

**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, July 10, 2020 at 7:30 a.m.

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

Mark Adams called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Minutes

Norm Lamie made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 12, 2020 regular meeting. Pete Preble seconded, all approved, and the minutes were placed on file.

Consent Agenda

Sid Hazelton made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Pete Preble seconded and the motion passed.

Financial Reports

After a quick review of the financial reports, Pete Preble made a motion to accept the financial reports. Norm Lamie seconded and the motion passed.

Norm Lamie made a motion to approve the 2019 Audit. Sid Hazelton seconded and the motion passed.

Old Business:

ACA Update- Continuing to pump out remaining leachate within the biofilter. The cover seems to be working as levels didn't appear to increase much even after the recent heavy rains. The final closure report from SME should be here this week. The last remaining item, and one that will likely become an issue, is submission of invoices for the SEP. Mike Broadbent reported that the work was done much cheaper than the \$35,000 they estimated and that we paid them. If we are unable to produce proof of \$35,000 worth of expenses, we will need to discuss with the Department how to handle. It was requested that we have something in writing from DEP saying they received the report and to confirm we are where we think we are in regards to compliance.

PFAS and Biosolids- Once any model is validated, It will likely take 1-2 years of legislative efforts to get substantive rulemaking changed. With current economic impacts from the pandemic it is uncertain whether or not the Department will be able to continue levels of PFAS testing, which could extend this already lengthy process.

DEP License and City of Auburn Agreements: DEP approved the final license amendment on June 24th. This is great news as it provides the opportunity to operate if needed, but also provides us with the ability to use the Compost Facility as a transfer site which helps with operational flexibility. The new draft Planning Board Agreement combined 2005 and 2013 Planning Board amendments, elements from the Council Agreement, and modifications necessary to address the anticipated DEP license amendments. Eric Cousens felt it would be reasonable to allow us to operate under existing pilot conditions, (Stockpiling and no odor control) without agreement modification up until the one-year anniversary of the pilot approval which is September 3rd.

Land Application: Looking forward to 2021, we should be able to spread around 2000 yards total, and 2022 forward, we might be able to spread around 2600 yards due to the fact that the Barker Pad will be cleaned out by then. A few assumptions such as PFAS screening standards don't increase, Barker Farm does not install solar panels on the fields we spread, and Skelton far does not get sold. WE should take a look at farms that have no succession plan and are unlikely to ever receive material again and consider relinquishing and stop paying annual license fees. The timing is poor, but when and if PFAS gets squared away regulatory we could consider pursuing new farm land in the future and we believe there are a few area farmers that may be interested in participating.

Landfill: We have a month to month agreement with CWS Norridgewock to take 5-7 loads per week, 5 days per week for a tip fee of \$87/ton. We have a spot market price for Juniper Ridge Landfill in Old Town, 5 days per week, for \$72/ton. We are being 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 Casella pick-up is that it would allow us operational flexibility to press the solids slower seven days per week and produce drier solids (Less Volume).

Norm Lamie made a motion to proceed with the agreement with Casella to haul material at a guaranteed price of \$95/ton from 9/1/20 to 12/31/22. Pete Preble seconded and the motion passed.

Ground Water: Third round of testing happened on May 26 and SME just submitted the results to us. The results were submitted to the DEP and also requested a meeting to discuss the three data points and what modifications they would like made to our Environmental Monitoring Plan prior to our next scheduled round of testing in October. A remote meeting with SME and DEP will likely be set up on July 22nd or 23rd.

Compost facility operation- We now have permission from DEP to operate and have a verbal ok to operate from the City of Auburn until September. We hope to have a new agreement in place to formalize our agreement with the City prior to September. Although it may be tempting to fire back up, there are some reasons why this may not make sense. Currently the DEP has allowed for the sale of our Compost until June 2021, what happens at that point is uncertain, probably not much change. The issue with ground water, the supply of amendments is difficult to nail down and gain commitments on with an operation that starts and stops and has such an uncertain future. Staffing is a big concern with only one existing employee with the experience to operate the facility. There is little to no financial benefit to operating the Compost Facility, and the infrastructure has been exposed to a wet and corrosive atmosphere for nearly 30 years leading it to need some additional care and investment moving forward. It is recommended that the compost facility be mothballed for the duration of the Casella landfilling agreement.

Travis would like to form a sub-committee to evaluate alternative biosolids management options then report back to the Board of Directors. Norm Lamie and Pete Preble volunteered to be on it.

Recommended next steps are to use the Compost Facility as a transfer site when needed and develop a month ball plan that will keep the Compost Facility in an operational ready mode as well as evaluate the Land Application program and determine which, if any, licenses should be relinquished.

CSO-Clean Water Act Master Plan- There was a zoom meeting with Tighe & Bond on June 17th to discuss development of an addendum to the CSO master plan. Intent was to have a draft addendum ready for discussion with the Lewiston City Council and Auburn Sewer Trustees prior to submitting to the Department. Once the addendum is submitted and presumably approved, we will need to convene to start

discussing roles, next steps and timelines. Once Travis has information from Lewiston, he will be submitting the CSO tank need on a DEP needs survey which is step 1 in a process to be able to obtain any future stimulus grant funds.

Well Test- Testing was performed by the DEP at the Wright residence outdoor spigot on June 5th and the test came back well below the health advisory levels.

Personnel Policies- We have been working with Betsy Oulton of HR Maine Consulting and have a draft version of personnel policies in front of us now for review. A few of us are reviewing internally and then owe her our combined comments. We should be able to have all of this wrapped up and a draft version ready to send to the Board prior to the August meeting.

Industrial Pretreatment Program Fees- It was recommended that the IPT base fee program be modified to charge just two types of groups, categorical and non-categorical.

Norm Lamie made a motion to approve modifications to the Industrial base fee recovery system to charge Categorical Users \$6500 and Non –Categorical users \$2,500 annually, effective 2021. Sid Hazelton seconded and the motion passed.

Cost Apportionment RFP- The same RFP for the CSO tank cost sharing analysis submitted last month was included in the packet and discussed. Dale Doughty had asked for more time to evaluate last month, and has since indicated that he is ready for it to be sent. It was agreed that the RFP would be sent to Tata & Howard, Weston & Sampson, and made available for interested firms list on the Engineering service provider list maintained by each City.

Norm made a motion to approve moving forward with the RFP, Sid Hazelton seconded and the motion passed.

Closed Sludge Landfill- Dale and Travis haven't been able to connect to speak with the resident abutting the closed landfill, however intend to do so soon. DEP is waiting to hear what our next steps are. DEP also indicated that they are currently booked up doing "priority" sites so don't have the other two closed landfill abutting properties on their schedule yet but may be able to bump them up if they had outdoor plumbing. DEP currently considers indoor sampling high risk.

New Business:

TRGV Local Limits- In a recent discussion with the DEP it has been confirmed that LAWPCA is the only Industrial Pretreatment Program in the State of Maine that has local limits on TRGV. LAWPCA has just one significant industrial user with sampling and analytical requirements for a majority of these pollutants. The test is not necessary and costly, therefore staff requested the elimination of Local Limits for Toxic and Reactive Gases and Vapors from the Rules and Regulations.

Norm Lamie made a motion to remove the TRGV from the Rules and Regulations. Pete Preble seconded and the motion passed.

Other Business

None.

Executive Session-

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

Mark Adams made a motion to leave executive session. Pete Preble seconded and the motion passed.

Norm Lamie made a motion to adjourn. Pete Preble seconded and all approved.

Attest: 
Travis B Peaslee, Interim Superintendent