

**Central Wastewater Region Large User Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 5, 2009 – 1:30 p.m.**  
**George T. Lohmeyer Water Treatment Plant, Fort Lauderdale**

**Voting Members Present:**

Julie Leonard, City of Fort Lauderdale, Assistant Utilities Services Director, Operations  
Victoria Minard, City of Fort Lauderdale, Assistant City Attorney III  
Mark Darmanin, City of Fort Lauderdale, Distribution & Collection Systems Manager  
(substituting for City Commission)  
Miguel Arroyo, City of Fort Lauderdale, Water & Wastewater Treatment Manager (substituting  
for Engineering)  
Susan Smith, City of Oakland Park, Assistant Public Works Director (substituting for Dave  
Womacks)  
David Archacki, City of Wilton Manors, Utilities Director

**In Attendance:**

Neil Buckeridge, Town of Davie, Superintendent of Operations  
Bob Mays, City of Wilton Manors, Assistant Finance Director  
Brian London, City of Tamarac, Wastewater Supervisor  
Susan LeSage, City of Fort Lauderdale, Utilities Finance  
Pat Long, City of Fort Lauderdale, Wastewater Treatment Facility Manager, GTL  
Tim O'Neil, Camp Dresser & McKee, City of Fort Lauderdale Wastewater Consultant  
Shani Bryce, Camp Dresser & McKee, City of Fort Lauderdale Wastewater Consultant  
Ruth Burney, Camp Dresser & McKee, City of Fort Lauderdale Wastewater Consultant  
John McGeary, City of Fort Lauderdale, Regional Chief Wastewater Operations

**Welcome – Julie Leonard**

Ms. Leonard welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. by thanking everyone for attending this annual meeting where a new rate will be set for the next fiscal year.

**Introduction of Advisory Board Members and Guests**

All attendees introduced themselves.

**Approval of May 20, 2009 Minutes**

Mr. Mays pointed out that the City of Wilton Manors has one vote and he should not be listed as a voting member for the City of Wilton Manors. Mr. Arroyo made a motion to approve the minutes as revised. Mr. Archacki seconded it. A vote to pass the minutes was unanimous.

**Update on the G.T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant – Pat Long**

**Construction Project Updates**

- Spare effluent pump rotating assembly in the process of being rebuilt.
- Influent Screening Equipment  
We will be evaluating replacements for the Auger Monster influent screens in the future for eventual replacement. A maintenance contract at @ \$50,000/year will be negotiated to keep the current units in operation. Negotiations and options in progress. Our spare unit is being refurbished and the upper 50% of the cutter stack will now be stainless steel.

- Influent channel concrete repair and an additional new 54" force main tie-in is being reviewed by PMT. This project is scheduled to begin in the near future.
- Poole & Kent completed warranty work on six Return Activated Sludge pumps that had to have higher gauge wire installed between the buss bars and breaker.
- One of twelve reactor mixer splash guards has fallen from the reactor roof into the tank due to deterioration of the mounting brackets. After consultation with the mixer manufacturer and Air Products, it has been recommended to replace the guards. This will be accomplished, as planned per our R&R document, during a mixer replacement project to take place over the next two years.
- A new power monitor has been installed on our electrical service point 1 to alert us to FPL problems. This monitor had been proposed to be installed by a contractor for \$25,000 but was installed through our procurement process in conjunction with FPL for \$9,900. Thus generating savings of over 60%.
- Repair of an electrical conduit bridge between the administration and effluent buildings was completed in May. This was the final repair of damage caused by hurricane Wilma.

#### Additional Ongoing Projects:

- Cryogenic Facility Instrumentation System Upgrades – Have received negotiated quote of \$1.159M for work estimated for FY 2009-2010. This work is being included in the below project for bid by a general contractor.
- This project will be let for bid within the next thirty days:
  - PA system upgrade
  - Liquid Oxygen storage tank replacements
  - Concrete repair in dewatering building
  - Grit classifier replacement
  - Seal water system replacements
  - New hoisting equipment in pretreatment building to service influent screening area
  - New Spare parts storage area in effluent building
  - Lime silo removal and roof repair

### **Capacity Issues**

Annual average flows are currently at 37 MGD. CH2MHill is conducting a population study to take into account current population shift changes. This will help push out estimated flow increases which could trigger expansion plans thus potentially postponing some future expansion work.

