

**Central Wastewater Region Large User Advisory Board Meeting  
Wednesday, May 12, 2010 – 1:30 p.m.  
Emergency Operations Center – Wilton Manors City Hall, Wilton Manors**

**Voting Members Present:**

Julie Leonard, City of Fort Lauderdale, Assistant Utilities Services Director, Operations  
Susan Smith, City of Oakland Park  
David Archacki, City of Wilton Manors, Utilities Director  
Vicki Minard, City of Fort Lauderdale, Assistant City Attorney  
Gloria LeClaire, City of Fort Lauderdale, Controller

**In Attendance:**

Neil Buckeridge, Town of Davie, Superintendent of Operations  
Tim O'Neil, Camp Dresser & McKee, City of Fort Lauderdale Wastewater Consultant  
Ruth Burney, Camp Dresser & McKee, City of Fort Lauderdale Wastewater Consultant  
Pat Long, City of Fort Lauderdale, Wastewater Treatment Facility Manager, GTL  
Miguel Arroyo, City of Fort Lauderdale, Water and Wastewater Treatment Manager  
Mark Darmanin, City of Fort Lauderdale, Distribution and Collection Systems Manager  
Susan LeSage, City of Fort Lauderdale, Financial Administrator  
Bob Mays, City of Wilton Manors, Assistant Finance Director

**Welcome – Julie Leonard**

Ms. Leonard welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

**Introduction of Advisory Board Members and Guests**

All attendees introduced themselves.

**Approval of February 24, 2010 Minutes**

Ms. Leonard noted one change needed to be made to the February 24, 2010 minutes. Ms. Minard stated according to the code, a member of the City of Fort Lauderdale's Finance Department should be a voting member. Because Gloria LeClaire was present at the February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, her name was moved from "In Attendance" to "Voting Members Present". Ms. LeClaire made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Archacki seconded it.

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

**Construction Project Updates**

- Influent Screening Equipment  
A maintenance service agreement at approximately \$45,000/year has been implemented to keep the JWC equipment in operation while new screening equipment is investigated and

installed. Two units have currently been rebuilt with more extensive stainless steel cutters. Also two other units have experienced failures under warranty and are currently undergoing repairs.

We are currently investigating a pilot project that would include purchasing an alternative mechanical rake and compactor/washer for one year with the option of return of the units for 67% of the cost if not satisfied.

- Plant influent channel concrete repair and an additional new 54" force main tie-in was approved at Commission in March. Some materials have been delivered for this project but no pre-construction meeting has been held to date.
- A contract to apply protective coatings and minor stucco repairs of all building exteriors and piping at the plant and all piping at the deepwell injection site was approved at Commission on March 2. Purchase Order was issued April 29.

#### Additional Ongoing Projects:

- Cryogenic Facility Instrumentation System Upgrades – This project has been awarded to Close Construction. A pre-construction meeting has been held and scheduling of the work is presently being worked out. It includes the following work:

- 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 for the last twelve months are currently at 38.2 MGD.

The 2010 Capacity Analysis Report was completed in March and submitted to the State Department of Environmental Protection. The current report lists 2017 as the year the plant's flow capacity will be exceeded. This is two years beyond previous reports and is due to an update of the population projections.

#### **Operational Issues**

Injection well permit renewal application submitted November 6, 2008. Final Mechanical Integrity testing of the five wells was completed November 12, 2009. Submitted the MIT report to regulatory authorities January 12, 2010. Some improvement in well performance was seen after high chlorination plus backflushing of the wells in November 2009. We will be applying a higher concentration of chlorine and backflushing again to gain even more improved performance. CDM submitted a report analyzing the wells performance and our options in bringing performance levels back to acceptable levels. Data will be collected over the next nine months and reanalyzed at that time.

Investigation has been made concerning AC units that cool the effluent pump VFD rooms. This project is in the final stages of design. We are currently awaiting electrical schematics to bid this work.

An Instrument Technician and Electro-technician have been hired the last two months which will help our overloaded electrician and save overtime.

Polymer testing task order was begun by CDM last week. It will develop specs for bidding of a new polymer contract. This polymer is used during biosolids dewatering activities.

We cleaned one reactor train of grit and debris and removed 133 tons of grit to the Pompano landfill. This reactor train was last cleaned in 2006.

### **Budgetary Issues**

Budgets were submitted in March and are currently under review.

