

**MINUTES**  
**OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 11, 2022 (VIRTUAL)**

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Attendants: Messrs. Cherico, DiSantis, Garner, Hurst, Kern, Knapp, Lehman, Moss, Mullen, Nagle, Willert, and Mesdames Amadio, 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.

Al Kajtazi of Spectraserv and Matt Mascaro of J.P. Mascaro were present for the bid openings. Also present were Mike Ewall and Peggy Ries Alter. 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. P2022-03 (Re-Bid) – Removal and Transportation of Ash

Ms. Caulk stated that there were three bids received.

	<u>YEAR ONE CONTRACT</u>	<u>YEAR TWO CONTRACT</u>	<u>YEAR THREE CONTRACT</u>
Frank Nellom & Company	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00
J.P. Mascaro and Sons.	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 944,640.00	\$ 1,800,000.00
J&K Trash Removal	\$ 828,000.00	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 900,090.00

Mr. Mullen stated that these bids will be reviewed by Staff and our Solicitor's office, and consideration of award will be placed on the agenda for the October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- Contract No. P2022-05 – Dewatered Solids Transportation, Stabilization And Beneficial Use/Disposal Services

Ms. Caulk stated that there were two bids received.

	<u>TWO YEAR CONTRACT</u>	
	<u>ITEM #1</u>	<u>ITEM #2</u>
Solid Waste dba JP Mascaro & Sons	\$ 2,320,916.40	\$ 736,002.40
SpectraServe	\$ 2,306,520.00	\$ 696,724.00

In response to a question from Ms. Nichols, Ms. Caulk stated that Item #1 is for normal operations when both incinerators are working and Item #2 is for emergency situations

when neither incinerator is working. Mr. DiSantis added that there are different charges per ton depending on the circumstances and both bid items specified fixed quantities for the totals.

Mr. Mullen stated that these bids will be reviewed by Staff and our Solicitor's office, and consideration of award will be placed on the agenda for the October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- Contract No. P2022-06 – Uniform Rental Service

Ms. Caulk stated that there was one bid received.

#### THREE YEAR CONTRACT

UniFirst Corporation

\$ 83,868.78

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 October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

4. MONTHLY REPORT – DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE: Mr. DiSantis highlighted certain items in the written report. Mr. DiSantis stated that there was one NPDES permit violation in September at the WRTP for not meeting the minimum required dissolved oxygen limit on September 6<sup>th</sup> during a storm event. All other parameters were in compliance at the WRTP. There were very good numbers throughout the month in regard to suspended solids and cBOD. There was also one instantaneous maximum fecal coliform violation at the Chadds Ford Ridings facility. Mr. DiSantis also stated that there were five reportable incidents. One was for emissions and four were wet weather SSOs. The SSOs occurred at the Southern Beech Street Pump Station, the Muckinipates Pump Station, the Rose Valley Pump Station, and at two manholes located in the Taylor Arboretum. All of these occurred during the storm on September 6<sup>th</sup>. The emissions incident was due to a momentary loss of power from PECO resulting in a stack opening. Mr. DiSantis reported that the flow in September was similar to August since it was an overall dry month. There was only one big rain event during September.

Continuing, he stated that typical maintenance was performed on the incinerators with only four loads hauled to compost during that time. The most significant event happened at the Chester Pump Station during the September 6<sup>th</sup> storm. A pipe burst in the dry well where all the pumps are located which flooded the station with about five feet of water. Two of the three pumps were then out of service. Bypass equipment was brought in and the station was back in service within thirty-six hours. Mr. DiSantis commended the Central Maintenance crew, with support from the Sewer Maintenance and Engineering staff, as well as the contractors, for their efforts in rectifying the situation. As of today, all operations are normal and the bypass equipment has been removed. He also mentioned that a claim was submitted to our insurance agency for this event. Mr. Willert also commended Mr. DiSantis and the staff for their efforts. Mr. Kern asked if there was any electrical damage. Mr. DiSantis responded that

Engineering has been replacing the old pumps with new dry pit submersible pumps so that if the area gets flooded the pumps will continue to work with no damage done. Mr. DiSantis had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no other comments or questions regarding the written report.

