

**District of Columbia  
Water and Sewer Authority**

**Board of Directors**

**Environmental Quality and  
Sewerage Services Committee**

*Thursday, June 16, 2011*

*9:30 a.m.*

**MEETING MINUTES**



**Committee Members Present**

Robert Hoyt, Chairperson  
Joseph Cotruvo  
Howard Gibbs  
David Lake  
F. Alexis Roberson

**DC Water Staff Present**

George Hawkins, General Manager  
David McLaughlin, Director, Engineering  
Randy Hayman, General Counsel  
Debra Mathis, Executive Assistant to the  
Board Secretary

**Other Board Members Present**

David J. Bardin  
Dawn Hawkins-Nixon  
Samuel Wynkoop

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Robert Hoyt, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

**II. AWTP STATUS UPDATES**

**1. BPAWTP Performance**

Mr. Walter Bailey, Assistant General Manager for Wastewater Treatment reported that May was a dry month, with precipitation at 1.7 inches vs. the 3.8 inch historical average. Consequently, flow was low at 289 MGD with a 12-month average of 298 MGD. Nitrogen compliance was 5 mg/l for the month with an annual average of 4.6 mg/l. There were no excess flow events. Biosolids production was 1118 wet tons per day for a 12-month average of 1173 wet tons per day. All permit parameters were met. A question was raised regarding E. coli reports and Mr. Bailey noted that this is a new requirement, and reported that the colonies per 100 milliliters are typically only 1 to 2 vs. the 126 limit. A question was raised regarding the cause of DC flow being reported as 134 MGD at Blue Plains, while 96 MGD of drinking water was purchased. Mr. Bailey noted that there is infiltration/inflow and combined sewage flows that result in the increased treatment amount. It was requested that a trends analysis be done; Mr. Hoyt will discuss this request with staff.

### **III. STATUS UPDATES**

#### **1. LTCP Easements Permits**

Mr. Hawkins reported on the status of obtaining easements and permits for the proposed tunnel alignments. Permits have been received from NPS and USACE. DC Water is in the process of negotiating easements with the US Navy, and those discussions are on schedule. Obtaining easements from DDOT continues to be an issue. DDOT sent a request to FHWA recommending a hybrid solution involving permits for near surface facilities and easements for the deeper tunnel structure. DC Water will follow up with FHWA and DDOT on the status of this request.

In response to a question, Mr. McLaughlin reported that the proposed monthly status report provided to the Committee this month is focused on permits needed for the Blue Plains Tunnel, although some permits issued also cover facilities needed for the Anacostia River Tunnel. A question was raised as to whether the facilities being constructed under contract 110050 (an action item for the Committee) could be impacted by future permitting decisions. Mr. McLaughlin stated that there has been no indication from any permitting agency that the tunnel alignment would have to be changed enough to impact either the location or configuration of these facilities. The facilities must be located at the confluence of the Northeast Boundary sewer and the Anacostia River tunnel, and must be completed before the tunnel construction can commence.

### **IV. STATUS UPDATES: POTOMAC INTERCEPTOR**

#### **1. Potomac Pump Station**

Mr. David McLaughlin reported that DC Water is continuing with the new impeller design. In parallel, staff is working on an alternative proposal which would require modifications to the consent decree if the impeller change does not sufficiently improve performance.

#### **2. Odor Abatement Project**

Mr. McLaughlin reported that construction of the Maryland and DC sites is proceeding. As for the Virginia sites; permit approval processes are continuing in anticipation of issuing an Invitation for Bids in late June.

A Board member noted that a portion of the costs of these facilities is borne by District ratepayers, although there is no District flow in the sewer at these locations. He requested that staff provide a summary of all costs paid by District ratepayers as a result of the reserved capacity allocated to the District.

## **V. ACTION ITEMS – JOINT USE**

Mr. McLaughlin presented the following contractual action items for Committee action and discussed the scope of each.

Joint Use:

1. Contract No. DCFA-394-WSA, AECOM
2. Contract No. 100200, Ulliman Schutte Construction, LLC
3. Contract No. 090190, Corinthian Contractors, Inc.

Non Joint Use:

4. Contract No. 110050, Ulliman Schutte Construction, LLC
5. Contract No. 110060, Fort Myer Construction Corp.

Ms. Roberson questioned the lack of local subcontractors on two contracts. Mr. Hawkins assured Ms. Roberson that procurement guidelines were followed; Federal funding guidelines disallow local preference on such projects.

Mr. Bardin requested that staff provide the Federal guidelines that govern the expenditure of Federal CSO appropriations.

No objections to any of the action items were raised by the Committee and Mr. Hoyt noted they will be forwarded to the full Board for consideration.

## **VI. DC WATER/CONTRACTOR EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

Mr. Hawkins noted DC Water's record of success in contracting with local, small and disadvantaged businesses. In summary, over \$340 million has been awarded to local, small or disadvantaged (M/WBE) firms in the past five years. This represents over 60% of the total value of contracts awarded. In the area of contractor employment practices, DC Water requires contractors to enter into a first source employment agreement with the District Department of Employment Services (DOES). However, DC Water has no enforcement authority and does not monitor compliance with the First Source agreement, as this is a DOES responsibility. Discussion among Committee members ensued as to the effectiveness of the DOES program, and whether a similar program

should be in place for suburban areas where joint use contracts are involved. Discussion also focused on the mandate of this Committee and that of the Governance Committee on this issue.

## **VII. VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT**

Mr. Caldwell, Director of Facilities and Security, reported on the status of the ongoing physical vulnerability assessment for all of DC Water facilities. The process will result in a Security Master Plan. The results from the vulnerability study of drinking water facilities completed by Sandia Labs 10 years ago will be reviewed and integrated into the plan. Efforts must and will be made to interconnect with the Washington Aqueduct's security efforts.

## **VIII. EMERGING ISSUES/OTHER BUSINESS**

### **1. LTCP CSO 007 Facilities Letter Agreement**

Mr. Hawkins presented an agreement with DDOT that would allow DC Water to include the construction of a section of a diversion sewer necessary for the Clean Rivers' project in conjunction with the 11th Street Bridge project. This work will be done under the terms of an existing MOU between DC Water and DDOT which allows for DC Water to reimburse DDOT for work done on our behalf. However, in this case DDOT is requiring DC Water to provide funding upfront. While Mr. Hawkins does not wish to set a precedent with this action, he stated that this was the only solution in order to complete the necessary work in a timely manner and that there were safeguards in place in the unlikely event that reimbursement became an issue. Committee members agreed with Mr. Hawkins that we should not set a precedent and expressed strong concern with upfront funding, but acknowledged the need for the approach in this case.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Hoyt adjourned the Committee at 11:20 a.m.

### **Follow-up Items**

Provide a summary of costs incurred by DC ratepayers as a result of the Potomac Interceptor reserved capacity allocation.

Provide details of Federal guidelines that govern the expenditure of Federal CSO appropriations.