

**District of Columbia
Water and Sewer Authority**

Board of Directors

**Environmental Quality and
Sewerage Services Committee**

Thursday, January 20, 2011

9:30 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES



Committee Members Present

David Lake, Vice Chairperson
Joseph Cotruvo
Howard Gibbs
F. Alexis Roberson
Paivi Spoon
Beverly Warfield

DC Water Staff Present

George Hawkins, General Manager
Leonard Benson, Chief Engineer
Randy Hayman, General Counsel
Linda Manley, Board Secretary

Board Member

David J. Bardin

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. David Lake, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. He noted that the first item of business would be an Executive Session which he hoped to limit to fifteen minutes, after which the Committee meeting would resume in open session.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. David Lake, immediately adjourned to Executive Session and reconvened the open Committee meeting at 10:12 a.m.

III. AWTP STATUS UPDATES

1. BPAWTP Performance

Mr. Akile Tesfaye, Director of Wastewater Treatment reported that the plant achieved full compliance with all permit parameters for December. Flow for the month averaged 276 MGD with no excess flow events. Precipitation for the month, at 1.78 inches, was lower than the average for December. Biosolids production averaged 1220 wet tons per day with most land applied. BNR performance was good at a TN (total nitrogen) average of 4.0 mg/l, and the 2010 twelve month total was 4.8 million pounds of nitrogen discharged; much better

than the permit goal maximum. DC Water ended the calendar year with full compliance of its permit, so a NACWA award is expected.

Mr. Lake pointed out the participation in professional conferences by Dr. Murthy and other staff, and it is a source of pride for him as a Board member that DC Water has such a prominent role in the industry. A Committee member asked about the status of the Cedarville sludge storage site. Mr. Tesfaye noted that the available storage capacity is 30,000 wet tons and it held 5,000 at the end of December.

The Committee noted that some questions related to the pretreatment program were left open; Mr. Lake advised that an update will be scheduled in the next couple of months. A Board member noted that there were ideas raised on related fees and recommended that Mr. Hoyt consider whether the fee discussion needs to come to this Committee.

IV. EMERGING ISSUES

1. Update: Fresh Creek End of Pipe Trash Capture System

Dr. Mohsin Siddique, Supervisor-Environmental Planning, reported on DC Water's operational experience with a trash capture system manufactured by Fresh Creek Technologies. It was installed as a pilot project on CSO 018 in 2000, maintained by the manufacturer for a year and monitored by COG. There was interest expressed in implementing this technology on other outfalls but suitable locations with the necessary water depth, accepting adjacent property owners, and adequate accessibility could not be identified. The system has been kept operational by DC Water, and removes 300 to 500 lbs of trash per month. Dr. Siddique noted that Clean Rivers Project will divert trash from combined sewer overflows through the tunnel system to Blue Plains.

2. Sewers Under Buildings

Mr. David McLaughlin, Director of Engineering and Technical Services, briefed the Committee on an upcoming outreach activity to owners of buildings constructed over public sewers. During the development of the sewer system assessment, we identified over 1800 such structures. These sewers are to be inspected over the next 15 months. Notification to 10,000 identified customers will be going out before the next Committee meeting. The Committee asked whether there are legal implications and appropriate easements. Mr. McLaughlin stated that in most cases there are no easements. It was suggested that the General Counsel look into the easement issue and the legality of properties over the sewers. A more detailed discussion of this topic is planned for inclusion in an upcoming presentation requested by the Committee on the sewer inspection

program, and further information on the customer outreach efforts will be provided to the Water Quality and Water Services Committee meeting immediately following this meeting. The Board member present requested that information on the makeup of customers involved (residential/other) be provided to the Retail Rates Committee.