5. MONTHLY REPORT – DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING: Mr. Hurst highlighted certain items in the written report. Regarding the Sewer Maintenance contract, he stated that the contractor, A. J. Jurich, had a busy month including work on the flooding incident at the Chester Pump Station. The close out of the Incinerator Maintenance contract has begun. There are a few things left to be completed on the 2020 WRTP Plant Upgrades project then close out will begin on that contract. The T-28 project continues to move along quickly with the concrete being completed this week and a water test will be done as well to demonstrate the water tightness of the structure. There is a change order for the general contractor on the agenda today that will be explained later. Regarding the Long Term Control Plan, Mr. Hurst stated that discussions continue with the EPA with respect to approval. He noted that a public meeting was held in Chester on September 21<sup>st</sup>. The Long Term Control Plan outcomes were discussed in great detail. Continuing, he stated that the design of the tunnel proceeds and the bidding documents are almost complete but we need to wait for more permit approval clarity before putting it out for bid. The logistics of when and how to bid the tunnel will be discussed with the Board. Mr. Hurst also noted that there's numerous permitting still ongoing as described in the report. Concerning the Pyrolysis study, he reported that the consultants are expected to deliver a cost evaluation and final feasibility report by the end of the month.

Under Regulatory Filings/Issues, Mr. Hurst made special mention of the list of reports issued by the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) for a 60 day comment period. The DRBC is evaluating the pros and cons, and costs of issuing an ammonia permit for dischargers to the estuary. These reports are being reviewed. He stated that there is an item on the agenda to request the engagement of an industry professional to work on behalf of DELCORA to review those reports. Mr. Hurst also noted that there will be a few Authorizations to Advertise of procurement contracts added to the Board agenda next week. Ms. Billings requested an update on the recent public meeting in Chester. Mr. Hurst responded that there were about 28 members of the public present and another 18 DELCORA affiliated people present which was about half of the attendance at the March meeting. He stated that the meeting lasted over three hours and the public's questions and concerns were addressed. Ms. Billings asked if the Act 537 Plan was any closer to approval. Mr. Hurst responded that it wasn't on the Chester City Council agenda for tomorrow's meeting but Council members are aware of the positives of approval. Mr. Hurst had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no other comments or 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, in September, the SWMM Modeling for August was completed indicating nothing out of the ordinary for three inches of rain in August which is in the middle of what is normal. There were 0 to 9 overflows with the precipitation on seven days and because of the way the model handles it, the regulatory

reporting ends up with two events that spilled over into another day which created another daily event. Mr. Lehman stated that the Metering Program continues with minor interruptions. A few meters that have been out for a few months due to ongoing sewer maintenance are expected to be completed and installed shortly.

In response to a question from Mr. Kern about how many overflows occur in a month, Mr. Lehman stated that overflows average about 9 to 12 daily overflow events (multiple outfalls discharge in an event) in a month and to get more than that there would have to be a series of very large rain events and that hasn't happened for a while. Mr. Kern mentioned that the Long Term Control Plan's objective is to reduce that to six a year. Mr. Hurst stated that the most active CSO's currently discharge about sixty times a year and our commitment is to reduce those to an average of six, a tenfold reduction. Discussion continued about the causes of CSO overflows and reducing those is a good message for the public. A summary of the exact totals and frequency will be provided to Mr. Kern. Mr. Lehman had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no other comments or questions regarding the written report.

7. CHANGE ORDERS:

- Contract No. TC-2009-C – T-28 Construction & PS-5 Modifications – Contract A – General – Change Order No. 1 – Increase In Contract Amount For Additional Soil Management, Polymer System Installation, And Valve Purchase – Increase In Contract Amount Of \$1,490,000.00 (Allan Myers)

Mr. Hurst stated that this change order represents a ~6.8% increase over this \$22 million contract. The three items on the change order include: removing the excess soil to an adjacent parcel area that could be used for tunnel construction staging; the current polymer system is located within the belt filter press room, and it needs to be upgraded and moved out of this corrosive environment so operators can work on it in a safer area; and valves for the tunnel project need to be purchased now due to the excessively delayed delivery schedules so we can have them on hand when the project begins. If the tunnel project does not get approved, the valve order can be canceled or used on another project.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above change order. This item will be placed on the agenda for October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

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

Mr. Mullen stated that there were no Contract Close-outs at this time.

