelton seconded and the motion passed.

**Closed Sludge Landfill-**the Department tested two LAWPCA sludge landfill wells in addition to one abutting residential well. On May 28, we received a letter that stated the wells had elevated PFOA/PFOS levels and the PFOA/PFOS results at the 463 River Road residence exceeded the EPA health advisory. 10 years ago, LAWPCA and the City of Lewiston Installed a RO system which the resident was to maintain, however it appears the system has not been maintained. Board feels testing all three private drinking water wells within close proximity to the landfill, along with the City of Lewiston, would be a good idea and are comfortable with Travis and Dale discussing the issue and DEP results with the home owner of the residential well that was tested.

**DMR Signatory-** Board approval and Marks signature for a change. Dale Doughty made a motion to add Paula Drouin, Plant Supervisor to serve as a signatory. Pete Preble seconded and the motion passed.

**2019 Draft Audit-** Final audit will be available for next board meeting. To remove the deficit for Lewiston for cost apportionment, we will cut Auburn a check for \$51,507.79 through the budget funds. Year-end surplus of \$57,046.47, in years past have gone to reserve for replacement but with the account where it is now, it was suggested to reimburse the Cities.

Norm Lamie made a motion to reimburse the City of Lewiston \$36,846.32 and the Auburn Sewerage District \$20,200.15 from the 2019 Budget surplus. Pete Preble seconded and the motions passed.

The Board also agreed that Travis could pursue the paving project for this year.

**2020 Audit Services-**RHR Smith was awarded the 2017-2019 Audits for LAWPCA, Auburn water and Auburn Sewer. We were given a 10% discount for the collective award. After speaking with Sid, he is happy with their service and has trustee approval for a 1-year contract extension. RHR Smith is willing to offer LAWPCA a 1-year contract extension as well for the same price of \$7,850. Travis recommended the board vote to authorize a 1-year extension for Audit services to RHR Smith for a cost of \$7,850.

Norm Lamie made a motion to authorize a 1-year contract extension with RHR Smith. Sid Hazelton seconded and the motion passed.

### Other Business

None.

**Executive Session-**

Norm Lamie made a motion to enter into Executive session. Pete Preble seconded and the motion passed.

Dale Doughty made a motion to leave executive session. Pete Preble seconded and the motion passed.

Peter Crichton made a motion to adjourn. Dale Doughty seconded and all approved.

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Travis B Peaslee, Interim Superintendent**