

RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

Engineering Committee Meeting

Minutes

June 11, 2015

Commissioner Greet, the Committee Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. p.m.

Commissioner Greet read the statement on “Open Public Meetings Law”.

“In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the inclusion of the date, time and place in a Notice forwarded to The Star Ledger, the Home News Tribune and the Clerk of each of the eleven member municipalities on January 28, 2015 and again June 9, 2015.

If any member of this body believes that this meeting is being held in violation of the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, please state your objection and the reasons for same at this time.”

.... Hearing no objections, we shall proceed with our regularly scheduled meeting.

Roll Call

The following members were present:

Allen Chin	for the Town of Westfield
Michael Furci	for the Township of Springfield
Stephen D. Greet	for the Borough of Garwood
Robert B. LaCosta	for the Township of Scotch Plains
Richard J. LoForte	for the Borough of Kenilworth
Frank G. Mazzarella	for the Township of Clark
Robert Rachlin	for the City of Rahway
John J. Tomaine	for the Borough of Mountainside
Scott L. Thompson	for the Township of Woodbridge

The following members were absent:

Mark P. Dugan	for the Township of Cranford
Attilio S. Ventura	for the Borough of Roselle Park

The following were also present:

James J. Meehan	Executive Director
Robert J. Materna	Secretary-Treasurer
Joanne Grimes	Purchasing Agent / Office Manager
Dennis A. Estis, Esq.	General Counsel, Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis
Howard Matteson, PE	Consulting Engineer, CDM Smith Inc.
Robert Valent	Deputy Director
Anthony Gencarelli	Mgr. or Regulatory Compliance
John Buonocore	Staff Engineer
Dan Ward	Manager, Plant Maintenance
Andrew Sasso	Operations Manager
Doug Reno	Biosolids Energy Supervisor

Contract #105F – Cogeneration Litigation

Counsel to discuss recent activity on this matter in Closed Session.

Contract #105NE – Cogeneration Litigation Neutral Expert

In March the Board approved \$40,000.00 for Berkeley Research, the Neutral Expert for Contract #105 Litigation, RVSA Contract #105NE. Berkeley has billed a total of \$141,290.19 to date. \$5,000 assigned to HMM, \$20,000 assigned to CCMS and the remainder \$116,290.19 divided between RVSA and PS&S. As such, we recently received an invoice for \$58,145.10 for work done in March and April. This exceeds the approved amount by \$18,145.10.

Action will be on the Regular Meeting agenda for the additional \$18,145.10 in order to pay this invoice. Berkeley has not submitted their invoice for May, however have continued working this month. A meeting is being held tomorrow to discuss their findings, we will discuss with them at that time how much they expect their final total to be.

Any expenditure of funds would be subject to James Meehan determining that the work will be necessary.

Contract #173 – Codigestion/Liquid Waste

The Request For Proposals for a Public Private Partnership to Design, Build and Administer a Liquid Waste Receiving Enterprise was advertised. Proposals are due July 15, 2015.

Sludge Dryer Operations Update

Mr. Meehan to provide an update with regard to the Sludge Dryer/Cogeneration operations.

Mr. LoForte asked how often will the dryer be run? Mr. Meehan replied that the staff anticipates running the dryer 4 to 4-1/2 days per week. Mr. LoForte asked how much we anticipate realizing in savings. Mr. Meehan stated that the Authority is hoping for about \$200,000 per year, however, in 2015 with only running for 5 months that number will be much lower.

Energy Audit

As previously discussed with the Commissioners, the Authority is planning on having an Energy Audit of the facility performed. Bids were solicited and were received on June 10th. This matter will be discussed further during the meeting.

TWA Application – City of Rahway

The Authority received a Treatment Works Application (TWA) from the City of Rahway for property located at 1839-1905 Elizabeth Avenue in Rahway. The application is for a connection to serve a new apartment building with 171 1-Bedroom units, 316 2-Bedroom Units and 3912 sf of retail space with an anticipated flow of 97,141 gpd (.097141 mgd). The application was reviewed by John Buonocore, Chief Engineer. John noted that during his review of the plans, there were several questions regarding how the sanitary sewers were going to connect to the collection system and whether they proposed connecting to our 72” trunk along West Grand Avenue.

After several phone conversations with the engineer, a meeting was held at RVSA on May 22, 2015 with Mr. Buonocore, Patrick McClellan of MCB Engineering Associates, and Jim Houston

of Bohler Engineering (the City's Engineer). At that meeting it was stated that the piping shown on the drawings was preliminary and they had not completed the sanitary design. It was agreed at the meeting that there would be two sanitary sewer connections, and that one would be to the manhole on our 72" trunk where the existing 12" sanitary from the property is connected. An abandoned 12" pipe exiting the manhole will be plugged by the contractor.

