



**District of Columbia
Water and Sewer Authority**

Board of Directors

**Environmental Quality and
Sewerage Services Committee**
Thursday, May 20, 2010

9:30 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Robert Hoyt, Chairperson
Howard Gibbs
James Patteson
Brenda Richardson
F. Alexis Roberson
Paivi Spoon
Beverly Warfield

WASA Staff Present

George S. Hawkins, General Manager
Leonard Benson, Acting Chief Engineer
Avis Marie Russell, General Counsel
Linda R. Manley, Board Secretary

Board Member via Conference Call

David J. Bardin

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hoyt called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.; the late start was due to a Board conference call preceding the meeting.

II. AWTP STATUS UPDATES

1. BPAWTP Performance

Mr. Walt Bailey, Director of Wastewater Treatment, noted that the plant achieved full compliance with all permit parameters in April. Precipitation, at 1.5 inches, was lower than the 2.8 inch historical average. Flow for the month averaged 310 MGD. Biosolids production averaged 1249 wet tons per day, with a 12-month rolling average of 1168 wet tons per day. BNR performance was 6 mg/l with a 12-month average of 5.5 mg/l, still well below the annual average limit of 7.5 mg/l.

The Committee requested and received clarifications on specific parameter terms and on a dip in the dissolved oxygen level. A committee member questioned whether the plant was approaching capacity. Mr. Bailey explained that the dry weather hydraulic rating of 370 MGD is not presently a concern since the plant is designed for higher wet weather flows, but the issue of increasing pollutant loads is potentially a matter of concern. These matters are being discussed by the Blue Plains Regional Committee.

III. STATUS UPDATES

1. US EPA AWTP NPDES Permit

Ms. Avis Russell, General Counsel reported that the permit has not yet been issued. EPA, in the settlement with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, has agreed to issue it by the end of June pending resolution of the issues raised by the National Marine Fisheries Service concerning certain endangered species (sturgeon, whales and sea turtles). Discussion ensued regarding the apparent position by that agency that the revised permit requirements should be measured against a no-discharge baseline.

2. US EPA LTCP/Water Quality Standards

Ms. Russell advised that there is no new news to report. DCWASA is still seeking approval from EPA for the September 2008 Facility Plan, and has sent revisions to the Consent Decree.

3. Trash TMDL

Ms. Russell advised that DC WASA has registered its concern over the impossibility of meeting a 100 percent capture requirement. Per Mr. Benson, Acting Chief Engineer, we currently estimate a 98% capture. We have asked for a technology based limit (rather than a narrative one) and a modification to the TMDL to allow permit writers some discretion. The Committee requested copies of the comments sent to DDOE.

IV. STATUS UPDATES: POTOMAC INTERCEPTOR

1. Potomac Interceptor Sewer Odor Abatement Project

Mr. David McLaughlin, Acting Director of Engineering and Technical Services, noted that the formal groundbreaking ceremony for the District and Maryland sites will be held today (May 20th) at 1:30 PM. The Virginia sites, however, are facing an issue because Fairfax County is requiring an "adequate outfall," which creates the need for additional Park Authority land. Mr. McLaughlin advised that the Fairfax Committee member has offered to help us work with county agencies to resolve this.

2. Potomac Sewerage Pumping Station-Consent Decree Compliance

Mr. McLaughlin briefly recapped the history of the issue (failure of the pumping station to meet its design rated capacity, even though pump performance tested adequately at the factory; assessment and solution recommendation by an expert panel). The final two spool pieces, which will improve pump inlet

conditions, are being installed. Results should be available by the end of next month. Mr. McLaughlin suggested that the Committee be updated at the July meeting.

V. QUARTERLY CIP REPORT

Mr. McLaughlin reviewed the CIP quarterly report, while Ms. Manley, Board Secretary, distributed a corrected page 2. Lower than anticipated bids and schedule adjustments resulted in spending below projections, although the CIP milestones and Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) are being met. The Committee discussed the impact of lower bids on retail rates. Mr. Hawkins noted that there would be a consequence but it would not be dollar for dollar.

VI. CARDIN BILL-CBP, TMDL

Mohsin Siddique, PhD, Supervisor of Environmental Planning in the Department of Engineering and Technical Services gave a presentation on the Chesapeake Clean Water and Ecosystem Restoration Act of 2009. A 2010 update of this bill is expected shortly. The bill focuses on stormwater management, includes grant funding and strengthens EPA's enforcement authority. Mr. Hawkins noted that he and Mr. Jerry Johnson met with Senator Cardin and emphasized that point sources (including wastewater treatment plants) should be responsible for only their fair share of reductions required to meet load allocations.

VII. MS4 PERMIT-EPA DRAFT

Dr. Siddique gave a presentation on the draft MS4 permit for the District. Mr. Hawkins noted that it is the most stringent MS4 permit that EPA has issued, by its own admission. Discussion took place regarding the multiple parties responsible within the District, and WASA's plan to submit comments to EPA. Mr. Hoyt noted that those comments and any outcomes can be discussed at the next meeting.

VIII. RESEARCH UPDATE: ROLE OF ESTROGENIC ACTIVITY IN WATER QUALITY

As this Committee was encroaching on the Water Quality and Water Services Committee start time, this presentation and discussion were deferred.

IX. ACTION ITEMS – JOINT USE

Mr. Benson presented the following joint use contract items to the Committee for consideration to forward to the full Board for approval:

Joint Use Contracts Considered and Approved				
No.	Type	Prime Contractor	Scope	Amount
WAS-08-025-AA-RV	Goods and Services	Carter & Carter Enterprises, Inc.	Option Year 2	\$3,132,000.00
DCFA #432-WSA	Engineering Services	Whitman, Requardt & Associates, LLP	Agreement	\$2,123,162.00

The goods and services contract is for the supply and delivery of ferric chloride. Ms. Teresa Scott, Acting Director of Procurement Services, noted that after a market survey, Ms. Maxine Buchanan of her department negotiated a lower unit cost (\$0.150/lb vs. \$0.181/lb) than was originally quoted. Mr. Benson advised the Committee that an additional engineering services item had been added to the agenda. It was removed from the Water Quality and Water Services Committee's agenda and added to this Committee's agenda based upon concerns expressed by a Board member that the item was in fact a joint use action item. It is a design contract for an overflow and diversion structure required by the Long Term Control Plan. Although after analysis by staff it was verified that it is 100% D.C. funded, it is offered for consideration by this Committee since it is part of the LTCP. The Committee agreed that both items should be forwarded to the Board for approval. The Board member requested a written explanation as to how it was concluded that no suburban flows are received by the proposed structure. Ms. Richardson advised the Committee that she and Mr. Hoyt had met with Mr. Gus Bass of Engineering and Technical Services for a discussion regarding outreach activities.

X. EMERGING ISSUES/OTHER BUSINESS

1. An SOP with regard to exercising options on contracts

Discussion on this topic was deferred to a future meeting.

2. Cost of trash reduction activities

Discussion on this topic was deferred to a future meeting.

3. Differences in unit cost of land application contract work WSSC vs. DCWASA

Discussion on this topic was deferred to a future meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Follow-up Items

1. In the future, ensure pages in the Department of Wastewater Treatment report are numbered.
2. Provide a Board member with an explanation of flow origination in the proposed overflow and diversion structure design action item.
3. Furnish the Committee with copies of comments that WASA forwarded to DDOE regarding the proposed Trash TMDL.
4. Reschedule the continuation of the presentation on estrogenic compounds.
5. Reschedule discussion on Emerging Issues/Other Business.
6. Update the Committee at July meeting concerning the Potomac Sewerage Pumping Station Flow performance.