

**MINUTES**  
**OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MARCH 9, 2021 (VIRTUAL)**

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Attendants: Messrs. Cherico, DiSantis, Hurst, Kern, Knapp, Lehman, Lucas, Mullen, Nagle, Pileggi, Pisani, Willert, and Mesdames Amadio, Caulk, Cummings, Nichols, and Sage.

1. ROLL CALL: Eight members of the DELCORA Board of Directors were present at the meeting constituting a quorum.

The following was present for the bid opening: J. Estelle from MOR Construction Services, Inc. There were no other members of the public present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All parties present at the meeting recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. BID OPENING:

- Contract No. P2021-01 - Parts A & B – Sewer Lateral Cleaning (Part A) And Maintenance (Part B) Services

Ms. Caulk stated that there was one bid received.

	<u>Part A</u>	<u>Part B</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>
MOR Construction Services, Inc.	\$150,000.00	\$210,400.00	\$360,400.00

Per Mrs. Nichols request, Ms. Caulk reported that last year MOR was the lone bidder for this project and their total bid was \$253,820.00. Mrs. Nichols asked why there was a difference in price from last year to this year. Mr. Hurst reported that last year they had a challenging year with the number of Lateral repairs they had to complete last year, and it required a Change Order, he stated to avoid a Change Order with this contract the Engineering Department increased the Unit Prices for Lateral Repairs. Mr. Nagle asked if it was normal to only receive one bid. Mrs. Caulk reported that three contractors did purchase the contract; however, only one contractor submitted a bid.

Mr. Mullen stated that this bid will be reviewed by Staff and our Solicitor's office, and consideration of award will be placed on the agenda for the March 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

4. MONTHLY REPORT – DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE: Mr. DiSantis highlighted certain items in the written report. He stated that there were no violations at WRTP during the month. Mr. DiSantis reported that February had a higher flow than January and as a result there were several wet weather sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs). He noted that there were seven reportable incidents in the month of February. There were four SSOs which all occurred on the same date due to heavy rain and snow melting. These all occurred at sites known to have overflows and plans are underway to address these incidents. Mr. DiSantis also reported that there were three emission incidents. He reported that two of the emission incidents were due to issues with the controller used to maintain the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

safety set points. These issues have been rectified. The other incident occurred when an uncontrolled burn out was caused by a loss of sludge feed. Mr. DiSantis noted that O&M supervision recreated the incident which resulted in a revision to the standard operating procedure (SOP) for incinerator operation. Mr. DiSantis also reported that the WRTP received 98% of the flow from the Central Delaware Pump Station during the month. In remote operations, he reported that at the Pocopson Preserve facility there was a violation for exceeding the monthly average of total suspended solids limit due to excessive algae. Additionally, he noted that the Chadds Ford Ridings facility exceeded the monthly and weekly average of cBOD<sub>5</sub> concentration limits as well as the weekly cBOD<sub>5</sub> loading limit due to a process upset. He stated that due to ongoing issues with the Ridings facility, Chadds Ford has begun work on converting this plant to a pump station. Lastly, Mr. DiSantis reported that the new Springhill Farm Pump Station was put into service on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and acknowledged the hard work that the Engineering, Remote Ops, CM, and Automation staff did to bring this pump station on line. Mr. DiSantis had no additional comments to the written report.

Mr. Kern asked what happened regarding a mechanical error resulting in pump failure at the Central Delaware County Pump Station. Mr. DiSantis stated that at Pump #3, there is a broken valve which they have been working with the manufacturer to resolve; the valve itself requires a bypass of the station. He reported that they have the valve but they just need to resolve the bypass required to replace it. Pump #4 had a failure of a solenoid that pressurized the hydraulic unit which opens and closes the valves resulting in the valve being blown out. This has been resolved and is up and running. The Committee had no additional questions regarding the written report.

5. MONTHLY REPORT – DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING: Mr. Hurst highlighted certain items in the written report. Mr. Hurst discussed the postponement of the Crum Creek Force Main project and how it dovetails with SSO and maintenance issues at the Central Delaware Pump Station (CDPS). The postponement, combined with the need to replace a failed valve on Pump #3, will require the installation of a temporary bypass pump system in the very near future. The bypass pump system would be installed and remain in place until the tunnel comes online in 2028 as the tunnel will be used to address SSOs at the site. The current pricing for the temporary pump purchase and installation is approximately \$600,000. Mr. Hurst asked the Committee if there were any concerns or questions with proceeding with this work as a change order to the current Allan Myers' and Phillips Brothers' contracts. The Committee had no comments or questions.