V. STATUS UPDATES

1. Chesapeake Bay TMDL and DC WIP

Mr. Leonard Benson, Chief Engineer, reported on EPA's efforts to issue the TMDL for the Chesapeake Bay, which was finished in December. Separately, the DC Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) was issued by DDOE subsequent to public comment. With regard to the TMDL, DC Water was successful in its technical comments to EPA with regard to nutrient loading, in that Blue Plains received an allocation that cannot be unilaterally taken away from Blue Plains by a jurisdiction for use elsewhere. The Blue Plains Regional Committee would have to review and agree to any re-allocations. The TMDL is now consistent with our NPDES permit. We did not get language to guide permit writers as we had hoped for, however, there are no unanticipated financial implications resulting from the TMDL as issued. Mr. Hawkins noted that these negotiations were very intense and ultimately very successful, as there have not been any protests of the permit.

VI. ACTION ITEMS – JOINT USE

Mr. Benson presented the following contractual action items for Committee review and discussed the scope of each. The action items related to the proposed FY 2012 budget were deferred until later in this meeting.

Joint Use:

1. Contract No. WAS-0100020, Ulliman Schutte Construction , LLC
2. Contract No. DCFA #429-WSA; ARCADIS

The first action item pertains to the second contract necessary to complete the ENRF project for NPDES permit compliance. The second action item is for construction management services related to the biosolids management projects. Mr. Lake confirmed that the Committee agreed with forwarding both action items to the full Board for approval. Mr. Lake noted that the Committee would like to see the source of Federal funds (grant program versus congressional appropriation) noted on the fact sheets.

VII. MAJOR PROJECTS STATUS UPDATE

In response to a Committee request at the last meeting, Mr. Benson discussed the status of the component projects that make up the Enhanced Nutrient Removal Facility, the Biosolids Management Plan, and the Clean Rivers Project. It was noted that we are receiving very favorable construction bids due to the local and national economy. ENRF's two contracts and the initial BMP contract received bids thirty percent lower than expected. Basically we continue on-time and within budget on these large programs. The Clean Rivers Project recently received proposals for the Blue Plains tunnel from the three competing teams. Easement negotiations with the District for the public space needed to construct and operate the tunnel have been difficult but it is expected that we may be able to make progress as the new DC administration gets in place. A Board member suggested that a resolution be developed from the DC Water Board to the Mayor and City Council on this issue at the appropriate time.

VIII. CSO REPORTING

Due to time constraints, this topic was deferred.

IX. BLUE PLAINS REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Benson noted that decisions on cost sharing for multi-jurisdiction use facilities are defined in the IMA.. Mr. Hawkins noted that this is a fairly involved topic that could take far more than the time allotted in this meeting, and that the subject was added to the agenda based on changes to the cost allocation for the Influent Sewer Rehabilitation project. The fact sheet for the construction contract related to the first element of the influent sewers rehabilitation showed the standard "60/40" Blue Plains split. While this is true of the influent sewer system as a whole the near term construction work impacted components of the system that convey mostly District flow, as identified by the recently developed hydraulic analysis. Actual cost allocations for this project and other multi-jurisdictional use facilities will be made on the basis of the hydraulic analysis after agreement with the users.

X. CIP-ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION

Discussion took place regarding whether Board members' approval of the CIP implied approval of project and facility cost allocations as presented in the CIP budget book. It was determined that appropriate language should be added to the approving resolution to clarify that cost allocations shown were not being endorsed by the Board but would be subject to revision based on good engineering practice, accounting and legal compliance. Mr. Hawkins pointed out a concern that the resolution language before the Committee did not incorporate reference to the role played by the IMA in establishing cost allocations. The Committee agreed to modify the proposed language to read: "Any such cost allocations shall be subject to further revision based on good engineering practice, sound accounting methods, IMA and other legal compliance or any

future determinations that the Board of Directors may make.” With the preceding changes, the Committee agreed to recommend the capital budget action items to the Board for approval.

XI. CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDERS

Due to time constraints, this topic was deferred.

XII. COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE 2011 AND ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Manley reminded Mr. Lake that the Committee was required to approve the 2011 schedule of Committee meetings. Mr. Lake confirmed with the Committee that they concurred with the continuance of the current scheduling on the third Thursday of the month. Mr. Lake then adjourned the Committee at 11:42 a.m.