

**Central Wastewater Region Large User Advisory Board Meeting  
Wednesday August 9, 2017 – 1:30 P.M.  
Fiveash Training Room, City of Fort Lauderdale**

**Voting Members Present:**

Miguel Arroyo, City of Fort Lauderdale / Water and Wastewater Treatment manager  
Rick Johnson, City of Fort Lauderdale / Distribution & Collections Systems Manager  
Kimberly Mosley, City of Fort Lauderdale / Assistant City Attorney III  
Mark Collins, City of Oakland Park / Assistant Public Works Director  
Bob Mays, City of Wilton Manors, Finance Director

**In Attendance:**

Carol Conol, City of Wilton Manors / Assistant Finance Director  
Chris Lips, City of Oakland Park / Utilities Manager  
Tim O'Neil, CDM Smith, Inc.  
Susan LeSage, City of Fort Lauderdale / Business Manager  
Kym Holcombe, City of Fort Lauderdale / Financial Administration  
Alicia Sheffield, City of Fort Lauderdale / Accountant II  
Rafeela Persaud, City of Fort Lauderdale / Administrative Assistant I

**Welcome – Mr. Talal Abi-Karam**

Mr. Abi-Karam called the meeting to order to 1:35 p.m., welcomed everyone and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

**Approval of April 6, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Miguel Arroyo made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 26, 2017. Rick Johnson seconded. The meeting minutes for the April 26, 2017 were approved. Vote was unanimous.

**Update on the G.T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant – Miguel Arroyo**

**Construction Project Updates**

- P11710 (Emergency Generator/Switchgear Upgrades) - The contractor (Florida Design Contractors, Inc. (FDC) is on schedule to complete the project on February 6, 2018.
- P11773 (PCCP Pipe Replacement – Stage 1) - The bid was awarded and a pre-construction meeting was held on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Submittal for bypass pumping is being reviewed.
- P12107 (Sludge Weighing Truck Scales) – The notice to proceed was issued July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and is under construction. This project will replace sludge truck scales in the dewatering building. The estimated cost of this project was \$188,000. The winning bid was \$141,654.13.
- P12171 (Butler Building Restoration at the Deepwell Site) - Engineering staff worked with BCC Engineering to perform the structural inspections. A preliminary planning order of magnitude contractor's cost estimate would likely be more than \$300,000 to upgrade the building to current building codes. Engineering staff is considering recommendation options.

*Mr. Arroyo added that the cost will increase to approximately \$500,000 due later developments – the concrete foundation/elevation needs to be updated.*

- P11770 (Main Air Compressor A at the Cryogenic Plant) - Budgeted cost of the project was \$355,000. The low bid was \$297,653. The bid was awarded and notice to proceed was granted on April 20, 2017. The contract is for 225 calendar days, and is on schedule. The old MAC A has been demolished.
- The chlorine piping system in the Chlorine Building will be replaced along with the chlorinators and evaporators in late 2017.

### **Capacity Issues**

- Annual average flows for the last twelve months are currently at 38.0 MGD.

### **Operational Issues**

- On May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017, FDEP issued a new Operating Permit for GTL's deepwells (5).
- Three General Contractors are currently onsite for projects P11710, P11773 and P11770. Ensuring the plant continues to meet permit limits while under construction is of foremost concern.
- The LOX plant is ready for another major maintenance turnaround. We will attempt to piggy-back off existing Hollywood contract. The cost will range from \$400,000 to \$650,000.

### **Budgetary Issues**

- The packaged odor control system serving the sludge holding tanks was evaluated. The media and several other components are past useful life and need to be replaced.
- The dewatering belt presses are being evaluated to determine when they should be replaced. The Renewal and Replacement Analysis will help with this decision.
- The remaining stages of the PCCP replacement project (P11773) cost will be significant due to required bypass pumping.