### **Rate Calculations**

Ms. LeSage stated everyone should have received their refunds. Ms. Lesage reported so far, seven months into the fiscal year, the City of Fort Lauderdale Public Works Department Central Regional Wastewater System Operations is at 54% of the budget and should be at 58%. By removing the encumbrances, the City is at 37.5% of the budget whereas this time last year the City was at 41%. Ms. LeSage stated the City is on the same financial track as last year, \$1.5 million in savings, hopefully resulting in another refund for this year. On the spreadsheet provided, reflected in the current month for Services/Materials, there was a large encumbrance for painting of the building. These funds were unencumbered and the painting was paid out of R&R releasing funds and creating in a negative balance. Ms. LeSage restated the City is under budget and on track with last year to receive refunds.

Mr. Arroyo wanted to reiterate what Ms. LeSage and Mr. Long said. Because of the great job Mr. Long and his staff are doing at GTL, not only is a savings being realized, which is \$500,000 ahead of last year due to less expenditures, Mr. Long has been able to lower the cost through the bidding process on the sludge which equates to about \$500,000. The painting of the building originally thought to cost \$400,000-\$600,000, cost under \$200,000. Mr. Arroyo stated each one of those items makes a refund a reality and lower costs being realized. When put into contrast, at the same time the plant is doing great and wonderful things handling flows reaching 80 million gallons per day because of the rainy days from last month. Mr. Arroyo stated everyone is benefiting from the great job the staff is doing.

Ms. LeSage pointed out on the spreadsheet the "Fringe Benefits" line item is the employee pension. The pension is recorded quarterly, and as a result, skews the percentages in the first month they hit, which in this case was the second quarter, making it look like the year-to-date percentage is 63%.

### **Old/New Business**

Ms. Leonard reported, as the City of Fort Lauderdale goes through the budget process, the City is trying to find ways to reduce costs. In some cases, cities provide their own services. For instance, the City of Fort Lauderdale has a survey crew while others cities contract out for surveying services. Ms. Leonard was asked to talk to other municipalities to see how services can be provided to each other instead of contracting out services. In doing so, the City might be

able to come into agreement with municipalities to provide a service less than a contractor would charge. Mr. Archacki said Wilton Manors contracts out a lot and likes to “piggy back” off of other cities. Wilton Manors likes the City of Fort Lauderdale’s website where they can see the contracts and the expirations dates. As for in-house services, Wilton Manors does not have a lot of surveying work. Mr. Darmanin stated this is just not for in-house services. The City of Fort Lauderdale’s Procurement Department is willing to put co-op bids out with three, four, or five other municipalities. The Commission would like to see rebidding done more often. By combining services and adding quantities together, the thought is to get lower pricing. Mr. Darmanin asked the committee to allow the City of Fort Lauderdale to look at any services other municipalities may not do, want to do, or think to do. Even sharing equipment can be considered in which municipalities can go in together and use part-time. Pump and motor repairs and rebuilds or pump station work are all ideas to be considered. Mr. Archacki mentioned Wilton Manors has television grout and seal business they contract out. Emergency television work is something for consideration. Wilton Manors has a van with zero hours on it but no manpower to operate it. Wilton Manors has four people in their Water and Sewer Division and one employee to read meters all month. Mr. Darmanin stated the City of Fort Lauderdale has the capability to do additional TV work and may purchase another camera system. Mr. Mays suggested the municipalities could share a boneyard and asked if there was pipe fitting material available. Mr. Darmanin said if the City of Fort Lauderdale needed material, the City could contact other municipalities such as Pompano Beach which carries odd sizes. Mr. Darmanin said the idea is to combine inventory or the purchasing power for it. Ms. Leonard said the municipalities always had this relationship but Mr. Darmanin said it is now formalizing it on paper.

#### **Tentative Date for next Quarterly Meeting**

Ms. Leonard presented several dates for the next quarterly meeting in August. The next meeting will be setting the rate for the next fiscal year. Mr. Mays said having the meeting earlier in the month would be best because of the budgeting process. Ms. LeSage said the City of Fort Lauderdale will not have the final month, but there will be enough time for expenditures and there will be eleven months worth of information by then. The date tentatively chosen is August 4, 2010. The location is to be determined with the time of the meeting to be held 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

#### **Adjournment**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m. A vote to pass the adjournment was unanimous.