### **Operational Issues**

Injection well permit renewal application submitted November 6, 2008. When this permit is issued there will be a stipulation to conduct mechanical integrity testing (MIT) of the wells, which would cost an estimated \$425,000. MIT plan was submitted to FDEP for approval May 2009. This testing would be performed November/December 2009. We have not received the new permit from DEP.

Investigation has been made concerning AC units that cool the effluent pump VFD rooms. We are in the process of replacing and relocating the units, through a variance process, to the originally designed location. Original designer of the system is redesigning the units to be bid for replacement. Variance for moving the units must go through two public hearings in September.

CDM is working on a project to update the plant Operation & Maintenance Manual that was last updated in 1989. This document is required by FDEP and information from the most current revision is often asked for during permit renewal processes. Once completed, plant staff will be able to update and keep current the O & M manual. It is scheduled to be completed by October 2009.

Florida DEP plant operating permit renewal application has been drafted and is undergoing review. The application renewal is to be submitted by September 28, 2009. We received the new Broward County operating permit July 10.

Siemens Energy conducted preventive maintenance of our five large effluent pump variable frequency drives in July. We are awaiting an official report to possibly purchase some spare parts.

During a Broward County EPD Hazardous Material inspection in May, there was an issue with the Hydrogen Peroxide containment structure which has been installed for thirty years. Due to our department's diligence and research of the rules and regulations, the issue was resolved saving a possible \$250,000 remediation cost.

### **Budgetary Issues**

FPL is requesting a rate increase for 2010.

Mr. Long stated that the pumps that pump into the injection wells are three (3) 1750 horsepower motors and two (2) 1250 horsepower motors and if the pumps were not working properly, the capacity would be reduced and possibly would have to be discharged into the intracoastal waterways which would be a violation of the permits. Mr. Long stated that it costs \$15,000 dollars for the maintenance and going forward, the maintenance should probably be done more often than once every five years. Mr. Arroyo mentioned that the splashguard that failed was initially installed in 1976, which far exceeded its designed life.

Mr. Long offered a tour of the facility to anyone interested after the meeting.

Ms. Leonard mentioned Robert Nielsen has retired from the City of Fort Lauderdale.

### **Rate Calculations – Susan LeSage**

Ms. LeSage stated there are three spreadsheets for the Computation of Rates, which are based on assumptions and where the budget is at currently. For the current year 2008-09, the billing is at \$1.24 per 1,000 gallons and if the budget was spent entirely, it would be approximately \$1.32 per 1,000 gallons. Ms. LeSage stated after looking at the budget, the actual figures were at 60% spent (74% including encumbrances) at the end of July (10 months) and is still under budget. Mr. Mays asked about the total expenditures through the end of July. Ms. LeSage stated it was \$8M; \$9.7M with encumbrances. Ms. LeSage stated for 2009-10, they would be looking at \$1.35 per 1,000 gallons if every dollar was spent.

Discussion followed as to the improvements on the I&I that are being made within the Cities of Wilton Manors and Oakland Park.

Mr. Mays asked about the savings on the sludge contract. Mr. Long said it would be an average of \$20 a ton which would be approximately \$½M, starting in December. Ms. LeSage stated that the savings were accounted for in the next budget.

Mr. Mays proposed \$1.28 for the new rate.

Mr. Archacki made a motion to set the new rate at \$1.28. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Leonard stated she had copies of the Ernst & Young audit rate computation report and anyone was welcome to get a copy. Mr. O'Neil has offered to send out electronic copies of the R&R Schedule to those interested in receiving a copy.

### **Re-Use – Miguel Arroyo**

Mr. Arroyo stated the biggest component for re-use would have been Florida Power and Light (FPL). However, FP&L is adding an additional facility that would be far more efficient and they are foreseeing that in January, they will further reduce their hours of operations and would therefore, need to purchase from us less than 2M gallons a month, which would put a damper in the re-use project where FPL would have been the major users of the water. Mr. Arroyo stated that himself and Mr. Long will continue to pursue.

Mr. Mays asked if the Hydrogen Peroxide containment structure was on the R&R list. Mr. Long stated the pumps are on the R&R list but the containment structure does not have to be changed.

### **Old/New Business**

None.

Mr. Darmanin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Arroyo seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.