



District of Columbia
Water and Sewer Authority

Board of Directors
Environmental Quality and Operations Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 15, 2007, 11:00 a.m.
Room 407, COF, Blue Plains

SUMMARY MINUTES

Board Members

David W. Lake, Chairman
David J. Bardin
Joseph Cotruvo
Kenneth Davis
Secretary
Howard Gibbs
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Paivi Spoon

Staff Members

Jerry Johnson, General Manager
Leonard Benson, Dir. DET
Avis M. Russell, General Counsel
Linda R. Manley, Board

I. Call to Order

David Lake called the meeting to order at 11:25 a.m. (Planned 11:00 a.m. start was delayed by an Executive Session of the Board following the Joint Finance and Budget Committee and Environmental Quality and Operations Committee briefing on the FY09 Budget).

II. AWTP STATUS UPDATES

1. BPAWTP Performance

Akilye Tesfaye, Manager/Wastewater Treatment, reported that October performance was excellent for all parameters, below the respective 7-day and monthly limits. Flow for the month averaged 288 MGD, with excess flow of approximately 157 MG. Biosolids production was 1058 tons per day. All biosolids met EPA 503 regs for Class B and were land applied. Effluent total nitrogen for the month was 4.36 mg/l, well below the annual goal of 7.5 mg/l.

A question was raised about a dissolved oxygen (DO) level drop as indicated by a low reading on October 19th. It was explained that this was related to a short term power outage which resulted in blowers being off-line. It was further explained that this was only a partial plant outage, and no permit violations resulted from it. Plant power outages are a very infrequent occurrence.

2. Status AWTP NPDES Permit

There is no update on this issue, however the General Manager advised the Committee that the Environmental Appeals Board is hearing the protest by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation today.

III. WATER SERVICES PROGRAM

1. Coliform Testing

Mr. Kiely reported that there were no positive samples in October or to date in November.

2. LCR Compliance Testing: Report and Review Status

Mr. Kiely reported that WASA has completed Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) compliance testing for 93 samples, with 4 results above the action level of 15 µg/l, the highest being 26 µg/l and the other exceedences around 16 µg/l. 11 are still being analyzed by the Washington Aqueduct, which will complete the program for this year.

3. Fire Hydrant Program Update

Mr. Johnson reported that the MOU has been completed. The Committee requested that there be an update next month as to how the MOU is working out, particularly as regards the metrics. The General Manager agreed. Other update information was discussed in prior Executive Session.

4. Report: "Evaluation of Small Diameter Water Mains/Fire Flows Analysis"

This topic was the subject of discussion in Executive Session.

IV. WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT DIVISION/ACE

1. Agreement/Governance

Mr. Lake introduced Mr. Tom Jacobus, the General Manager of the Washington Aqueduct Division of the US Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Jacobus reviewed how he sees the interaction with customers (as embodied by the Wholesale Customer Board comprised of WASA, Arlington and Falls Church). A Powerpoint presentation contained further details of the WAD service area, its governance, budget and priorities.

Questions were raised by the Board as to how Mr. Jacobus saw the current arrangement working and what is necessary to change it. Currently there is a meeting of the Wholesale Customer Board annually and quarterly meetings of the technical committee. There are more frequent meetings when necessary such as during the lead crisis. Mr. Jacobus saw the arrangement as working well, and thought that the common good of all customers was served. All three customers receive the same treated water, with the only difference related to the pumping required to distribute the water. Capital project costs are related to peak use, and other costs based on actual use. The Committee requested, and Mr. Jacobus agreed to provide, information on long term cost trends.

A Committee member requested more information on the technical review committee available to WAD, and their expertise and independence and pointed out that there is a need for immediate response to issues that arise. The General Manager (Jerry Johnson) countered that WASA cannot control what the media wants to say and pointed out recent events where WASA's statements have been ignored in news reports. The Committee requested, and Mr. Jacobus agreed to provide, a complete list of WAD's technical advisors, their organization and their credentials.

A Committee member stated the desire that the Committee weigh in on a chlorine burn prior to its implementation.

2. Capital Program

Mr. Jacobus presented a slide that indicated the recent CIP for WAD. It indicated a drastic increase in the FY2007 budget (@ \$105.5M) which reflects the Residuals Management Facilities budget. Otherwise the program is consistent with previous years at approximately \$10M. Capital improvement priorities were also noted. In addition to the Residuals Management Facilities, there are priorities for chemical system work such as replacing chlorine facilities with sodium hypochlorite facilities, and adding caustic soda for pH trimming.

Mr. Jacobus stated that this project is currently in bidding at an estimated cost of \$87M, with bids expected December 18th, and contract award on a "best value" basis expected in February 2008. He noted that the project must be operational by November 30, 2010. Review of the technical proposals will be done by the Corps of Engineers Baltimore office. A Committee member asked if WASA could be advised of bid results. Mr. Jacobus said he would pass on the public information, the bidders and prices. Proposals will be held confidentially.

