

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 November 17, 2023, at 7:30 a.m. at the Authority offices at 535 Lincoln St
Lewiston

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

Directors Absent: N/A

General Manager: Travis Peaslee

Assistant General Manager: Paula Drouin

Secretary: Candace Taylor

Treasurer: Ralph Lenfestey

Norm Lamie called the meeting to order at 7:36 a.m.

Dan Goyette made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 13, 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. Jeff Beaulé seconded, all others approved, and the motion passed.

Cost Apportionment

Travis Peaslee reported that he did meet with Mike Broadbent and Matt Waite to discuss the abnormally high Auburn TSS data. They determined that the next steps were for staff to evaluate Future Guard and Auburn Concrete as potential influencers. Also decided that we would do additional split sampling within our wet well on the Auburn side over a two-week period with a portable sampler simulating how operations used to sample to see if a change in sampling location and procedures are behind the shift. Cost apportionment will remain at 60% Lewiston /40% Auburn.

Public Comment

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

Report from Cities/Sewer Districts

Mike Broadbent reported that Auburn is entering budget season, and that the city is looking at cleaning all siphons. Jeff Beaulé and Mary Ann reported that new rate study was underway and looks to be ready by the first of the year.

General Manager Report

Biosolids Deliveries: Travis Peaslee reported that the facility produced 823 yards of material in October, which all was able to be delivered directly to Hartland. We have purchased a 4th roll-off can and a temporary shelter has been installed to help ensure we are able to store and deliver all of our material directly from the treatment plant.

Anaerobic Digestion and Co-Generation: Travis Peaslee reported that things are operating well at the digestion complex, that both co-generation units are operational, and decent amounts of gas and power are being produced, but a more stable supply of feedstock could optimize operations long term.

Septic Receiving: Travis Peaslee reported that approximately 431,100 gallons of septic were discharged at the facility in October, which is 81,000 gallons or \$9,720 more than budgeted. Year-to-date, we are 694,650 gallons or \$83,358 more than budgeted.

Effluent Quality: Travis Peaslee reported that effluent continues to look good. We had zero influent bypass events, zero effluent violations, no use the secondary bypass, and roughly 250 million gallons were treated.

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 on this, and the hope is to complete by the end of the year. Travis reported that staff are still working on biosolids handling trials that may eventually lead to some infrastructure changes. This will be reflected by a placeholder in the CIP.

Travis Peaslee had previously 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 set for November 20th.

Travis Peaslee previously reported that the compost facility spring ground water monitoring results were submitted to the DEP and Authority staff does not need to pump the biofilter any longer unless bi-annual test data show increases in groundwater nitrate. He added that the fall sampling has since be done and recently provided with results which show continued groundwater improvement. We believe staff would be able to make the case to DEP for achieving successful corrective action as part of the annual report, so he's going to work with SME to make that request.

Travis Peaslee reported that the required effluent PFAS sampling program is nearly completed, and the Authority is now participating in phase II. This effort will involve some sampling in the collection systems, which will be paid for by the Department. We are finalizing the list of places to sample and expect to get roughly 30 samples.

Travis Peaslee reported that he continues to spend a significant amount of time working on biosolids management options and has several key meetings throughout the month that should help develop 2024 assumptions as well as a sense of where we might be sending material over the next 3-5 years.

CSO Project:

Travis Peaslee reported that Sargent/Woodard and Curran and MWH/Tighe Bond provided initial concept presentations on October 12 and proposals have been received with the cost component still in sealed envelopes. The subcommittee is planning to evaluate proposals, then meet on November 29th to hopefully have a recommendation ready by the December board meeting.

Travis Peaslee reported that we awarded the influent pump project to the Sebago/AECOM team, and they are currently working with the influent pump vendor on motor upgrade specifications. As part of the work, they determined that the 200 hp motors originally thought to get us up to 38 MGC, will not be sufficient. They discussed the impacts of increasing all the way up to 250 hp motors, but that triggered the need for larger breaker feed cables, larger breakers, VFD's and facility generator. We elected to keep the motor hp the same and install gear reducers. The pump vendor is working with the team to get this information which should be the last bit of information needed in order to move the design forward.

Travis Peaslee reported that we awarded the process instrument installation work to EII and expect them to complete the install in December or January.

Branding/Name Change

Mary Ann Brenchick made a motion to approve changing the facility name to the Lewiston Auburn Clean Water Authority and accepting the new logo provided by Black Fly Media. Mike Broadbent seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

Another thing we are working on is a communication plan. We feel that our plan should focus on enhancing our communications with the two cities so that they can better communicate about us to their stakeholders. The Board felt that a quarterly update to the Cities would be sufficient.

Auburn Property Solar Request

Travis Peaslee reported that he had a meeting with Blue Wave to discuss an alternate plan since the first was rejected. They understood our concerns and have since responded by placing the solar panel back in to the area we originally found acceptable, and moved the access road to areas that wouldn't impact any future land application. The Board had already approved releasing the easement on that site to facilitate the project in exchange for \$10,000, so signing the documents would just be formalizing the next steps so that they can proceed on their end. Dan Goyette made a motion to proceed with the agreement, Steve Ness seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

New Business

Compost Facility Storage: The Board is aware that Lewiston Public Works is planning to utilize the facility for cold storage over the winter, in exchange for handling all snow removal at the site. Our plan, once all equipment has been moved to the treatment plant is to only visit the site approximately 1x/month to do an inspection of the facilities, inspect fire extinguishers, fire alarm system, etc. Travis will continue evaluating options for the facility long term.

Capital Improvement Plan: Travis sent the draft CIP to the board and plans to make small updates to it then bring back at the December meeting for approval. Biggest item worth noting is the needed roof replacement slated for 2025.

December meeting date: Travis Peaslee reported that to facilitate the new CSO award decision timeline he would like to propose moving the December board meeting to December 15th. Board members agreed.

Dan Goyette made a motion to enter executive session. Mary Ann Brenchick seconded, all others approved, and the Board entered Executive session.

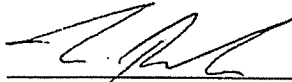
Dan Goyette made a motion to exit the executive session. Mary Ann Brenchick seconded, all others approved, and the Board exited executive session.

Travis Peaslee gave a review of the proposed union contract followed by a Board discussion. Mike Broadbent made a motion to accept the proposed union contract, seconded by Dan Goyette. All other Board members approved, and the motion passed.

Adjourn

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

Attest



Travis B. Peaslee, General Manager