

**Central Wastewater Region Large User Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 12, 2011 – 1:30 p.m.
George T. Lohmeyer (GTL) Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Voting Members Present:

Julie Leonard, City of Fort Lauderdale/Assistant Utilities Services Director, Operations
Don Halquist, City of Fort Lauderdale/Senior Accountant
Vicki Minard, City of Fort Lauderdale/Assistant City Attorney
Dave Womacks, City of Oakland Park/Public Works Director
David Archacki, City of Wilton Manors/Public Services Director

In Attendance:

Mark Darmanin, City of Fort Lauderdale/Distribution and Collection Systems Manager
Miguel Arroyo, City of Fort Lauderdale/Water and Wastewater Treatment Manager
Pat Long, City of Fort Lauderdale/GTL Wastewater Treatment Facility Manager
Susan LeSage, City of Fort Lauderdale/Financial Administrator
Susan Smith, City of Oakland Park/Assistant Public Works Director
Bob Mays, City of Wilton Manors/Assistant Finance Director
Brian London, City of Tamarac/Wastewater Supervisor
Chet Jablonka, City of Tamarac/Utilities Maintenance Supervisor
Tim O'Neil, Camp Dresser & McKee/ City of Fort Lauderdale Wastewater Consultant

Welcome – Julie Leonard

Julie Leonard welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:39 p.m. Ms. Leonard thanked everyone for attending this quarterly meeting.

Introduction of Advisory Board Members and Guests

All attendees introduced themselves.

Approval of August 4, 2010 Minutes

Mr. Womacks made a motion to approve the August 4th minutes. 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

- 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. All five units have currently been rebuilt with more extensive stainless steel

cutters. Two are being held as back-ups with one channel open for excess flows. We are in the process of preparing a RFP for a demonstration project with multiple types of screening equipment.

- Plant influent channel concrete repair and an additional new 54" force main tie-in was approved at Commission in March 2010. Pressure testing has been completed on the bypass piping to requested levels. The closing of in-plant valves to begin diversion of flow to the bypass piping was begun the first week of January. The City is pursuing a change order to this project to replace a repaired 48" tapping sleeve and replace at least two 48" valves and flow meter.
- Protective coatings and minor stucco repairs of all building exteriors and piping at the plant and all piping at the deepwell injection site 99% completed by December 9.
- Bid documents and plans for rebuild of failing pretreatment parapet wall and other structural issues (doors, windows, building cracks, etc.) have been completed. We are waiting for procedures to be completed to advertise for bids.
- Repairs were completed November 23 to the passenger elevator to bring the elevator into code compliance. Total cost of repairs was \$40,000.
- Replacement of two reuse hydrostrainers has been approved by commission on December 21.
- A contract has been awarded for the replacement of air conditioning units for the effluent pump controls. Submittals have been reviewed, accepted and units have been ordered. Delivery and coating of condenser coils will take ten weeks. All parts will carry a five year warranty.
- We are planning on refurbishing all twelve biological reactor mixers beginning early this year.

Additional Ongoing Projects:

- Cryogenic Facility Instrumentation System Upgrades – This project has been awarded to Close Construction. Work is progressing on this project. It includes the following:
 - PA system upgrade. **In progress with conduit installation.**
 - Liquid Oxygen storage tank replacements. **New tanks installed 10/28/10.**
 - Concrete repair in dewatering building. **In progress.**
 - Grit classifier replacement. **Classifiers on site.**
 - Seal water system replacements. **Both in progress**
 - New hoisting equipment in pretreatment building to service influent screening area. **In progress.**
 - New Spare parts storage area in effluent building. **Completed**
 - Lime silo removal and roof repair. **Silo removed 6/15. Roof replacement partially completed.**
 - Instrumentation upgrades. **The City is attempting to contract with Air Products directly to complete this work.**

Capacity Issues

Annual average flows for the last twelve months are currently at 37.4 MGD.

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.

Plant 2250 KW generator suffered catastrophic failure October 28 during an off-line test. Rented a portable 2000 KW generator for one week and repairs were made by Pantropic by November 12. We were able to persuade Caterpillar to pay for all repairs as the generator only had 155 hours of run time in 2 ½ years. Rental of generator and 4160V transformer was \$25,460. We are pursuing a project to add a quick connect to allow a portable generator to be installed easier.

We have been injecting hydrogen peroxide into our sludge stream as it is pumped to the belt presses since September 28. This has been fairly successful in mitigating sludge hydrogen sulfide odors but at a cost of @\$215/day.

Clarifier eleven underwent replacement of some baffles and brackets. We also took the opportunity while it was out of service to paint the trough with an epoxy paint to see if it would inhibit algae growth or allow easier cleaning of the troughs.

Our generated wastewater biosolids will begin being hauled to a Residuals Management Facility in January.

Budgetary Issues

Budgets were reduced an additional five percent from submitted budget.

New polymer contract was bid and awarded at a savings of \$17,500 annually over the previous contract.

Rate Calculations – Susan LeSage

Susan LeSage informed the group the City of Fort Lauderdale will be going through the budget process six (6) weeks earlier than in previous years. This will present a challenge because in years past when budgets have been compared, there were six (6) months of expenses to review trends; this year there may only be three (3) months.. During the last budget process, the budget was reduced by five percent (5%) and eight (8) vacant positions were lost.

Ms. LeSage referred back to last fiscal year. The rate calculations for last fiscal year have not been finalized, however, at our last meeting we anticipated \$1 million in budget savings and that still holds true. Ms. LeSage said the rate per 1,000 gallons should settle somewhere around \$1.23 per thousand gallons and bill at \$1.28.

Ms. LeSage presented a spreadsheet prepared monthly for the managers reflecting year-to-date revenue and expenditures for the current year budget. The spreadsheet details the current month, the month prior, year-to-date, as well as our budget position this time last year. The first section of the spreadsheet is the revenue and compares actual to budgeted revenue. At this point in the year, Ms. LeSage said we should be at a minimum of 25% of the revenue in each of the different cities. The middle portion shows the expenditures divided in the different divisions within the fund. The last part shows expenditures divided by the type of expense such as salary and fringe benefits. Encumbrances within "Services and Materials" are purchase orders that will be spent over the entire year but look like they are spent in the month they are encumbered. After removing the total encumbered amount, the budget shows we are at 17.2% which Ms. Lesage states is well under budget.

Mr. Arroyo stated when Mr. Long was describing some of the completed projects, there will be upcoming projects costing a significant amount. So far, we have done very well at staying within our budget and hopefully remaining under budget. Mr. Arroyo wanted to flag some projects that are coming up that will add to our expenditures over the next few months.

Once again, Mr. Arroyo extended an invitation to the attendees to visit the plants. Mr. Long will give a tour and this will give a better perspective as to why some of the items are so expensive.

Old/New Business

No Old/New Business

Next Meeting

Ms. Leonard asked if the committee should set a tentative date. The budget process will be done in April therefore it would be better to have the next meeting in May. Ms. Leonard suggested May 11th which will leave three (3) meetings this year instead of four (4). The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. Wilton Manors will determine the location for the next meeting.

Adjournment

Ms. Leonard asked for a motion for adjournment. Mr. Archacki made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Womacks seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.