



*District of Columbia
Water and Sewer Authority*

**Board of Directors
Environmental Quality and Operations
Committee Meeting**

Thursday, July 20, 2006, 9:30 a.m.
Room 407, COF, Blue Plains

SUMMARY MINUTES

Board Members

David Lake, Acting Chairman
David J. Bardin
Brenda Richardson
Beverly Warfield
Howard C. Gibbs
Kenneth Davis
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Joseph Cotruvo

Staff Members

Jerry Johnson, General Manager
Avis Russell, General Counsel
Linda R. Manley, Board Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER

David Lake called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.m.

II. STATUS UPDATES

1. BPAWTP Performance

Average flow at Blue Plains for the month of June was 336 MGD. Excess flow due to wet weather events of approximately 298 MG was treated through primary treatment, disinfection, and dechlorination. Rainfall for the month was 14.02" compared to the average June rainfall of 3.13". All permit parameters were met. Biosolids production was 1,326 tons per day, and effluent total nitrogen for the month was 5.27 mg/L vs. a permitted annual goal of 7.5 mg/L.

2. Status AWTP NPDES Permit

This will be covered under Agenda Item IV.

III. WATER SERVICE PROGRAM

1. Coliform Testing

WASA tested 219 samples under the TCR with only one positive result.

2. Orthophosphate Addition/OCCT

EPA has stated that WASA has achieved the OCCT goals with the orthophosphate addition. However WASA needs additional clarification from the EPA on control parameter (pH) responsibilities between WAD and WASA.

The Committee asked if the orthophosphate addition was placing a burden on Blue Plains for phosphate removal. The removal only has a marginal impact on plant operations and cost.

The Committee requested that the General Manager send an email to each Committee Member on the preliminary analysis of the cause of the recent water main break on Connecticut Ave. SW.

3. LCR Compliance Testing: Results and Trends

WASA has completed the required 100 samples required from January through June. Of these samples, 90% were at 10 ppm or less. There were five samples exceeding the action level, and all but one were less than 20 ppm. The current sampling requirement is to sample 100 sites two times per year. WASA will consider seeking USEPA approval to change to a regulation allowed reduced sampling program after the next sampling semester.

4. WAD Capital Program Update

Mr. Tom Jacobus of the Washington Aqueduct made a PowerPoint presentation on the Washington Aqueduct Capital Program. The presentation encompassed two process modifications and one construction project: a disinfection process change, modification to the pH trimming system, and the Residuals Facility. Mr. Jacobus emphasized the coordination with the local citizens and political representatives.

The Committee asked if other utilities were making the change from chlorine disinfection to sodium hypochlorite. Fairfax has changed to the sodium hypochlorite, while WSSC has not. Many utilities nationwide changed to hypochlorite for safety reasons after 9/11/01.

The Committee asked what the additional cost of operation would be using the sodium hypochlorite. This would be in the range of \$800,000 to \$1 million per year.

Regarding the residuals facility project, Mr. Jacobus stated that the approval of both the NCPD and the CFA would be required for this project, and accordingly were being sought by WAD.

The Committee requested that Mr. Jacobus make a regular quarterly presentation to keep the Committee informed on the progress of these and other programs.

IV. REGULATORY ISSUES

At the last Committee Meeting, there was a closed session discussion of legal issues relating to the TDML requirements. There will be a conference call tomorrow with all Board members to discuss this issue.

TMDL

WASA met with EPA in Philadelphia on the water quality/TMDL issues. EPA has circulated a draft memo of comments related to EPA's regulatory strategy to convert pollutant loads into an expressed "daily limit". EPA has indicated that it would take 18-months to complete the regulation. As an alternative strategy, WASA is developing a petition to the Supreme Court and has until Monday to make the decision to file (Board conference call 7/21/06). It is expected that October is the earliest that the court will respond.

LTCP Phase II Permit Language

The Phase II permit treatment of captured CSO flows negotiations are making good progress, and we may be close to a settlement.

MS4 NPDES Permit Issues

Information on the MS4 permit will be mailed to the Committee members.

The Committee requested that a summary of the information gained by staff (John Dunn and Avis Russell) attending the tunneling conference related to the LTCP be mailed to the Committee members.

NPDES Permit

A copy of WASA's June 21, 2006, letter to EPA related to the permit has been provided to each Board member. On July 12, 2006 WASA's Deputy General Manager and General Counsel met with Jon Capacasa of EPA and his support staff in Philadelphia. EPA accepted WASA's schedule for developing a plan and schedule for achieving final Total Nitrogen (TN) permit limits, but did not accept WASA's interim TN limit proposal. EPA is scheduled to issue a draft permit in mid- August, and WASA agreed to perform additional analysis and share this with EPA. WASA is presently drafting a position paper with respect to interim TN limits and is expected to forward this to EPA on or about July 30, 2006.

V. SEWER SYSTEM EVALUATION AND PLANNING STUDY AND FACILITY PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Roger Gans (DC WASA Planning and Design) presented a PowerPoint overview of the project. The presentation covered the scope of the project and the logic of the prioritization for inspections. The presentation also covered the schedule for completing the project. From the results of the inspections to date, WASA's sewer system appears to be in relatively good shape considering its age and compared to comparable systems (e.g. Chicago). This study will not be completed until next summer. Recommendations concerning the Sewer Service area of the CIP will be made at that point. The Committee requested a breakdown, number of feet by diameter, of the sewers that are less than 18" in diameter.

The Committee also requested copy of the report resulting from our analysis of the causative factors of the overflows caused by the recent heavy rains.

The Committee encouraged WASA to increase public notification and outreach relating to maintenance of the sewer systems particularly with regard to catch basin cleaning.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

No Action Items were presented to the Committee.

VII. EMERGING ISSUES

An Addendum restarting the Egg Shaped Digester bidding was issued on July 11, with bids due on August 9.

The Mirant Alexandria power plant was shut down in August 2005 because of air quality issues. Because of this, to ensure availability of electric power to PEPCO customers, PEPCO installed two additional 69 kV feeders to WASA from another substation in PEPCO's grid. However, subsequent to the installation of the two new feeders, Mirant was directed by the Federal government to restore operation of the Alexandria generating station at near full generating capacity as needed to meet system demand. Consequently, WASA now has the additional feeders that we had requested earlier, and at no cost to WASA. These two new feeders provide a redundant source of power in case of loss of a feeder from the Mirant plant, as we experienced on May 17, 2006.

The Committee asked if WASA had emergency generators at any of their main facilities. The staff response was, "No, emergency generators would not be cost efficient".

WASA has begun recruitment for a new Chief Engineer as Mr. Dunn has put in his resignation effective February 2007.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was presented.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lake adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.