Mr. Hurst also reported that the Springhill Farm project was a success coming online and gave his appreciation to the departments involved in making this happen. He reported that IFCO did not do any work this month for Incinerator Maintenance but he did state that they performed Stack Testing on both Incinerators and received great feedback on these tests. Mr. Hurst reported that the NPDES Permit has been in renewal cycle for the past three years. He stated that the renewal has been received and goes into effect April 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Hurst had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no questions regarding the written report.

Mr. Kern thanked Mr. Hurst for the slides and stated that he will be using them for a training course. He asked why it seems that the same permits keep receiving violations in the Pretreatment Department. Mr. Hurst stated that he would follow up with Pretreatment; however, these violations are more regarding procedural issues and not discharge problems. He stated that he will follow up and report back with his findings.

6. MONTHLY REPORT – ENGINEERING ADVISOR: Mr. Lehman highlighted several on-going projects on the written report, which had been provided to all Board members in advance of today's meeting. He reported that the Chapter 94 Report is in progress. He also reported that this year the PADEP has requested that the reports be submitted electronically due to COVID-19. Mr. Lehman reported that Weston has aided with the CDPS Pump Station Bypass project. He reported that the SWMM modeling and metering projects are continuing and updates are submitted monthly. Mr. Lehman reported that they are in the process of finalizing the record drawings for the Utility Water System Replacement and they should be submitted this month. Mr. Lehman had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no questions regarding the written report.

7. CHANGE ORDERS:

- Contract No. TC-1717-C – 2018 WRTP Plant Upgrades – Contract A – General Construction – Change Order No. 3 – Decrease In Contract Time Of 91 Days And Decrease In Contract Amount Of \$5,273.00 (Allan Myers, L. P) (Pending Receipt Of Executed Change Order)
- Contract No. TEW-2008-C – Furnishing Equipment, Labor, & Supervision For Electrical Maintenance, Repairs & Other Construction-Related Projects – Change Order No. 1 – Increase In Contract To Account For Support Of Insurance Claim Work, Added B-3 Electrical Work, Additional Switchgear Maintenance – Increase In Contract Amount Of \$195,000.00 (Philips Brothers Electric Contractors, Inc.) (Pending Receipt Of Executed Change Order)

Mr. Hurst provided an overview of the above change orders. In regards to the 2018 WRTP Plant Upgrades, he stated that this project is in the process of being closed out, and this is a decrease in time and contract amount. Regarding the Electrical Maintenance contract, he stated that this change order is mostly due to damage on the roof caused by a rainstorm which caused additional electrical work to be needed and additional switchgear maintenance.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above contract change orders. These items will be placed on the agenda for the March 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

8. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF CONTRACT CLOSE-OUT & FINAL PAYMENT:

- Contract No. TC-1717-C – 2018 WRTP Plant Upgrades – Contract A – General Construction (Allan Myers, L. P.) (Pending Receipt Of Executed Close-Out Documents)

Mr. Hurst stated that this is the close out for general construction for the 2018 WRTP project.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of this contract close-out. This item will be placed on the agenda for the March 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

9. AUTHORIZATION FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

- A. ANDRIS Consulting LLC – Proposal Dated March 8, 2021 – For Professional Services For Assistance With Program Management Of The Implementation LTCP, Nine Minimum Controls, And Related NPDES Permit Provisions – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$148,200.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst noted that this proposal is for assistance with the implementation of the Long Term Control Plan and other permit provisions needed.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above proposal. This item will be placed on the agenda for the March 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

10. AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS:

- Contract No. P2021-02 – Polymer Flocculant-Dewatering Process
- Contract No. P2021-03 – Polymer Flocculant For Sludge Thickening

Mr. Hurst stated that these are routine Purchasing contracts which are up for renewal.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above Authorizations to Advertise. These items will be placed on the agenda for the March 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

11. ADVISOR APPOINTMENT:

- Engineering Advisor Services For Second Quarter 2021 – Weston Solutions, Inc. – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$2,500.00 Per Quarter

Mr. Hurst stated that this is a routine authorization for Weston to continue to support DELCORA in an advisory role for various projects.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above Advisor Appointment. This item will be placed on the agenda for the March 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Committee met for a brief Executive Session for an update from Mr. DiSantis.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Mr. Lucas, seconded by Mr. Knapp, and unanimously carried to adjourn the regular meeting at 3:57 p.m.