

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Wednesday, March 27, 2013**  
**2nd Floor Conference Room**  
**Plant Site, 111 Harbor View Avenue**  
**5:30 p.m.**

**Meeting minutes**

**Attendees:**

Donald Rullman	Chairman, Technical Committee
Dan Capano	Board Committee Member
Daniel Schwartz	Board Committee Member
Mitch Kaufman (absent)	Board Committee Member
William Brink	Executive Director, WPCA
Prakash. Chakravarti	Supervising Engineer, WPCA
William Degnan	Plant Supervisor, WPCA

1. Call to order, Pledge and Roll Call:

Chairman Don Rullman called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. D. Capano made the motion to approve the February 25, 2013 Technical Committee meeting minutes, and motion seconded by D. Rullman. The minutes were approved 2-0-1; D. Schwartz abstained.

3. **Review Synagro contract amendment.**

B. Brink reviewed the details of his negotiations with Synagro for a six month extension of the now expired contract (expired end of February). Included in the proposed contract amendment is a five percent discount in most recent annual fee and Synagro would participate in an odor control evaluation of the sludge drier. The initial meeting with Synagro's odor control specialist and Jeff Pinnette, the WPCA's odor control specialist occurred on March 18<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting the options of containing the odors from the RTO bypass were discussed and reviewed. Synagro has agreed to install a carbon filter to treat the bypass from the RTO at their expense. The proposed agreement amendment was discussed, and D. Capano expressed his concerns with approving the amendment. D. Capano will meet with Attorney Dan McCabe to review his concerns.

4. **Status of odor control start up and evaluations**

B. Brink described the status of odor control. The odor control scrubbers for the sludge dewatering and drying facility and primary settling tanks and thickeners have been running with water but not chemicals. The existing diaphragm chemical feed pumps are deteriorated and not operable, and are being replaced with peristaltic pumps. B. Brink mentioned that Mr. Jeff Pinnette of Wright-Pierce was helpful with selection of the peristaltic chemical feed pumps. B. Degnan mentioned that two demonstration metering pumps are being installed. There were some issues ordering the pumps with the correct

set up so that they will be able to communicate with the plant SCADA system and issues have now been resolved. D. Capano volunteered to make himself available to provide guidance in instrumentation and control issues in the future, since this is his specialty.

B. Brink presented the draft of the revised proposal from J. Pinnette of Wright-Pierce. It was agreed that performance testing and community odor survey could be done by WPCA staff with a Jerome meter and should be deleted from proposal. Committee approved purchase of Jerome meter by WPCA at a cost of approximately \$17,000. There was some discussion on the means and method of payments to Wright-Pierce. It was agreed that payment be based on time and materials to allow for flexibility in deleting and adding tasks as required. D. Capano suggested that the payment be based on schedule of man-hours per each task, with total fees paid not to exceed \$32,000. P. Chakravarti to contact Wright-Pierce to revise the proposal, which will be forwarded to City legal department to draft the final agreement.

#### **5. Status of Secondary Process control assistance**

B. Degnan mentioned that Mr. Paul Dombrowski, of Woodward & Curran has been hired to evaluate and make recommendations to optimize the secondary processes. He reported that he has walked the site with Foremen Karen Burton and Tom Buzelle and has made some recommendations. B. Degnan stated that he himself has developed programs to calculate the rate of returns etc. and will have the operators adapt to using it.

#### **6. Status of capital projects**

P. Chakravarti presented the list of the capital projects request for FY 2013-2014. The net request totals \$6 million. He also mentioned that the Boards had previously approved \$2 million for WPCA Major Equipment Replacement and \$2 million for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation. D. Rullman inquired if the HTE free balances as shown for each of the projects were funds available to be spent. P. Chakravarti explained that the current funding is from the WPCA's pooled cash account for capital projects. B. Brink explained that reimbursement of the pooled cash account for capital projects would be from revenue bonds to be issued this summer. D. Capano and B. Brink expressed their concern over field inspection at sewer construction sites, especially at Summer Street sewer replacement. P. Chakravarti replied that our mechanics do spot inspection about twice a day. P. Chakravarti mentioned that staffing is not sufficient to do field inspections but suggested hiring Clerks of the Works to assist with the inspections.

#### **7. Selection of electrical engineer for sludge transfer pump replacement project**

B. Brink presented for approval by the Committee a proposal for design of the electrical system for the sludge transfer pumps. Linstarr Engineering, has proposed to do the design and prepare contract documents for the replacement of the old Monrol Control Center (MCC) in the Sludge Handling Building. D. Capano asked if they would be doing the engineering during construction as well. P. Chakravarti answered that LYNSTAAR would design

the electrical and the staff would specify the pumps to be installed and then solicit bids for the complete installation. After some discussion D. Capano motioned to approve the award of the design to Lynstaarr, seconded by D. Rullman. The motion was carried 3-0-0

**8. Separation of costs for stormwater from WPCA (construction costs and operating cost)**

B. Brink mentioned that the WPCA is maintaining a separate accounts for stormwater related expenses. D. Capano asked if we were keeping track of personnel time as well. P. Chakravarti stated that we will be tracking the personnel time beginning FY 2013-14.

**9. Status of RFP for sludge dryer operation**

B. Brink stated the draft RFP is still being developed and that he and P. Chakravarti will have a draft for their review soon.

**10. Status of RFP for on call engineering services**

B. Brink mentioned that the RFP for on call engineering services is being developed.

**11. Windermere issue**

B. Brink stated that there were some concerns regarding the existence of an escrow account for the Lake Windermere community on-site septic system repair but he has confirmed with Controller Mr. David Yanik that the account does exist at a previous WPCA Board meeting. D. Capano inquired as to why the WPCA was involved with a community on-site system for the development in North Stamford. P. Chakravarti explained that the Lake Windermere development consists of about 8 to 10 large single family homes. These homes have a common large scale septic system and that WPCA lab staff collect water samples for testing. He explained that it was mandated by the State of Connecticut DEEP. The escrow account is in the custody of the City for future repairs when and if the owners' association fails to repair and maintain the septic system.

**12. New Business**

There being no new business to discuss D. Rullman motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by D. Capano. Motion carried 3-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm