

MINUTES
STRATEGIC PLANNING & GOALS COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 (VIRTUAL)

Attendants: Messrs. Cartafalsa, Cherico, S. Garner, Hurst, Kern, Knapp, Lenton, Monaghan, Moss, Mullen, Nagle, Willert, and Mesdames Amadio, Billings, Bonnett, Byrd, B. Garner, Jackson, Nichols, and Sage.

There were no members of the public present.

1. ROLL CALL: Nine members of the DELCORA Board of Directors were present constituting a quorum.
2. MONTHLY REPORT/ACTIVITY STATUS: The report was provided for the Committee's information. Mr. Lenton reported that truck waste had an average month. Trucks received were 4,519 for total gallons of 19,889,440.
3. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES: The report was provided for the Committee's information. Mr. Lenton reported that the weekly contractors' meetings are ongoing. Management meetings are still ongoing every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. He stated that he has reinstated the protocols for CDC Guidelines for COVID which includes sending employees to the admin building to wipe down surfaces. There were three reported cases for COVID last month. The monthly tour of the facility with the Executive Director was performed including viewing the new Sewer Maintenance garage in the back of the plant which is now up and running as well as a new rag pit. Mr. Lenton also stated that some fencing was replaced on the Monroe side of the plant to ensure the security of our plant. Mr. Lenton mentioned that the Safety Committee is hosting the annual employee appreciation luncheon on Thursday September 14, 2023, from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm. Mr. Lenton reported that new online protocols are in place to prevent any unwanted participation or comment during committee meetings. A police report has been filed regarding last month's incident during the Board meeting. Mr. Lenton also mentioned that firewalls have been updated on all servers. Monthly cleaning of Hauled Waste Area was performed by Plant Personnel. Lastly, Mr. Lenton mentioned a discussion involving Mr. Hurst. Mr. Lenton had no additions to his written report.

Mr. Willert mentioned that Mr. Kern would like to discuss the Philadelphia 537 Plan, and tunnel plan as well as get some statuses from the committee to make a recommendation to the Board. Mr. Nagle stated that the Board is looking for a status update to know what's been accomplished and evaluated regarding the tunnel plan. Mr. Hurst replied that the Engineering team along with consultants are evaluating this situation similar to the way the 537 Plan would be evaluated as far as weighing pros and cons, seeking different alternatives, and evaluating cost scenarios.

Mr. Kern stated that he created an Ad Hoc Committee which consists of four members to look at what's next regarding the 537 Plan. Mr. Kern mentioned that he asked Jane Billings, Paul Mullen, and John Nagle to assist him in developing a short report on where we are to date and what needs to be done for the existing 537 Plan, then they would meet with the staff to figure out what the alternatives are, and the pros and cons of each to come up with a recommendation for the Board. Mr. Kern also mentioned that he would like the remaining Board members to proof the report before possibly making the report public.

Ms. Nichols asked Mr. Kern if it is possible for the Board to have a workshop to help generate the report instead of just the four Board members he selected for the Ad Hoc Committee. Mr. Kern responded that he thinks that would be a good idea. He also mentioned that he asked Mr. Cherico to put together a five-year projection for the rates to look at the financial impact. Ms. Nichols asked how this situation would impact the Finance Department on presenting the 2024 budget. Mr. Willert answered that all the necessary information regarding the budget and tunnel project can be discussed and presented to the Board within the next few weeks. Ms. Billings recommended that we gather all the information as soon as possible to ensure that the 2024 budget isn't severely impacted. Mr. Cherico stated that the only thing that would affect the 2024 budget is whether we would have to borrow money to complete any of these projects so the 2024 budget will not be severely affected.

Ms. Billings spoke briefly about an article that was in the Daily Times that represented DELCORA poorly. She recommended that someone reach out to the reporter to clear up any false information as well as advise the reporter to speak with Mr. Willert or Mr. Kern before any future articles are published.

4. ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Ms. Billings, seconded by Ms. Nichols, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:03 p.m.