

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 Dec 10, 2021 at 7:30 a.m.

Directors Present: Norm Lamie
Mary Ann Brenchick
Dan Goyette
Mark Adams
Sid Hazelton

Directors Absent: Steve Ness
Jeff Beaulé

General Manager: Travis Peaslee

Assistant General Manager: Paula Drouin

Secretary: Candace Taylor

Treasurer: Ralph Lenfestey

Mark Adams called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m.

Minutes

Sid Hazelton made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2021 regular meeting. Mary Anne Brenchick seconded, all others approved and the minutes were placed on file.

Election of Officers

Norm Lamie made a motion to leave the slate of officers as is: Clerk, Travis Peaslee; Treasurer, Ralph Lenfestey; Board Chair, Mark Adams. Sid Hazelton seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Mary Anne Brenchick made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Norm Lamie seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

Financial Reports

Norm Lamie made a motion to approve the Financial Reports. Mary Anne Brenchick seconded all otherers approved and the motion passed.

Norm Lamie made a motion to set 1st quarter cost apportionment 64% Lewiston and 36% Auburn. Sid Hazelton seconded, all others approved and the motion passed.

General Manager Report- Travis informed the Board of a DEP request of LAWPCA to participate in a CDC funded yearlong Epidemiology testing program. The Board is supportive of the request and will be provided more information once details are available.

Old Business

Biosolids & PFAS:

Brown & Caldwell submitted a basis of design report (BODR) which Travis has reviewed, sent comments back on, and has a meeting to discuss this afternoon. The approximate schedule for wrapping up preliminary design on this project is:

December 15: Complete preliminary design drawings for cost estimation

December 16- 22: Cost estimation

December 22- Jan 5: Internal QA/QC

January 6: Submit preliminary design package to LAWPCA for review

As noted last month, we are not on-track to have a project completed by the time our landfill agreement expires with Casella. Travis has had multiple meetings with their staff to discuss an extension and now has a draft 1-year extension that would get us to the end of 2023. This will provide the necessary breathing room so that we can digest the 30% design report and decide the appropriate path forward. Travis will bring the agreement back in January for approval.

On the PFAS front, things are hot and keeping Travis real busy. The most pertinent items being:

The DEP is out sampling tier 1 sites, which at this point includes at least 6 of our sites. Travis has expressed his dissatisfaction with the lack of communication from the DEP to license holders. Due to the need of staffing up and training, tier 1 sampling may last 1 year or longer. The results from site testing are planned to be loaded on to a DEP mapping platform. DEP has more recently been better about informing Travis which sites they are preparing to sample so we will need to stay on top of all of this. All properties will be tested within ½ mile of the land application site. Any location exceeding the new standard of 20 PPT for the 6 PFAS compounds will be deemed impacted and offered a water treatment solution.

There are two emergency legislation bills being introduced this session targeting PFAS, LR2322 and LR 2227. One targets land spreading and composting and the other requires treating landfill leachate, both of which could impact LAWPCA. Travis will stay on top of it the best he can and let the Board know more information once he has it.

Our September compost facility ground water voluntary PFAS sampling indicates an exceedance of the new ground/drinking water standard of 20 PPT in the drinking water well. This well did not exceed the previous standard of 70 PPT. The drinking water well is adjacent to our land application fields and consideration of continued application should be given before 2022 spreading at that site. It was noted that all compost facility monitoring wells are physically located on property that will soon be owned without rights to other by the Authority.

LD 1600 which is set to charge us \$10/ton for solids in 2023 for solids "handled" is something Travis (along with MEWEA representatives) are in deep discussions with the Department on. At this point there are more questions than answers and they are scrambling to develop a draft rule over the winter while also being charged with implanting the fee effective January 22'. Where in the handling process to charge the fee, how much money is needed and for how long, dry vs. wet tons, and whether or not charging WWTPs for septage received would be double dipping are all things that have to be figured out. The potential charging of WWTPs for the tons of septic received is very concerning and a significant potential liability if we were to be charged in early 23' for septic received in 22' that was not properly charged for. At that point, it would be difficult to go back and charge septic haulers to cover this fee, and even more difficult for the hauler to go back and try to recover the fee from home owners. Due to the significant uncertainty, we cautioned that it might be safer for WWTPs to simply not receive septage until a rule can be developed and finalized. The DEP is trying to incentivize more septic to treatment plants and understand the dilemma this rule has caused, so Travis's sense is that they will find a way to not charge (double dip) for the septic received at WWTPs.

After discussion, the Board asked Travis to send a letter to our Septic Haulers letting them know about the legislation, the uncertainties surrounding it, and the potential impacts it may have on them. It was also requested that a copy of these letters get sent to our permitted septic communities.

