

**District of Columbia  
Water and Sewer Authority**

**Board of Directors**

**Environmental Quality and  
Sewerage Services Committee**

*Thursday, July 21, 2011*

*9:30 a.m.*

**MEETING MINUTES**



**Committee Members Present**

Robert Hoyt, Chairperson  
Joseph Cotruvo  
Howard Gibbs  
David Lake  
F. Alexis Roberson  
James Patteson  
Brenda Richardson

**DC Water Staff Present**

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

**Other Board Members Present**

David J. Bardin

**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. Walt Bailey, Assistant General Manager for Wastewater Treatment, reported that June was an exceptionally dry month, with precipitation at 1.68 inches vs. the 3.13 inch historical average. Consequently, flow was low at 272 MGD with a 12-month average of 290 MGD. Nitrogen compliance was 5.6 mg/l for the month with an annual average of 4.6 mg/l. There were no excess flow events. Biosolids production was 1141 wet tons per day for a 12-month average of 1172 wet tons per day. All permit parameters were met. Dr. Cotruvo suggested that DC Water Public Affairs put together a press release that would draw attention to the exceptional performance at Blue Plains in reducing effluent nitrogen discharges below Chesapeake Bay goals. Mr. Bardin noted that electricity use has precipitously declined since May 2009 and asked whether this decline would continue. Mr. Bailey responded that electricity use has leveled off, and that recent reductions in energy use are most likely attributed to low flow and the installation of fine bubble diffusers. The Committee requested that the labels on the Biological Nutrient Removal charts (page 6 of this month's materials) be revised to

indicate the permit limits (future requirements).

### **III. STATUS UPDATES**

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

Mr. Carlton Ray, Director, DC Clean Rivers program, reported on the status of obtaining easements or permits for the proposed tunnel alignments. The US Navy has committed to a 50 year easement for the Blue Plains tunnel, following completion of the Environmental Assessment process. A construction license will be issued concurrently. FHWA responded to DDOT's request recommending a "hybrid" solution (easements for deep tunnels, permits for near surface structures), stating that easements would not be allowed as DC has no FHWA approved utility accommodation policy. DC Water continues to negotiate a utility accommodation policy with FHWA. DDOT has committed to issuing the necessary permit for the Blue Plains tunnel, and DC Water has drafted an MOU with DDOT that includes a provision that DDOT share equally in the cost if above ground structures need to be relocated in the future to accommodate DDOT construction.

The District Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) has advised that they will approve easements for the tunnel facilities (in areas not controlled by DDOT). Mr. Bardin requested clarification regarding the reported \$4.2M cost of gaining DMPED easements and whether this cost should be deducted from D.C. Water's existing payment to the District for easements. Mr. Benson stated that he would report back to the Committee with more information on the cost (and cost rational) of the easements.

Ms. Roberson questioned whether it might be beneficial for DC Water management to coordinate all of the permit requirements for this project at a high level in the DC Government. Mr. Benson noted that the General Manager has initiated these discussions with the City Administrator, Mr. Alan Lew, and that it would be appropriate to continue these discussions once Mr. Lew takes his seat on the DC Water Board of Directors later this year. Mr. Bardin requested an updated Permits/Easements Status Report, including anticipated dates, during the August recess.

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

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

Mr. David McLaughlin, Director, Engineering and Technical Services, reported that DC Water is continuing with the current recommended upgrade to the pump station. Design, fabrication, and installation of the new impellers will continue through the end of 2011.

## **2. Odor Abatement Project**

Mr. McLaughlin reported that the construction for the VA sites has been advertized and bids are expected to be taken in mid-August. Construction of the Maryland and DC sites continues.

Mr. Bardin questioned why the NPS has requested a change in elevation of the restroom building floor at the DC site. Mr. McLaughlin explained that although the facility is located above the 100-year flood level, NPS wants the restroom floor level with the top of an adjacent earthen berm. Mr. Hoyt asked whether this cost would fall upon DC Water. Mr. McLaughlin responded that yes, the cost of the elevation change would fall on DC Water, since this is a change to the design. However, costs related to issues with workmanship at Sites 4 and 17 reported this month are the responsibility of the contractor.