Due to some continuing concerns by a Committee member with the governance arrangement vis-à-vis WASA representation, and input into operational decisions. It was suggested by the Chairman that specific issues and concerns with the current MOU be cited with any recommended changes and justification, to be brought back to this Committee for the attention of the District members of the Committee, referral to the full Board.

The Chairman requested that Mr. Jacobus provide a quarterly update to the Committee, to which Mr. Jacobus agreed. The Committee also requested that WAD provide to WASA a written summary, including the agenda, for each meeting of the Wholesale Customers Board and the Technical advisory Committee. Mr. Jacobus also offered to give a tour of his facilities to Board members if interested.

V. IMPACT OF DC STADIUM ON WASA OPERATIONS

Mr. Johnson advised that a funding source has been identified and that relocation of operations will be done once, without an interim move as had previously been the plan. There will be staff in the Main and O Street facilities in the spring when the stadium opens. There will be an effort to clean-up and secure the grounds surrounding the facilities prior to the stadium opening. Planning and design of new facilities located elsewhere in the District are still in the early stages. There will be need for a facility for fleet operations. The General Manager advised that WASA is mindful of environmental responsibilities and will ensure that the new facilities comply with the recent City Council bill regarding green building measures.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

The following contracts were submitted for Committee action:

Contracts Considered and Approved				
No.	Type	Prime Contractor	Scope	Amount
Joint Use				
DCFA #239-WSU	Engineering Services	EMA Services, P.C.	Supplemental Agreement	\$2,884,350.00
DCFA #376-WSA	Engineering Services	Construction Dynamics Group, PC	Supplemental Agreement	\$454,695.00
050260	Construction	Ulliman Schutte Construction	Contract	\$5,000,000.00
WAS-06-005-AA-ND	Goods and Services	Urban Service Systems Corporation	Option Year 2	\$1,253,000.00
WAS-03-029-AA-JS	Goods and Services	Hardy & Son Trucking Company	Option Year 4	\$120,000.00
Non-Joint Use				
WAS-9087-AA-AB	Goods and Services	Alliance Data System	Contract Modification	\$2,690,400.00
DCFA #411-WSA	Engineering Services	Whitman, Requardt & Associates	Agreement	\$4,000,000.00
060020	Construction	Fort Myers Construction Corporation	Change Order	\$488,000.00

All action items were approved by the Committee for recommendation to the full Board with the exception of the Alliance Data System contract modification (the committee had no objection to the contract modification, but it was stated that this would be referred to the Customer and Community Service Committee for evaluation and recommendation to the Board of Directors; this action was deemed appropriate given the customer service nature of the work covered by the contract.) with appropriate modifications as requested.

A question was asked about the Engineer’s estimate for the Upper Anacostia Pumping Station contract. The low bid was 16% under the Engineer’s estimate. A Committee member objected to the Alliance contract modification, due to not having seen this contract or any modifications previously.

No emerging issues were raised.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A Committee member requested, and the General Manager agreed, to an update on the utilization of the low impact development budget item by the end of the year.

Chairman Lake requested further information as to the progression of any modification to the LSR program, and whether action or a position was required by this Committee, or the Board. The General Manager distributed a letter that outlined the preliminary schedule for this process and the scope of activities.

Chairman Lake stated that he would like to see a package that included the Board Policy, issues that have arisen during this program, and options going forward. He would like to see information prior to it being presented to stakeholders. Mr. Hemphill pointed out that Board review had been factored into the schedule, although not specifically called out. The information available has also been the subject of recent staff meetings, and there are plans to summarize information for stakeholders that may not be able to grasp the technical details, while also making the detailed information

available. It was pointed out by a Committee member that WASA should have qualified people in attendance at public meetings to respond immediately to questions.

A Committee member requested clarification on selection of stakeholders. The General Manager responded that it would be a combination of WASA selected and self-selected. The member pointed out that WASA meetings are usually not well attended and the City Council roundtable could be utilized. It was concluded that information will be available to Board members in the next couple of weeks.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lake adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Committee Requests:

- Update the Committee on Hydrant MOU progress/metrics
- Committee members to review WAD MOU and note concerns and suggested modifications
- Mr. Jacobus/WAD to furnish information on long term flow and cost trends and the names and credentials of WAD's technical advisors
- Committee to be notified prior to any proposed chlorine burn next year
- Mr. Jacobus to provide WASA/the Committee public information (bidders, bid amount) related to Residual Management Facility upon receiving bids (current bid date 12/18/07)
- Mr. Jacobus to update the Committee quarterly
- LSR program information to be furnished to the Committee/Board