9. AUTHORIZATION FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

- A. Buchanan Public Relations, LLC – Proposal Dated October 6, 2022 – For Professional Services For Public Relations And Communications Support (Phase III – October 2022 - April 2023) – Total Additional Amount Not To Exceed \$17,000.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this proposal is for continued support in our public engagement for the tunnel program and to assist Michelle Jackson as she transitions into her new role here. Buchanan has demonstrated great skill in social media monitoring and they report their findings to us on a daily basis which keeps us aware of information being put forth on social media so it can be addressed. Ms. Billings requested that a sample of these reports from Buchanan also be sent to the Board.

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 October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- B. Brown And Caldwell – Proposal Dated (To Be Determined) – For Professional Services For Technical Support For Review Of DRBC’s Analysis Of Attainability To Improve Dissolved Oxygen In The Delaware River Estuary – Total Additional Amount Not To Exceed \$45,000.00 (Tbd) (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that a final proposal will be received later this week but he expects the amount to be about the same as shown. Clifton Bell of Brown and Caldwell will be engaged to review the DRBC’s ammonia reduction documents.

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 October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- C. Material Matters, Inc. – Proposal Dated October 7, 2022 – For Professional Engineering Services To Provide General Support And Advice – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$15,000.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that Material Matters has provided support on permit renewals and is leading the Pyrolysis study. This proposal is for general engineering support and for upcoming stack test work.

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 October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- D. Allied Control Services, Inc. – Proposal Dated September 20, 2022 – For Professional Engineering Services To Perform Instrumentation Loop Calibrations On The Incinerator Systems – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$38,714.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. DiSantis stated that Allied Control Services is going to perform a calibration of every instrument on the incineration loop that is required prior to the annual stack testing.

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 October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- E. ACRI Environmental Group – Proposal Dated October 7, 2022 – For Professional Services To Provide Consulting Services Related To The Consent Decree And The Long Term Control Plan – Amount Based On A Rate Of \$250.00 Per Hour Plus Reasonable Expenses (Operating Funds)

Mr. DiSantis stated that ACRI employs two former EPA officials who are now permitted to work with the EPA and to assist us with our LTCP and Consent Decree. This service will be on an as-needed basis and it is not expected to be a large expenditure.

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 October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

10. AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS: Mr. Mullen stated that there were no Authorizations to Advertise for Bids at this time.

11. RESOLUTION NO 2022-08 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF LAND EASEMENT ACROSS A PORTION OF TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 38-06-00903-01 FOR SANITARY SEWER PURPOSES: Mr. Hurst stated that this relates to land acquisition for the tunnel. This parcel is located in Ridley Township south of the Royal Farms and hotels. We are still working with the landowner. The landowner is demanding that DELCORA fill in their wetlands with rock from the tunnel which is not a reasonable request.

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 October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

12. AUTHORIZATION TO RENT A UVSIGNA TRAILER PILOT SYSTEM FROM TROJAN TECHNOLOGIES GROUP ULC FOR THREE MONTHS – TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$56,343.00 (CAPITAL FUNDS): Mr. Hurst stated that chlorine is currently used for disinfection but with increased flows from the tunnel and the possibility of an ammonia permit, it would be worth considering converting to ultraviolet light for disinfection. In order to determine whether this would be a viable solution or not, renting this miniature pilot system would measure how the wastewater responds to the ultraviolet light. This study would run for a month and a half to determine if it's a good technology for DELCORA.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above authorization to rent. This item will be placed on the agenda for the October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Mr. Mullen, seconded by Ms. Billings, and unanimously carried to adjourn the regular meeting at 4:12 p.m.