### **Old and New Business**

- The City is recommending the replacement of the addition of hydrogen peroxide with a new corrosion inhibitor at the wastewater collection (re-pumps). This initiative is estimated to add \$1.8 million every year. This chemical will protect the regional force mains as well as expected to reduce hydrogen sulfide levels. *Mr. Arroyo explained that the chemical, VX456 will be applied within the Regional Wastewater Collection pump stations to allow the chemical to have a longer contact time to reduce the harmful Hydrogen Sulfide.*

- Evaluation of the plant equipment indicates that an additional 15 motor control centers and associated unit substations will need to be replaced over the next five years at an estimated cost of \$15 million *(an additional cost which will be added to the next R&R)*.
- The GTL operational staff in consultation with the Public Works Engineering and its wastewater consultant, is reviewing the task order to prepare a 30% design criteria package to replace the existing cryogenic plant (over 30 years old) with newer technology vacuum pressure swing absorption.
- The GTL operational staff:
  - Arranged to have one of the effluent pump motors (1,250 hp) rebuilt at approximately \$25,000.
  - Is securing proposals to purchase two new effluent check valves and rebuild/replace two effluent pumps at approximately \$350,000.
  - Is securing quotes to replace the evaporators, chlorinators and chlorine pipe at approximately \$150,000.

Discussion followed as to injection of the chemical VX456, reasons for the injecting a new chemical, which will be a pilot plan for approximately two months, lessening the corrosion of the pipe downstream of the three pump stations, and due to factors that may be affecting permitting in which the City is being proactive.

Bob Mays asked about the 15 motor control centers. Mr. Arroyo explained that the MCCs and transformers were evaluated and have exceeded the service life.

Mr. Abi-Karam mentioned that the plant manager and staff is almost fully staffed and has stability comparable to last year, a table top, joint exercise was done which involved simulating a small Cessna hitting the plant and the wellfield; and is currently going through an audit for ISO14000 certification.

### **Rate Calculations – Susan LeSage**

Included in the packet given to the members were two Computation of Rates to be charged. Ms. LeSage referred to page 1 of two handouts, indicating FY2017 estimate and explained that if the remainder of available budget is spent, the rate would be approximately \$2.00 per thousand gallons at the end of fiscal year 2017. Ms. LeSage explained that the 2017 estimated flows were based on an average derived from the first nine months of FY 2017. That average was used to estimate the remaining three months. The FY2018 proposed flows are derived from the past three-year average. Considering the estimated flows, proposed budget and R&R, the rate would be \$1.96 per thousand gallons for FY2018.

Ms. LeSage referred to page 1 of the second handout and said “we estimate savings of \$1.6 million for this current fiscal year.” With this savings, the estimated rate per 1,000 gallons would be \$1.88. Mr. Arroyo explained that the savings may be closer to \$1M instead of \$1.6M based on the \$500,000-\$600,000 needed for P12171-Butler Building Upgrade. Ms. LeSage explained the rate mainly depends on the flows.

Discussion followed as to the rate increase estimate and expected replacement of pumps and the R&R.

Ms. LeSage said the proposed rate is \$1.96 per thousand gallons for FY2018, but indicated that a voting member needed to make a motion.

Bob Mays proposed a rate of \$1.92 per thousand gallons.

Mr. Abi-Karam introduced a motion of the proposed rate of \$1.92 per thousand gallons for the upcoming year and inquired if there was a need for any further discussions. No questions were asked.

Unanimous vote, none opposed. Rate of \$1.92 per thousand gallons passed.

### **Old/New Business**

Mr. Abi-Karam stated that the City of Fort Lauderdale is in the process of final selection/purchasing an Asset Management software for mapping of all assets, to include water and sewer, linear assets in terms a pipeline network, equipment and pump stations, and the three plants. Mr. Abi-Karam said once this effort is completed and all assets have been mapped and populated, the abilities of data analytics analyses and risk base analysis can be done for capital planning.

Bob Mays questioned if existing staff will be used for this program. Mr. Abi-Karam explained the effort may be done through a Consultant due to the current data which may be at about 60-65% up to date, and there is not enough resources at this time.

Mr. Abi-Karam said the City is also looking at revamping the pump stations.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. and will be hosted in the City of Wilton Manors.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

***\*Please note – “VX456” should be replaced with “Bioxide”.***