CSO: Below is the latest update and next steps from Woodard & Curran:

- Reviewed potential storage tank site locations with Sargent on November 12th for constructability items including site access, utilities, and support of excavation concerns.
- Continued preparing technical memorandums for treatment plant optimization and site selection.
- Finalized technical memorandum for model data and sewer system collection review and submitted to LAWPCA on November 22nd.
- Finalize technical memoranda for treatment plant optimization and site selection and submit to LAWPCA.
- Meeting with LAWPCA to review technical memoranda
- Finalize subsurface evaluation program scope of work
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The subcommittee is currently reviewing the model and collection system model and will need to agree on a few things before we can proceed with the subsurface evaluation. The major issue being that the Woodard & Curran model shows us needing 3.1 MG of storage vs. the 2.3 MG tank modeled by Tighe & Bond (also in our approved CWMAP). Other items include feasibility of recommended Lewiston collection improvements, Auburn flow projections, treatment plant optimization impacts, and what all of this could mean for site analysis and subsurface evaluation. The Board agreed that the Woodard & Curran model showing the need for a 3.1-million-gallon tank should be accepted, and that our estimated project cost should be increased to reflect the larger size tank.

The project is still on schedule and we will be having a meeting on December 17th with Woodard & Curran to discuss the technical memos. The entire Subcommittee will meet on December 22nd to discuss the memos and siting.

On the same front, Flow Assessment installed an area velocity meter at the treatment plant on the Auburn influent line last month so hopefully we can start capturing some representable storm events that would allow us to fine tune the model.

As far as tank funding, Travis provided the Board with four funding alternatives that were provided by CDM Smith. After discussion of the various alternative, the alternative that makes the most sense is to have Lewiston and Auburn front a mutually agreed upon percent of the cost of the total tank, based on an agreed cost allocation, with the remaining cost to be recovered over the life of a 20-year LAWPCA bond using the CDM cost model. LAWPCA would finance the balance of the total tank cost not paid for up front by Lewiston and Auburn, and at a minimum, enough to meet requirements for maximum SRF grant eligibility.

Travis called Dep and found out the next round of ARPA funds should be eligible for grants of up to \$1 million starting in early 2022. Additionally, if ARPA funds are combined with the latest infrastructure bill allocation, then grant maximums may rise up to \$5 million. LAWPCA has to pursue the SRF loan grant funds due to us having right, title, and interest in the project.

Closed Landfill Ownership:

Travis has signed the agreement with CMA to perform the boundary survey and other necessary research efforts in order to develop a recommended subdivision of the larger solid waste landfill parcel. Titcomb has already been to the site to begin the boundary survey and Travis is now waiting for an updated project schedule from CMA.

Sabattus connection:

Travis believes there was a kick off meeting between Tighe Bond and Oliver Associates. Mary Ann confirmed.

Bar Screen Project: We have closed on the interim note and will start drawing funds from that. We have processed the purchase agreement and are now starting the show drawing process. This is expected to take 4-6 weeks. Once approved, Wright Pierce can get electrical, instrumentation, and structural pulled together in to a final design. Equipment delivery is expected to be 16-20 weeks so we anticipate bidding for install in April, with equipment delivery towards the end of May. We are trying to schedule and coordinate around Board meetings and MeDEP reviews so that we get approvals to keep the process moving forward.

Auburn Properties: The property was surveyed last month and a sketch was provided. We received the new description and everything has been provided to the Lawyer, as well as Roger and Ginny in order to close on the sale. We have a closing date scheduled for December 28th. Travis has been in discussions with Roger and Ginny about all of this and they are set. As far as Rudy Wing, Travis had the Lawyer develop an amendment to the purchase and sales agreement with Roger and

Ginny that excludes the ¼ acre parcel the Board wanted to give to him. Roger and Ginny have signed this document, and have also indicated that they will not have attorney representation nor will be doing a title search on the properties we are selling them. The Lawyer also drafted a quitclaim release deed (for no consideration) for the Rudy Wing ¼ acre.

Dan Goyette made a motion to Authorize the General Manager to execute a quitclaim release deed with Rudy Wing on the ¼ acre parcel that contains the septic system servicing 499 Penley Corner Road, that is excluded from the 371 Penley Corner Road parcel, and described within the release deed. Mary Anne Brechick seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed. Travis will execute the deed paperwork, and will record at the Registry of Deeds.

New Business

2022 Budget: The draft budget was updated as recommended at the last meeting and was included in the packet. A public notice was published more than 10 days ahead of adoption, and copies were provided to the two cities.


Norm Lamie made a motion to Approve the draft 2022 budget amount of \$4,643,279. Dan Goyette seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

Capital Improvement Plan: We provided the complete draft Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) package at the last meeting and hadn't received any comments. Included in the packet was the CIP summary sheet in the packet, and 2022 items were already reflected within the draft budget. Norm Lamie made a motion to table this item until the January Board Meeting. Dan Goyette seconded, all approved, and the motion passed.

Adjourn

Norm Lamie made a motion to adjourn, Dan Goyette seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

Attest



Travis B. Peaslee, General Manager