

MINUTES
OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2022 (VIRTUAL)

Attendants: Messrs. Cherico, DiSantis, Garner, Hurst, Kern, Knapp, Lehman, Matlawski, Moss, Mullen, Nagle, Willert, and Mesdames Billings, Bonnett, 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: Dominique Lueckenhoff of NMSA, Dr. Sri Rangarajan of Boomi Environmental Engineering, Dr. Seth Brown of NMSA, Mike Ewall of Energy Justice Network, Adrienne Lavier, Kearn Warren, and S. Vinci. 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 OPENINGS:

- Contract No. P2021-09 (Re-Bid) – Janitorial Services

Ms. Caulk stated that there was one bid received.

	<u>TOTAL BID AMOUNT</u>
Healthy Cleaning Management Solutions	\$57,812.00

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 February 15th Board meeting.

- Contract No. P2021-12 – Residential Delinquent Notice Posting Service

Ms. Caulk stated that there was one bid received.

	<u>TOTAL BID AMOUNT</u>
Autoboyz Delivery (Wahid Rahim, LLC)	\$374,400.00 (unit price \$12.00 per notice)

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 February 15th Board meeting.

4. PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NATIONAL MUNICIPAL STORMWATER ALLIANCE (NMSA) ON THEIR PROPOSAL: Mr. Willert introduced Dominique Lueckenhoff, Chair of the NMSA, and formerly of the USEPA, and provided her background in the environmental field. Ms. Lueckenhoff introduced the team members present: Dr. Sri Rangarajan, President of Boomi Environmental Engineering, and Dr. Seth Brown, Executive Director of the NMSA. She stated that she was asked by the Chester Environmental Partnership (CEP) to take an assessment of the conditions in Chester and had worked previously with Dr. Strand to obtain \$50 million for a Stormwater Program in Chester which is now used as a model for the country. The main focus of the feasibility study is to assess and identify the general environmental risks and conditions in Chester, and to enable the readiness of the City of Chester to obtain financial support through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to improve the conditions in Chester. Through a shared screen, she reviewed a slide presentation entitled "*City of Chester Environmental, Social and Climate Justice Feasibility Study & Interventions Portfolio*". She stressed the importance of engaging the community in this endeavor, and mentioned partnering with Widener University and University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Sri Rangarajan gave an overview of a similar study that he completed for the City of Camden entitled the "Green Infrastructure Planning Study". The NMSA feasibility study for Chester has not yet begun. Mr. Mullen thanked Ms. Lueckenhoff for her presentation.

General discussion followed concerning the misinformation recently put forth about relocating residents in the West End of Chester, the group effort required by the stakeholders, and identifying the proper entity that would be the applicant for these funds.

5. MONTHLY REPORT – DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE: Mr. DiSantis highlighted certain items in the written report. He stated that the up-to-date data points for cBOD₅ are the same as listed on the report so there were no violations at the WRTP. Regarding solids handling, the main focus was on stack testing resulting in a very low amount of uptime which means the incinerator runs 60% of the time instead of the normal 80%. Only one unit can run while testing the other unit which also resulted in a significant amount of cake being sent to composting. Mr. DiSantis stated that there was a little more flow than December but the weather was still dry. The plant received 98.3% of the flow from the Central Delaware Pump Station except for the 'flush' flow. Flush flow is when the line to Philadelphia is automatically flushed to prevent any buildup of solids. There were five reportable incidents to PADEP during the month. Three of these were for sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) and two were for emissions incidents. Two of the SSOs were dry weather events at the WRTP resulting in a minor overflow that was contained at the plant with no issues. There was one wet weather SSO at the Norwood Borough's Martin Lane Pump Station overwhelmed by a rain event but there was no failure of equipment. Regarding the emissions incidents, Mr. DiSantis stated that one was an RTO stack opening. The RTO opens when the temperature reaches the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) required limit of 2,000 degrees as a safety measure. The other emissions incident occurred when the short stacks and bypass stacks both opened within an hour of operation due to the failure of the utility

water pump to come on. The staff attempted to recreate the incident but could not reproduce the alarm. Also, there were two violations at remote operations for exceeding the instantaneous maximum for Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) limit. One incident each occurred at the Thornbury Township facility and the Chadds Ford Ridings facility. The extreme cold weather caused the sodium bisulfite (a dichlorination chemical) to freeze.

Regarding Maintenance items, Mr. DiSantis stated that there were no system failures during the month and that Sewer Maintenance spent a considerable amount of time on ice and snow removal. Concerning Trucked Waste, Mr. DiSantis stated that 18.13 million gallons were received and revenue is expected to meet budget. Mr. DiSantis had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no questions regarding the written report.

