

MINUTES
OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 12, 2022 (VIRTUAL)

Attendants: Messrs. Cherico, DiSantis, Garner, Hurst, Kern, Knapp, Lehman, Monaghan, Moss, Mullen, Nagle, Rice, Willert, and Mesdames Amadio, Billings, Bonnett, Caulk, Cummings, Nichols, and Sage.

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

The following was present: Mike Ewall of Energy Justice Network. 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: Mr. Mullen stated that there were no bid openings at this time.

4. MONTHLY REPORT – DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE: Mr. DiSantis highlighted certain items in the written report. At the time of the writing of his report, all of the cBOD data had not been available so now that the data was all available, he clarified that there were no violations at the WRTP during the month of March. There were also no violations at the remote facilities. Flow was very much the same as February; however, overall process results were better. Solids handling data was also very similar to February and cake solids at 23.3% is very good particularly during very cold weather. Usage of gas and polymer were both excellent resulting in lower operating costs. The plant received 98% of the flow from the Central Delaware Pump Station which is very typical of a dry month. There were two reportable incidents to PADEP during the month. Both of these were for emissions due to short stack openings of the #1 RTO and both were caused by failure of PLC-related equipment within the RTO's control system. He stated that there is a project that is currently going through start up that is intended to address the poor atmospheric conditions in B-3 where all of this equipment is located. The project entails segregating the areas with foul air to keep it away from electrical equipment. The root cause of the recurring failures has been the effects on electrical equipment within the building from the atmosphere in solids treatment areas. Mr. DiSantis stated that GBT and primary clarifier performances were also good during March, and the filamentous condition was addressed by staff, resulting in better control over it. Filamentous is a type of bacteria that prevents sludge from settling. Solids handling performance was very good with both incinerators in service 82% of the month with some loads hauled to compost.

Regarding Maintenance items, Mr. DiSantis stated that March was another busy month with major support of the Risk Management Plan that must be in place due to the amount of chlorine kept on site. There were also some in-house projects such as the demolition of the abandoned B-3 lunch and locker rooms which will provide more areas for installation of new equipment. Sewer Maintenance had a typical month with a significant portion of their time spent on routine line cleaning and televising. Our NPDES permit requires that 150,000 feet of sewer lines be videoed and cleaned per year.

Concerning Hauled Waste, Mr. DiSantis stated that 21.12 million gallons were received and revenue is expected to meet the monthly budget target.

Mr. Kern asked what type of filamentous caused the problem. Mr. DiSantis said it was a new type not seen before. He will find out and report back on that. Mr. Kern also mentioned the good ratio of corrective maintenance to preventive maintenance indicating the plant is being well maintained. Mr. DiSantis thanked him for recognizing that and stated that their focus is on predictive and planned maintenance versus corrective/repair maintenance. He gave credit to the good work of the team and to the Work Order Management System. Mr. DiSantis had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no other questions regarding the written report.

5. MONTHLY REPORT – DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING: Mr. Hurst highlighted certain items in the written report. Regarding the HVAC Energy Savings Upgrade project, he reported that the system came online in B-3. Under the Sewer Maintenance contract, he noted that I&I repair work is being performed in Marcus Hook using the same successful approach as was used in Rose Valley. We will also be doing the same type of work in Upland and, possibly, in Parkside. Regarding the WRTP Plant Upgrades -2020 project, he stated that there is a change order for the roof on the agenda that he will address later. Reporting on the T-28 project, he stated that work continues driving the piles for the foundation and the contractor started pouring the base slab. Equipment and materials were being delivered. There was a shut down today to do the major tie-in that was successful. Under the Upland Church Street Sewer Renovation, Mr. Hurst stated that the section of pipe replaced and upsized just prior to the rain event last Thursday performed very well.

Under the Design section, Mr. Hurst reported that the CSO #5 Partial Separation project is still in design. Referring to the ESA Program, Mr. Hurst reported that the tunnel designers are preparing the next round of submittals and permitting documents. The Part II permit application will be submitted to PADEP in May. The NPDES permit modification and DRBC Docket modification applications were submitted this past week for the larger outfall needed for the ESA.

Mr. Hurst stated that there is a new section on the written report entitled “ESA Major Permitting and Public Engagement Activities”. He noted that a public meeting was held on March 21st at Chester City Hall and he appreciated the attendance by some Board members. He noted there were many comments from Chester City residents about odor from WRTP. There is an agenda item relating to odor control improvement needs. Additional discussions with Chester City officials are pending. There are also meetings planned to discuss any impact to historical buildings. One is scheduled next week at Norwood Borough Hall and others are planned to be held in Sharon Hill and Ridley Twp. He also stated that a Request for Qualifications will be issued to find a Construction Manager for the tunnel project. Mr. Hurst had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no questions regarding the written report.

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 stated that the Metering Program and SWMM modeling work continues on a normal schedule. Mr. Lehman reported that a significant amount of his time last month was spent on compiling the Chapter 94 reports. Those reports were electronically submitted last month to PADEP. He thanked the staff for their considerable efforts in gathering and providing all of the information to him for the reports. 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-2006-C – WRTP Plant Upgrades Project 2020 – Contract A – General – Change Order No. 3 – Increase In Contract Amount Due To Additional Concrete Repair And Concrete Rehabilitation Of Sludge Holding Tank, ET-4 Roof Structure, To Include Materials And Labor, Outside Of Contract Scope – Increase In Contract Amount Of \$233,065.00 (Allan Myers)

Mr. Hurst stated that this change order is for the roof repair to one of the four sludge holding tanks when it was discovered that the underside roof structure was worse than expected. For comparison purpose, he noted that a complete roof replacement recently done in Bethlehem on a similar holding tank cost over \$1 million so this repair represents a tremendous cost savings.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above contract change order. This item will be placed on the agenda for the April 19th Board meeting.

