

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 Friday Aug 13, 2021 at 7:30 a.m.

Directors Present:	Sid Hazelton Norm Lamie Mark Adams Dan Goyette Mary Ann Brenchick Steve Ness
Directors Absent:	Jeff Beaulé
General Manager:	Travis Peaslee
Assistant General Manager:	Absent
Secretary:	Candace Taylor
Treasurer:	Absent

Mark Adams called the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m.

Minutes

Dan Goyette made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 9, 2021 regular meeting. Mary Ann Brenchick seconded, Steve Ness abstained, all others approved and the minutes were placed on file.

Consent Agenda

Sid Hazelton made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Steve Ness seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

Financial Reports

Travis updated the Board about that the CD at Mechanic Savings was closed and the money was moved to the ICS account in order to earn more interest on those funds. Travis and Ralph will continue to watch the market and make some investment recommendations when things improve.

Cost Apportionment continues to show higher strength BOD and TSS coming from Auburn.

With the line cleaning finishing up and our new sampler modification in-place, Travis is hopeful for normalized data moving forward. Because we don't have a solid handle on the cause of the data swings and things are shifting heavy towards Auburn, Travis recommended modifying the Apportionment for September to 64 Lewiston and 36 Auburn. We can assess the situation better next month when we would be setting initial apportionment for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

Norm Lamie made a motion to adjust September cost apportionment to Lewiston 64% and Auburn 36%. Dan Goyette seconded, all approved, the motion passed.

### 2020 Draft Audit

Norm Lamie made a motion to approve the 2020 Financial Audit as presented. Dan Goyette seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

### General Manager Report

The RO system at 463 River Road is now fully repaired, operational, and paid for. We have submitted paperwork to DEP for 50% cost sharing. LAWPCA will now budget for annual testing and required service on that unit moving forward.

### Report from Cities/Sewer Districts

Nothing new to report.

### Old Business

#### Biosolids & P FAS Management:

On the biosolids front, Travis provided a notice to proceed on the solid's dryer 30% design project. Additionally, he had follow-up calls with LIMA and Brown & Caldwell separately and got the sense that fuel blending is still a relatively new technology that has proven troublesome at other installations. The heat exchanger installation on the engine exhaust was reported to be much more straight forward to implement. Therefore, he thought it would be best to take another path and have Brown & Caldwell simply amend the current contract to include a scope that has them working with LIMA to evaluate installation of the exhaust heat exchangers, the return water temperature needs and potential, then running hydronic calculations to see if this is a feasible option to work in to the basis of design and thus dryer type selection. This additional work would add 3 weeks to the project and cost \$8,470. This evaluation makes tremendous sense and is critical to developing a solid preliminary design

Norm Lamie made a motion to approve the Brown & Caldwell 30% design contract amendment to evaluate modifications to the existing waste heat system for dryer utilization for a cost of \$8,470. Steve Ness seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

The other related item is that Travis approved the Brown & Caldwell amendment for surveying services discussed last month. This work will be contracted by Brown & Caldwell with survey Inc. out of Windham This increased the project cost by \$4,760 to \$142,358.

On the PFAS front, there were a number of local newspaper articles that came out clarifying that the high levels of contamination found at the Arundel and Fairfield farms were due to paper sludge solids and not municipal biosolids. The articles do point out that some of the contamination came from the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District, but accurately notes that over 50% of their flow comes from a paper goods manufacturing facility. There is also litigation hitting the courts now that list nearly all the paper companies in Maine as defendants and does not list a single municipality/waste water facility

Travis was part of a meeting with the DEP commissioner and staff on August 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss modeling efforts, future rule making, impacts from LD 1600, and the DEP path forward. The discussions were encouraging in the sense that DEP is in the process of staffing up, working with other states and agencies to expedite evaluation, are considering other models, and have a complete and sincere understanding of the position they have us all in. Unfortunately, it appears we are looking at least 2 years out to allow for the necessary additional testing, BEP recommendation, and eventual substantive rule making process before we would see a change in screening limits. Travis did have a conversation with the Commissioner about possible land application resumption on fields that have already had groundwater tested and are below groundwater standards. She noted that they would respond to the request before the end of the month. One interesting note during the meeting is that the DEP is working with Anson Madison Sanitary to install a trial PFAS removal system in order to close the loop on PFAS given they accept the majority of the states' landfill leachate. They noted this was just a band-aid while they continue to develop long term sustainable solutions. All-in-all the meeting was very productive and we agreed to set up similar, more frequent (likely quarterly), meetings to best facilitate these types of conversations on PFAS progress and impacts.

#### CSO Update:

Travis worked with Woodard & Curran to fully define the scope of work for conceptual design of the tank and signed the agreement for the work. Kick of meeting is scheduled for August 17 at 10:00 am at LAWPCA. Norm Lamie and Sid Hazelton will sit in as well as Jeff Beaulé and Dan Goyette.

#### Closed Landfill Ownership:

Travis met with Mary Ann, Jeff, and the new solid waste superintendent John Kuchinski to discuss this item, and believe an appropriate path forward would be for LAWPCA to use (and pay for) the Lewiston master agreement services of GMA engineering to survey the entire landfill (sludge and solid waste) and develop a parcel encompassing the closed sludge landfill cells and associated in-ground infrastructure. In addition to surveying the parcels, GMA would be tasked with evaluating all aspects of subdividing the larger parcel and providing the LAWPCA board and City of Lewiston with a recommendation on how best to proceed. Depending on the recommendation, GMA may also be tasked with filing the

appropriate paperwork for deeds, deed restrictions, easements, DEP license changes, etc. If the board agrees with this path, Travis and John can meet with GMA to develop a scope of work for them to price out, and something Travis could bring back to the board for consideration in September. The Board agreed with this approach.

