

**Wastewater Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, February 3rd, 2010 – 9:00 A.M.**

**Present:** Karen McMurtry-Chair, Marc Paulson, Joan Fitzpatrick, Gary Kiracofe, Tim Nelson

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** Dave Alberts-Plant Manager, Russ Salfi, Charity Forsch-Administrator/Clerk, Susan Shallow Deputy Clerk

**Call to order:** Meeting called to order by chair Karen McMurtry at 9:01 am

**Changes in agenda:** None

**Previous minutes:** January 2010

**Motion per Joan Fitzpatrick to approve the January meeting minutes as distributed, seconded by Marc Paulson, all ayes, motion carried.**

**Visitors' comments:** None

**Bills to be paid:** No additional questions from committee. No unusual bills noted.

**Motion per Marc Paulson to recommend payment of all Wastewater bills presented to the Board of Trustees, seconded by Karen McMurtry, all ayes, motion carried.**

**Plant Manager's report:** Dave Alberts is here to present his report, Flows up and can be attributed to a rain event. A continued problem with BOD's, Russ is working to correct the problem. Brad is currently working on the Wisconsin State Hygiene blind certification test today and will not be at this meeting. Replacement fund expense for the month \$1,490.00 which was for replacement of relays for Lift Station #2.

No Emergency calls this month, no injuries or safety meetings in January. Alpha Terra has completed the confined space and Personal Protective Equipment safety program with on-site training to be scheduled. Royal Flush hauled four loads of sludge to Sturgeon Bay for processing. Plant continues to have problems with the SCADA system. Harbor Construction was awarded the contract for installation of the new Rankin property lateral. Anschutz plumbing capped the lateral on the Chomeau property as directed and Dave will notify the office in writing to reduce his REU's from 2.0 to 1.0 fir the next billing cycle. DCC repaired the computer at the lab. Annual employee evaluations have commenced and Karen and Dave met with Brad this month.

**Approval to replace Clarifier Drive:** Dave has received 2 quotes for this replacement of the West end Clarifier, a bearing was corroded and Lee's Contracting came out and worked on it but suggested it be replaced due to age and condition. Applied Industrial Technologies (AIT) provided two quotes the first is \$2,585.00 (parts only) and the second \$9,115.00 includes installation but does not include labor. Lee's Contracting quoted \$9,400.00 and includes both manufacturing and installation. The old clarifier would be kept as an emergency back-up. Karen McMurtry inquired if there were any other companies that they could get a bid from, the price seemed high for Labor, Dave clarified that it was a quantity of couplings was two on the quotes. Purchase to be paid out of the replacement fund.

**Motion per Karen McMurtry to approve purchase of replacement Clarifier Drive from Lee's Contracting/Fabricating, seconded by Joan Fitzpatrick, all ayes, motion carried.**

**Approval of Grease Trap Ordinance changes:** This item has been on previous Agendas and addressed by this Committee. Changes requested by Committee in January were incorporated stated Charity Forsch, to include any business holding a State business License for food preparation, per Marc Paulson there are 3 levels of licensing 1 No food preparation, 2 Moderately complex and option 3 Large or off site catering. A bed and breakfast has a different type of license. More specific wording will be sought and provided to committee by Charity Forsch for March meeting.

**Motion per Karen McMurtry to approve presented changes to the Grease Trap ordinance pending proper titling of the licenses, seconded by Marc Paulson, all ayes, motion carried.**

**Consideration and Recommendation regarding reed bed for sludge disposal:** Dave has been investigating this in depth. Egg Harbor already has a reed beds for the last few years and are very pleased with its performance and have added more for a total of five. Dave noted that a reed bed can be dried out and replanted or placed in a land fill, cost \$250,000. Dave suggests we install at least 2 Reed Beds. Dave presented examples of two ways to pay for this project 1. If cost is passed on to collection users would increase sewer bills \$9.10 per quarter, Joan Fitzpatrick concerned about cost for multiple REU users and those on limited income. Marc clarifies that the amount currently spent on hauling sludge would be eliminated and if so applied we may not have to increase sewer rates as much. The Reed Bed would be placed behind the maintenance building but not where the current Village garden plots are located, however, the DNR would have final say regarding the location of the Reed Bed.

Payment option 2 is to place the cost for the Reed Beds on the property tax bills, which would result in an increase of about \$27.60 per parcel annually for ten years. Tim Nelson inquired how much the Village currently pays for sludge removal; Dave responded that the amount is about \$9,000 per year for sludge removal, but the taker limits the amount they will accept from the Plant, any additional must be transported to Green Bay. Marc Paulson suggested that at this point the committee should forward this to the Board for further consideration.