6. MONTHLY REPORT – DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING: Mr. Hurst highlighted certain items in the written report. He reported that the clarifier construction is proceeding on schedule and starting driving foundation piles. Progress continues on the tunnel and ESA program. Meetings continue and are going well with the municipalities on adoption of the 537 Plan Update. A public engagement process is beginning as an initial reach-out to the stakeholders so they can voice their concerns about the program. That will turn into a second phase allowing for a broader reach-out to the affected public to seek and discuss more comments, questions, and concerns. Mr. Hurst also mentioned that the Notice to Proceed was issued on the Upland Borough construction project and a sanitary sewer overflow issue will be addressed. Regarding the Long Term Control Plan, he stated that discussion continues regarding the EPA strategy of expanding the tunnel diameter to dramatically improve the CSO performance. Graphics have been developed that show the current activation frequency on the CSOs under present performance and where the combined sewer system would go once it is captured in the tunnel. Mr. Hurst will report more on this in the coming months. Mr. Hurst had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no questions regarding the written report.

In response to a question from Mr. Ewall as to when DEP will hold public hearings on the tunnel plan application and the Title V Operating Permit renewal for the sewage sludge incinerator application that were both recently published in the PA Bulletin, Mr. Hurst stated that the Title V Operating Permit renewal is not as a whole but for a planning module that was put in place for the \$10 million upgrade, and that planning module needs to be renewed every six months until it gets fully integrated into the Title V Operating permit which expires mid-2023. Mr. DiSantis added that the plan approval every six months allows for continued operation. Mr. Hurst stated that there are no public hearings scheduled on the planning module renewal. Addressing Mr. Ewall's other question on the tunnel project, Mr. Hurst responded that the PADEP is considering how to respond to the air-focused comments on the 105 Permit.

7. 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 stated that December's precipitation was very low at about 1 inch recorded and used for the SWMM modeling that was submitted with the

monthly DMRs. The type of precipitation also affects the run-off patterns. The Metering Program continues to proceed with regular downtime of equipment when sewer maintenance is being performed. The meter is removed, the area is jet-cleaned, and then the meter is reinstalled. Mr. Lehman also stated that work on the Chapter 94 reports has begun but there was a new PADEP spreadsheet to use this year and he will be working with DELCORA staff to populate that and provide other necessary information. Also, the letters were mailed to the communities to request their submissions. Mr. Lehman had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no questions regarding the written report.

8. CHANGE ORDERS: Mr. Mullen stated that there were no Contract Change Orders at this time.

9. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF CONTRACT CLOSE-OUT & FINAL PAYMENT: Mr. Mullen stated that there were no Contract Close-Outs at this time.

10. AUTHORIZATION FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

- A. Catania Engineering – Proposal Dated January 18, 2022 – For Professional Engineering Services To Provide Construction Services For The Upland Borough Church Street Sewer Upgrade Project – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$34,085.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this proposal is for support services of the Upland construction to do submittals, RFIs, etc. Catania is the designer of the project.

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 February 15th Board meeting.

- B. Catania Engineering – Proposal Dated January 12, 2022 – For Professional Engineering Services For The Review Of Planning Modules For 2022 – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$15,000.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that when there is a request to connect to our system, Catania Engineering assists DELCORA in the process of reviewing the Sewage Planning Modules.

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 February 15th Board meeting.

- C. Power Engineers – Proposal Dated February 4, 2022 – For Professional Engineering Services To Provide Continued Technical Support For GIS, Cityworks, And Granite XP – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$25,000.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. DiSantis stated that this is an annual service for ongoing support for the GIS system used for the engineering and sewer maintenance work order system.

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 February 15th Board meeting.

11. AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS:

- Contract No. TC-2201-C – Incinerator – Annual Maintenance And Emergency Repairs 2022

Mr. Hurst stated that this is an annual contract put out for bid to support and maintain the incineration system.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above contract. This item will be placed on the agenda for the February 15th Board meeting.

- Contract No. P2022-01 – Lawn Mowing And Maintenance

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above contract. This item will be placed on the agenda for the February 15th Board meeting.

12. RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF EASEMENTS THROUGH ELEVEN (11) PROPERTIES SET FORTH ON EXHIBIT A THERETO BY CONDEMNATION OR DEED IN LIEU OF CONDEMNATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WASTEWATER TUNNEL PROJECT:

Mr. Hurst stated that we are seeking subterranean easements on private properties. Our land agent, ERM, has been in contact with each property owner. The landowners have been cooperative but the resolution is necessary for legal reasons.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above resolution. This item will be placed on the agenda for the February 15th Board meeting.

Prior to adjournment, Mr. Hurst stated that there will be an additional professional services proposal placed on the Board agenda from Cavallo Environmental Services to prepare the annual PCB report as required by the DRBC.

Also, Ms. Billings asked if the NMSA proposal will be on the Board agenda. Mr. Willert stated it was still under consideration and Mr. Kern stated that he will consult with Mr. Matlawski later today.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Mr. Knapp, seconded by Mr. Mullen, and unanimously carried to adjourn the regular meeting at 4:30 p.m.