

**Central Wastewater Region Large User Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 16, 2013 – 1:30 p.m.**  
**George T. Lohmeyer (GTL) Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant**

**Voting Members Present:**

Julie Leonard, City of Fort Lauderdale/Deputy Public Works Director - Utilities  
Laura Garcia, City of Fort Lauderdale/Senior Accountant  
Susan Smith, City of Oakland Park/Assistant Public Works Director  
David Archacki, City of Wilton Manors/Public Services Director  
Cole Copertino, City of Fort Lauderdale/Assistant City Attorney I  
Mark Darmanin, City of Fort Lauderdale/Distribution and Collection Systems Manager  
Miguel Arroyo, City of Fort Lauderdale/Water and Wastewater Treatment Manager

**In Attendance:**

Pat Long, City of Fort Lauderdale/GTL Wastewater Treatment Facility Manager  
Susan LeSage, City of Fort Lauderdale/Financial Administrator  
Brian London, City of Tamarac/Wastewater Supervisor  
Bob Mays, City of Wilton Manors/Assistant Finance Director  
Cliff Sanders, City of Fort Lauderdale/Regional Wastewater Plant Operator II  
Steve Curmode, City of Fort Lauderdale/Regional Chief Wastewater Operator  
Chet Jablonka, City of Tamarac/Utilities Maintenance Supervisor  
Ruth Burney, CDM Smith, Inc./City of Fort Lauderdale Wastewater Consultant  
Tim O'Neil, CDM Smith, Inc./City of Fort Lauderdale Wastewater Consultant

**Welcome – Julie Leonard**

Julie Leonard welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:35 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 1, 2012 Minutes**

Miguel Arroyo made a motion to approve the August 1<sup>st</sup> minutes. David Archacki seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

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

**Construction Project Updates**

- Influent Screening Equipment  
Four new Huber mechanical screens have been installed as of December 21, 2012. Punch list items are being addressed at the present time. The screens are removing at least three times more rags than the old equipment with no mechanical breakdowns since the installation of the first screen in November. Total cost of project was \$1.5M.
- The original 54" influent piping into the plant has been replaced with 48" ductile iron. Flow was introduced into the new line on September 13, 2012. Flow was eventually stopped to

the existing line on September 18, 2012 and the elbow directing flow to the third floor of the pre-treatment building was relocated to its permanent position on September 27, 2012. Bypass piping completely removed and wall opening repaired on October 10, 2012. Total cost of the pipe replacement project was approximately \$2M. Mr. Long was happy to announce with the assistance of the Distribution and Collection Division the project came in on time and under budget.

- Work began the week of May 14, 2012 on the pre-treatment building parapet wall replacement and building improvements. This project is complete except for Closing out of building permit issues.
- Three mixers on Reactor 2, train C were removed for rehabilitation the first week of October 2012. 115 tons of grit was removed from this reactor and disposed of at the Pompano landfill. During work on this reactor train, it was discovered that three blades had broken off of one of the mixers. These blades were repaired and reinstalled and also concrete repairs on columns within this reactor train were also completed. The refurbished mixers were reinstalled the week of January 7, 2013. One more reactor, train A must still have mixer refurbishments completed. Total cost for project is \$540K.
- Solutionwerks performed warranty work on piping originally repaired in June 2012 at the Cryogenic facility. This work was completed in August 2012. A used expander was rebuilt and is now in inventory as a spare. Solutionwerks provided an assessment of work needed at the Cryogenic plant in order for the plant to be more productive, efficient, and reliable. The work is estimated to cost \$3.5 million dollars. Some of the work identified in the assessment is being performed in January 2013 at a cost of \$144,000. The assessment has also been combined with other documents that had been developed in an attempt to update the plant, to create an RFP that will be issued to perform a rehabilitation of instrumentation, valving, and other hardware at the plant.
- Three sludge feedwell mixers and supports at the dewatering building were replaced and put into service the first week of October 2012. Cost of the project was \$95,000. TO 3 with CDM Smith to replace all conduits, wiring and control circuits to these mixers along with electrical outlets in dewatering room are in 90% design stage. Design documents will be used to secure a bid for the project.
- Task Order 6 with CDM Smith was approved at July 10 commission meeting to study and design upgrades to the switch gear and electrical feeds at FPL service point 1 (generator building). TO cost is \$425,164. This task order is in the 60% design stage.

### **Capacity Issues**

Annual average flows for the last twelve months are currently at 40.9 MGD. December 2012 was the first month the average flow had dropped below 40 MGD since March 2012.

Fourteen loads (5% of total) of biosolids have been hauled to the Residual Management Facility in Clewiston by H&H since November 1, 2012.

## **Operational Issues**

We have hired three new employees and promoted one employee since August 2012. We still have five vacant positions with two of them frozen.

## **Budgetary Issues**

Task Order 23 with CDM Smith to design replacement of four sections of PCCP concrete pipe was approved by commission on January 8, 2013. Total cost for these design services is \$241K.

## **Rate Calculations – Susan LeSage**

Susan LeSage distributed four (4) items for the group's review. 2012/2013 budget, 2011/2012 budget, snapshot of the FAMIS system page showing rebates, and the Wastewater Regional Flows.

The first sheet is the 2012/13 budget, first quarter results. So far, \$2.8 million dollars, or 18%, of the budget has been spent which is comparable to the second sheet showing FY2011/2012 for the same quarter where just under 19% of the budget was spent. The third document shows the estimated rebates. The actual price per thousand will be \$1.28. For 2011/2012 the price per thousand was billed at \$1.48 and for this year the billing will be at \$1.44 per thousand. The final document is the element determining the costs per thousand gallons. The flows for the first quarter of last fiscal year were at 4.2 billion and this year for the first quarter, the flows are down to 3.6 billion.

Because estimated amounts show on the Wastewater Regional Flow worksheet for July, August, and September, Ms. LeSage will send the corrected information to Ms. Smith and Mr. Mays.

## **Old/New Business**

Ms. Leonard mentioned at the budget kick-off meeting, the City will be hiring a consultant to review and evaluate fees the City charges. One of the objectives is to evaluate the millage rate the citizens are charged. The consultant will have the opportunity to review and approach the City Commission to recommend a change to the millage rate. As the information becomes available, Ms. Leonard will share with the board.

Burton and Associates were initially hired as the utility rate consultant and just recently the City Commission authorized a task order for them to evaluate all the enterprise and general fund.

Ms. Leonard also informed the board modifications to Chapter 28 of the Water and Sewer ordinance were made. In addition to modifying requirements for the industrial pretreatment program, changes to the advisory board section were made. The Engineering member was eliminated but a Treatment and a Distribution and Collection member were added.

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2013 at 1:30 pm. The location is to be determined.

## **Adjournment**

Ms. Leonard asked for a motion for adjournment. Mr. Copertino made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Arroyo seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

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