The Contractor's Engineer submitted a letter confirming the foregoing.

This satisfies Mr. Buonocore's original concerns and therefore he recommends endorsement of the TWA.

Monthly Reports

The Operations Report, Engineering Bills & Claims, Litigation Cost, Flow Rights and User Charge Reports have been received and were distributed to the Commissioners.

Report of Consulting Engineer

Mr. Matteson of CDM Smith gave his monthly report covering their work activities for the month of May 2015.

- A. Retainer Services
During the period, CDM Smith prepared the monthly report and attended the May 2015 Board meeting.
CDM Smith performed a site walkthrough of the Authority's interceptor with the Facility Engineer.
- B. Miscellaneous Engineering Services
No activity during the period.
- C. Biosolids Hauling and Reuse Contract Assistance
No activity during the period.
- D. Digester Gas Treatment System Design – Construction Services
During the period, CDM Smith performed the following:
 - Attended the May Progress Meeting.
 - Performed Shop Drawing review, and provided input for Requests for Information (RFIs).
 - Coordinated with RVSA staff in responding to general questions from the Contractor.
- E. Digester Covers and Waste Gas Burner Replacement – Design, Bidding, and Construction
During the period, CDM Smith performed the following:
 - Continued to develop the drawings and specifications.
 - Coordinated with Environmental Compliance Assistance to assist in the preparation of the Title V permit modifications.

- Coordinated with staff regarding formwork related to the NJEIT.

Report of General Counsel

Mr. Estis of Greenbaum Rowe Smith & Davis gave his report covering the period from May 14, 2015 through June 11, 2015.

General

A. Flow Rights

As of April 30, 2015, Clark had exceeded its flow rights 18 times, Cranford 5 times, Kenilworth once, Rahway twice, Scotch Plains 12 times, Springfield 54 times, Westfield 3 times and Woodbridge 9 times. If this trend continues throughout the last six (6) months of the current measuring year ending October 31, 2015, Clark would end up exceeding 36 times, Cranford 10 times, Kenilworth 2 times, Rahway 4 times, Scotch Plains 24 times, Springfield 108 times, Westfield 6 times and Woodbridge 18 times.

B. Treatment of Organic Waste

Unless the Authority has received a response from the DEP to our letter sent in April, I suggest that we contact the DEP to determine the status.

C. NJEIT Loan Application

No change.

D. Local Contracts Law

No change.

E. OPRA

No change.

F. Senate Bill S-72

As you may recall, this bill was intended to require certain State oversights of budgets of regional sewerage authorities. It was originally introduced on January 14, 2014 and reported out from the Senate Committee on State Government with amendments and then referred to the Senate Budget and Appropriation Committee on January 15, 2015. Nothing has happened since. I will remove this from my list starting next month.

G. Cogent Communications

The Authority had a contract with Cogent Communications relating to data communications service. This contract was commenced in 2003 and was terminated in 2014. Notwithstanding the termination, Cogent has sought to recover approximately \$4,100 in additional fees subsequent to the date of termination. I wrote Cogent a letter in early May explaining to them why they are not entitled to any of these monies. I have heard nothing from them since and I suspect that they have gotten education and do not intend to pursue this claim.

H. US Healthworks

We have engaged an environmental consultant to perform an assessment of certain property adjoining the Authority plant. We are awaiting the final results of that assessment. Any further discussion should be done in closed session.

Contract #105 Cogeneration Facility

We will discuss this matter in closed session.

NJDEP v. Occidental Chemical

Mr. Hak has completed all of the work required and we transmitted last week to Zurich and Nationwide all of the information necessary for the two carriers to reconsider their prior determination.

Report of Litigation Counsel

No report.

Closed Session

Mr. Mazzarella made a motion to go into closed session at 7:31 p.m. for discussion of Contract #105, the US Healthworks property; and Caterpillar/Foley. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chin and unanimously approved by those present. Mr. Dugan and Mr. Venturo were absent.

Regular Order of Business

Mr. Furci made a motion, seconded by Mr. Chin, to return to the Regular Order of Business at 7:49 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved by those present. Mr. Dugan and Mr. Venturo were absent.

Adjournment

As there was no further business, on motion of Mr. Mazzarella, seconded by Mr. Tomaine, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved by those present.

Chairman

Robert J. Materna
Robert J. Materna, Secretary-Treasurer

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