#### Sabattus connection:

Travis wanted to follow up on a board question and let everyone know that there is no language within our charter prohibiting such a connection or accepting flow from another community. The fact that the flow would enter the Lewiston collection system makes our accepting it into the plant pretty straight forward. Mary Ann noted that it will be discussed at the next council meeting.

#### CSO tank cost study:

The technical memo details were communicated to the City of Auburn, City of Lewiston and the Auburn Sewer District with little to no concern or feedback. It appears all impacted entities are comfortable with the proposed cost model.

Mary Ann Brenchick made a motion to accept the proposed CSO tank cost apportionment model developed by CDM Smith to be used on cost associated with the engineering and construction of the LAWPCA CSO storage tank and to also approve a contract amendment with CDM Smith to develop a CSO tank cost apportionment spreadsheet tool to facilitate tracking of billing, and to train staff on its use, for a cost not to exceed \$5,000. Dan Goyette seconded, all others approved, and the motion passed.

#### Auburn Property Sales:

Roger informed Travis that he has nearly all the money needed to close on the properties. In anticipation of closing, we need to have the new 276 Penley Corner Road parcel surveyed and legal description developed. Per the purchase and sale agreement, LAWPCA is to split the cost of doing so with Roger & Ginny. Four firms were solicited for proposals.

Dan Goyette made a motion for Travis to hire a survey he felt comfortable with. Mary Ann Brenchick seconded. Mark abstained from vote; all others approved, and the motion passed.

#### Bar Screen Project:

This project has been anticipated and was listed in our capital improvement plan as a 2022 project. At this point, Travis recommended moving the project forward as quickly as possible in order to have the equipment onsite in early 2022. The plan is to fund the project with an SRF loan, so he submitted a notice of intent to borrow with the DEP. Plan is to work with wright-Pierce on the design and bidding documents and fund their efforts with bond funds. Travis plans to draft an RFP for direct purchase of the bar screens, once the screens are selected, Wright Pierce would assist in developing installation design and bidding documents. Travis will handle all DEP submissions and approvals.

Travis has worked with Wright Pierce to develop a scope of service that covers all areas he feels we could use help with for the pre-purchase, design and bidding phases. Their proposed services primarily include assistance with RFP Development and response review/recommendation for both the screens and their installation, shop drawing review and comment, as well as providing EJCDC bidding documents and dealing with things through install award.

Norm Lamie made a motion to approve award of Bar Screen replacement engineering services to Wright Pierce for a cost not to exceed \$109,700, funded from the anticipated Bond. Steve Ness seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

Norm Lamie made a motion to approve as follows:

- (1) That the board of the authority hereby approves the application made to the State revolving Loan Fund at the Maine Municipal Bond Bank for approval to borrow up to \$1,000,000. Of financing to fund the purchase and installation of two bar screens and associated electrical and control to replace two exiting FMC Bar screens located at the treatment plant located at 535 Lincoln Street and associated costs and work related thereto (the "Project")
- (2) That, pursuant to authority granted by the Charter of the Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority (1967 Private and Special Law Chapter 92, as amended) the authority is hereby authorized to issue and sell to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank a Sewer Bond of the Authority (the "Bond") in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, and if needed an interim note in anticipation thereof.
- (3) That the Treasurer and Chairman of the board of the authority are hereby authorized to execute and deliver the Bond, and interim note in anticipation thereof, on behalf of the Authority to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. The Bond is to be sold upon such further terms and conditions and at such interest rates as may be approved by the treasurer and Chairman of the board of the authority and shall be attested by the Clerk. The term of the Bond does not exceed 120% of the economic life of the Project.
- (4) That the Authority hereby irrevocably pledges the user fees, rates, assessments and other charges of the Authority for payment of the principal of the Bond.
- (5) That the Treasurer and Chairman of the board of the authority are hereby authorized to execute and deliver Loan Agreements with the Maine Municipal Bond Bank, in such form as the Maine Municipal Bond Bank shall require, for the interim loan, if any, and for the permanent financing.
- (6) That the Authority officers and officials are hereby authorized to execute and deliver any and all documents and certificates, and to take any and all actions, of the Authority as may be necessary or convenient to carry out the full purport and intent of the foregoing orders, or any one of them.

Steve Ness seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

Dan Goyette made a motion to authorize the General Manager to sign an engagement letter with Bernstein Shur for bond counsel services for the Bar Screen replacement project anticipated bond. Norm Lamie seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

New Business

Financial Policy & Internal Controls:

After a brief discussion, Norm Lamie made a motion to accept the Financial Policy & Internal Controls policies. Dan Goyette seconded. All approved and the motion passed.

Septic Program Changes:

Travis presented information on proposed septic receiving operational, fee, and rules & regulation changes. The Board requested Travis to look up State Statute regarding Municipality septic disposal requirements and to provide this information at the next Board meeting.

Norm Lamie made a motion to table action on this item until next month. Steve Ness seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

Remote participation policy:

After a brief discussion on the draft remote participation policy that was developed using the MMA policy template, the Board decided to hold off on adopting a remote participation policy.

Adjourn

Norm Lamie made a motion to adjourn, Mary Ann Brenchick seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

Attest

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Travis B Peaslee, General Manager