Dave Alberts explained the workings of a reed bed to the Committee members. Charity shared that one of the reasons Egg Harbor went with a Reed Bed was the cost of hauling sludge and the ability to get rid of it when they needed to; they now have 5 50x100 reed beds. McMahon could provide an estimate for such a project, Tim Nelson wanted to know the cost for an estimate, if there is a charge; the Board would have to approve getting actual bids. Joan asked how long this technology has been used, Dave responded 30-40 years, heavily used in Europe. Tim Nelson has taken a seminar and is familiar with Reed Beds but he

questions how and if it would work in the winter months. Tim also has concerns with the cost of such a project. Charity thinks some of the cost could be cut substantially by getting smaller beds.

Dave will get information concerning how much Green Bay charges for accepting sludge and if they have limits; also costs for fuel for transport to Green Bay. Tim Nelson inquired if other local communities are looking into this, Dave responded that Sister Bay is looking at Reed Beds but on a much smaller scale. Charity Forsch offered that Egg Harbor is currently working on systematic rotation of their beds before determining if they can accept more sludge in the future. Dave stated that in the winter months they have 4-6 semi loads and they store it till spring. Tim Nelson asked if we could use Egg Harbor's extra capacity to reduce our costs in winter. Brief discussion concerning our hauling rates and the impact on Egg Harbor's plant as a result of out better rates. Dave will contact at least three engineers for quotes.

**Consideration and Recommendation regarding wind power generation:** Dave Alberts has looked into information on wind generation to reduce electrical costs at the plant. The estimated cost would be about \$390,000 for this project. If cost is placed on tax bills it would add \$43.20 to annual tax bills for ten years. If attached to collection sewer usage fees would add \$14.25 per quarter. Dave provided statistics on cost and savings per kilowatt. Grants are available for these types of projects. Joan Fitzpatrick asked if grants are tied to income or are they based on the needs of a community. Dave will gather further information concerning available grants. Dave has contacted the county administrator and there are no ordinances regarding limitations on wind towers in the county. Dave does not anticipate any problems with Village ordinances for tower installation. There are other things he needs to check and provide the committee members such as impact on emergency communications and any airport height restrictions. Dave mentioned a location in Southern Door county where we could invest funds by owning a part of the tower field. Gary Kiracofe asked Tim Nelson if he thought this type of project would meet resistance from the community. Tim Nelson replied that we would hear concerns similar to when the cell tower went in, this is a green project and worth pursuing additional information and possible benefits, it's possible that the noise factor may also be of concern. Location would be behind the Wastewater Plant in near the tree line, line of sight will be investigated as well. Tim stated that this Committee is the place to investigate these types of projects. Grant availability will have a great impact on if this project would even be considered.

**Consideration and Recommendation regarding plan maintenance for generators:** the Plants generators require extensive maintenance, Dave would like to hire a company to provide maintenance once a year at the cost of \$1,757 for a three year agreement, coolant \$751.96 extra, this item has not been budgeted for but could come out of equipment and repair or out of the collection system account or contingency. Tim Nelson asked if the coolant

flush would be additional, yes responded Dave. Tim suggests that we get the coolant flush this year and budget for this next year. Dave will get information about a reduced cost for the coolant flush if we sign a contract for maintenance. This item will be addressed again next month.

**Consideration and recommendation regarding remaining safety programs:** Next step is the training from Alpha Terra. The Plant has a program in place now and Dave is comfortable, we could pay for the additional compliance training from Alpha Terra or they could form their own safety committee and develop their own program. National Seminar training has CD's available to write your own OSHA approved programs. Cost \$1,200 for the CD's and that is a reduced rate, the money for them is in the Safety budget, Dave would like to get at least one suggests "The Law". WW, Maintenance, FD and the Administrator have not had the time to date to form a safety committee. Charity Forsch thought they were going to wait to see what their needs are after the whole Alpha Terra program had been provided before forming the safety committee. A program coordinator would be Dave who would maintain all logs and annual reports are completed and submitted as required. Tim Nelson thinks that doing this in house rather than a program from Alpha Terra would really be customized and geared to the needs of the Village Wastewater Plant. The CD's should produce printable documents to use for development of a program. Dave instructed to find out if there is a 30 day trial available for the CD and the level of computer expertise needed to utilize the CD. Dave added that they do have the money budgeted in safety programs.

**Business for next meeting:** Dave to provide additional information for items discussed today.

**Next meeting date:** Tuesday March 2nd, 2010

**Adjournment:**

**Motion per Karen McMurtry to adjourn this meeting of the Wastewater Committee, seconded by Tim Nelson, all ayes, motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Shallow-Deputy Clerk