## **V. DC CLEAN RIVERS, PCO (PROGRAM CONSULTANTS ORGANIZATION) SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENTS**

Mr. Benson introduced the presentation by advising the Committee that two supplemental agreements to increase funding for the DC Clean Rivers Program Consultants were on today's agenda. Due to the significant cost of these supplements, a presentation was being provided to enlighten the Committee on the need for this action. Mr. Benson advised that the need for these supplemental agreements was anticipated and does not reflect cost overruns. The Clean Rivers program remains on schedule and within budget. He then turned over the presentation to Mr. Carlton Ray, Director of the Clean Rivers program. Mr. Ray reviewed the history of the \$2.6B project, the result of a 2005 Consent Decree with the DOJ and US EPA. He noted that all milestones have been met to date. Mr. Ray reviewed the management structure of the project, including the role of the Program Consultants organization (PCO). He also reviewed with the Committee the program budget and costs to date.

Dr. Cotruvo questioned the legality of allowing contractors to manage other contractors, which he stated is not permitted within the federal government. Mr. Hayman, DC Water General Counsel, stated that he was not aware of any prohibition that would affect local government agencies but would research Dr. Cotruvo's question. The Committee requested that Mr. Ray provide a list of members on the Project Review Board. Ms. Richardson recommended robocalls be implemented in the process of notifying the public prior to construction activities.

## **VI. PRETREATMENT PROGRAM REGULATIONS UPDATE**

Discussion of this topic was deferred until the September Committee meeting, to allow staff to review comments on the proposed regulations recently received during the public comment period.

## VII. ACTION ITEMS – JOINT USE

Mr. Benson presented action items 1 through 4, and Ms. Teresa Scott, from the Department of Procurement, presented action items 5 through 8 for Committee action and discussed the scope of each. Action item 9, related to pretreatment regulations, was deferred to the September meeting.

Joint Use:

1. Contract No. DCFA-420, Greeley and Hanson LLC
2. Contract No. DCFA-421, JA Underground Professional Corporation
3. Contract No. 040060, Ulliman Schutte Construction, LLC
4. Contract No. 080010, Singleton Electric Company, Inc.
5. Contract No. WAS-10-074-AH-MB, TieBridge, Inc.
6. Contract No. WAS-10-074-AE, MB, Namtra Business, Inc.
7. Contract No. WAS-06-012-AA-JW, First Vehicle Services
8. Contract No. WAS-06-030-AA-ND, Allied Barton Services
9. Recommendation concerning Final Approval of Revision to Pretreatment Regulations (This action item was pulled from the agenda by management for reasons explained during discussion under Agenda Item VII.)

Regarding the Greeley Hansen and JA Underground contracts, Mr. Patteson asked whether DC Water has considered hiring full-time employees rather than using consultants. Mr. Benson responded that due to the specialized nature of this work, DC Water has encountered difficulty in identifying viable candidates even for the limited number of staff positions currently planned. The organization structure for the Clean Rivers program anticipates continuing to hire the necessary staff through engineering consultants; however DC Water will review the staffing plan prior to the procurement of out-sourced services that will be necessary after the end date of the current contracts, i.e., March, 2014.

Ms. Teresa Scott discussed the four goods and services contracts (items 5 – 8). The Committee questioned the procurement actions being proposed for the two contracts for IT staffing services. They requested that both of these contracts be reintroduced with additional information (identify approved budgeted funds/authorization) at the September Committee meeting.

Ms. Roberson advised the chairman that she would not vote for the First Vehicle Services contract extension, because the company involved is not local. Ms. Scott explained that the contract extension is necessary to allow the development of an in-house information technology system to be developed and incorporated into the new contract, which will go out to bid later this year.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Steve Caldwell, Director of Facilities and Security, explained the reasons for the extension to the contract with Allied Barton.

Following the discussions, the Committee agreed to forward the action items, with the

exception of items 5, 6 and 9 to the Board for approval. Action items 5, 6 and 9 will be reintroduced at the September meeting.

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

1. Guidelines for Federal CSO Appropriations
2. WSSC Biosolids Management Feasibility Study

Both topics were deferred until the September Committee meeting. Mr. Bardin asked that the materials related to both items be provided to the Finance and Budget Committee.

### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Hoyt adjourned the Committee at 11:45 a.m.

### **Follow-up Items**

1. Update the nitrogen load graphs provided in the Wastewater Treatment monthly report
2. Provide an updated Permits/Easements Status Report, including anticipated dates, during the August recess
3. Provide information on the cost/payment for the DMPED approved Clean Rivers easements
4. Provide a list of DC Clean Rivers Project Review Board members.
5. Determine whether there are legal limitations on contractors managing other contractors.
6. Provide information on the emerging issues topics to the Finance and Budget Committee