

**Central Wastewater Region Large User Advisory Board Meeting  
Wednesday, August 10, 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  
Chet Jablonka, City of Tamarac/Utilities Maintenance Supervisor  
Neil Buckeridge, Town of Davie/Superintendent of Operations  
Ruth Burney, Camp Dresser & McKee/City of Fort Lauderdale Wastewater Consultant

**Welcome – Julie Leonard**

Julie Leonard welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:41 p.m. Ms. Leonard thanked everyone for attending this annual rate-setting regional large user meeting.

**Introduction of Advisory Board Members and Guests**

All attendees introduced themselves.

**Approval of May 11 , 2011 Minutes**

Dave Archacki made a motion to approve the May 11<sup>th</sup> minutes. Dave Womacks 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 Request for Proposal (RFP) was released on June 23, 2011 for replacement of the JWC Channel Monsters. A mandatory pre-RFP meeting was held July 21, 2011. The RFP is scheduled to be opened August 16, 2011. Grinder #4 failed May 24, 2011 and is being evaluated for repair. Spare grinder was installed. #4 inclined auger failed because of detached brush July 8, 2011. New auger tips have been ordered for two augers.

- Protective coating of concrete in influent channel was completed June 3, 2011. A change order to this project to replace a 48" tapping sleeve and replace at least two 48" valves and flow meter was approved. Efforts are ongoing in conjunction with the contractor and CDM to isolate the original 54" raw influent line to begin these repairs. A number of older valves have posed a challenge in isolating this line. Two SSO's occurred in conjunction with this work and have been reported to the appropriate regulatory agencies.
- Bid documents and plans for rebuild of failing pretreatment parapet wall and other structural issues (doors, windows, building cracks, etc.) have been completed. Bids for this project were let May 4 and opened June 8. After awarding the project to the low bidder, ABC Construction, they subsequently backed out of the job stating they underbid and could not perform the work at the bid price. The project will be awarded August 23, 2011 to the second low bidder.
- Replacement of two reuse hydrostrainers was completed June 24, 2011. These new strainers are stainless steel which should extend their life considerably.
- One spare reactor mixer was rebuilt in April. Train B biological reactor mixers were pulled May 4 and have undergone refurbishments. Repairs were an additional \$42,000 after disassembly and inspection. All three refurbished mixers with new splash guards were installed July 29, 2011.

#### 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 work:
  - PA system upgrade. **In progress speaker installation.**
  - Liquid Oxygen storage tank replacements. **New tanks installed 10/28/10.**
  - Concrete repair in dewatering building. **Two change order areas are left to be completed.**
  - Grit classifier replacement. **Completed except for a change order to install a new relay cabinet.**
  - Seal water system replacements. **Pretreatment and effluent installed and operating with only punch list items remaining.**
  - New hoisting equipment in pretreatment building to service influent screening area. **New drum with proper length of cable to be installed.**
  - New Spare parts storage area in effluent building. **Completed**
  - Lime silo removal and roof repair. **Silo removed 6/15. Roof replacement 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 34.99 MGD. This is the lowest since July of 2004.

## **Operational Issues**

FDEP 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. Still awaiting new permit.

Still awaiting new FDEP operating permit which expired in March 2010. Application submitted September 2009. Pre-draft permit received June and review comments submitted to FDEP July 22, 2011.

## **Budgetary Issues**

GTL has recently received approval to fill four vacant positions. One Operator II vacancy was filled July 11. A second Operator II position will be filled before the end of August.

## **Rate Calculations – Susan LeSage**

Susan LeSage presented four spreadsheets for the Large Users review. She asked them to turn to the spreadsheet entitled “Central Regional W/W System – Fiscal Year 2010/11” to review the current year expenditures through July. Ms. LeSage stated although we are 10 months or 83.33% into our fiscal year we have only spent 55.38% of our budget. She then referred to the previous fiscal year spreadsheet (09/10) and showed our spending was similar last year at 55.06% of the budget at the close of the July month. Ms. LeSage then asked the group to refer to the “Computation of Rates to be Charged – No savings” and directed them to review the column entitled “10/11 Estimated”. With no savings in our current year budget, we would end up paying \$1.401 per thousand gallons. However, she felt confident there would be a savings of \$1.5 million in the 2010/11 year referring them to next spreadsheet, “Computation of rates to be Charged – with \$1.5 million in savings”, resulting in \$1.283 per thousand gallons. Throughout the year we have been billing \$1.21 per thousand gallons which would result in a payment due from each Large User at the end of this year. This is due to the extremely low flows we have experienced. Ms. LeSage further explained the lower the flows, the higher the cost per thousand. Finally, she requested they review the final column detailing the proposed budget for 2011/12. She explained the operating costs had gone up due to a new charge implemented by the City of Fort Lauderdale City Manager entitled, “Return on Investment” (ROI). This charge would increase the operating budget by \$2,652,929 resulting in a cost per thousand gallons of \$1.48. A discussion ensued where the other cities asked why this charge was being added when it has not been in the past. Ms. LeSage stated she had been directed by the Budget Office a resolution had been approved in the year 2,000 to charge the ROI but was never implemented until this year. The other cities wanted to know if they could have a copy of the resolution and have two (2) weeks to review the resolution with their attorneys. A

motion was made by Mr. Womacks to have the City Manager send a letter to all the other Large User City Manager's regarding this issue. Mr. Archacki seconded the motion. Ms. Leonard said the request will be made.

### **Old/New Business**

No old/new business

### **Next Meeting**

Ms. Leonard recommended the rate discussion be postponed and the group to meet back in two (2) weeks on August 24<sup>th</sup> when they have all had the opportunity to review their agreements and refer with their attorneys. Mr. Archacki made a motion to have the meeting on August 24<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Womacks seconded the motion. The meeting is scheduled for August 24, 2011 at 1:30 pm at Fiveash Water Treatment plant, NW 38<sup>th</sup> Street.

### **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 2:25 p.m.