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. HDR, Inc. – Proposal Dated April 7, 2022 – For Professional Engineering Services For Additional Electrical, Instrumentation, Controls, And Structural Design Modifications Required For Tunnel Interconnection At Darby Creek Pump Station, Muckinipates Pump Station, And Central Delaware Pump Station, ESA Program-Wide Permitting And Permit Oversight, Tunnel Shaft Physical Modeling, Facility Resiliency FEMA Study And Subsequent Tasks, And Design Coordination (D19-03 ESA Conveyance Pump Station Upgrades Contract) Relative To The Eastern Service Area Tunnel Program – Total Additional Amount Not To Exceed \$775,000 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that HDR is one of four ESA design firms and continues to pick up additional design work that's been required. This proposal covers electrical design work to get to the shaft, physical modeling related to making the tunnel larger, adding shafts at the Ridley Creek site, and resiliency planning. A small part is for contingency funds reserved for other additional work as needed.

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 April 19th Board meeting.

- B. D'Huy Engineering, Inc. – Proposal Dated April 6, 2022 – For Professional Engineering Services For Assistance With Additional Work Under The Existing On-Call Services Contract – Work Includes Odor Control Master Planning And Other On-Call Services As Requested By DELCORA (Amendment #2) – Total Additional Amount Not To Exceed \$185,000.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this proposal under the On-Call Contract is for an odor control master plan and start of design work. Webster Environmental, an odor control specialist, will develop a long-term plan to address those odors.

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 April 19th Board meeting.

- C. AquaLaw PLC of Richmond Virginia – Proposal Dated April 5, 2022 – For Professional Services For Continued Assistance With The LTCP Update, The Consent Decree, And Permitting – Total Additional Amount Not To Exceed \$25,000.00 (Operating Funds) (AquaLaw Is Not Affiliated With AQUA PA)

Mr. Hurst stated that AquaLaw continues to provide support with our Consent Decree and Long Term Control Plan, most recently communications with EPA on the latest submission.

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 April 19th Board meeting.

10. AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS:

- Contract No. P2022-02 – Sodium Bisulfite 38%

Mr. Hurst stated that this a routine request for this chemical that is used to take the chorine out of the water before discharge to the river.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above Authorization to Advertise. This item will be placed on the agenda for the April 19th Board meeting.

11. AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

- Eight LDO Probes For The Aeration Tanks Through The PA-COSTARS Contract #020-002 (Hach) For A Total Amount Not To Exceed \$21,823.60 (Capital Funds)
- Rebuild Eight Actuators And Purchase One MaxPro RA Valve Closure System For Chlorine Cylinders Through A Sole Source Vendor (Environmental Service & Equipment Company) For A Total Amount Not To Exceed \$23,800.00 (Capital Funds)

- Atmospheric Vapor Phase Odor Control At DELCORA's Western Regional Treatment Plant Through A Sole Source Vendor (BioTriad, Inc. – Quote Dated April 8, 2022) For A Total Amount Not To Exceed \$150,000.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. DiSantis reviewed the above purchases. The eight LDO probes are the dissolved oxygen probes used in the aeration tanks needed for the new control system that is being installed. The eight actuators are valves being rebuilt by the manufacturer which is less expensive than buying new. The last item relates to odor control. This is an interim measure being taken. The amount includes upfront set-up costs and monthly costs for the chemical. The not-to-exceed amount is expected to support this task for at least eighteen months.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above purchases. These items will be placed on the agenda for the April 19th Board meeting.

12. AUTHORIZATION TO PAY:

- Stormwater Authority Of Chester For Reimbursement Of Completed Work Required Under DELCORA's Long Term Control Plan's Nine Minimum Controls In The Amount Of \$1,506,140.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. DiSantis stated that under the Consent Decree, there are Nine Minimum Controls (NMC). The new NMC are in the current NPDES Permit which was renewed last April. The permit allows DELCORA to discharge effluent to the Delaware River. The NMC in the permit requires DELCORA to do specific work that the Storm Water Authority (SAC) was already performing. Our engineer reviewed the SAC's engineer's report. Based upon all of the information in the report, including costs, mobilization, installation, engineering design, etc., our engineer estimated a low and high range for our portion of these expenses. A mid-point of \$1,506,140.00 was agreed upon. The work is completed and this is the final payment to SAC.

In response to several questions from Ms. Nichols, Mr. DiSantis stated that this amount is the direct reimbursement to the Stormwater Authority for that portion of stormwater-related work SAC had already completed that we were mandated to do per the NMC requirements. He also stated that if DELCORA had to perform all of that work, we would have had to put it out for bid and pay the prevailing wage rates. SAC is not required to use public bidding but they use a Public/Private Partnership program that does not require paying prevailing wage rates to their contractors. Our paying prevailing wage rates would have made a big difference in our costs to do that exact same work.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above Authorization to Pay. This item will be placed on the agenda for the April 19th Board meeting.

Prior to Adjournment, Mr. Willert requested a short Executive Session after the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Ms. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Nagle, and unanimously carried to adjourn the regular meeting at 4:00 p.m.