

**MINUTES**  
**OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**APRIL 9, 2024**

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Attendants: Messrs. Cartafalsa, Centrone, Cherico, DiSantis, S. Garner, Hurst, Kern, Lehman, Martin, Moss, Mullen, Nagle, Shuster, Willert, and Mesdames Amadio, Billings, Bonnett, Caulk, B. Garner, and Keffer.

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

The following were present for the bid opening: Steve Krol of A. F. Damon and Anthony Moore of Moore Brothers. 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. SEW-2401-CO – Furnishing Equipment, Labor & Supervision For Paving Restoration Services

Mr. Centrone stated that there were two bids received.

	<u>1 YEAR BID AMOUNT</u>	<u>2 YEAR BID AMOUNT</u>
A.F. Damon, Inc.	\$747,950.00	\$1,091,750.00
Moore Brothers Enterprises, Ltd.	\$811,050.00	\$1,146,275.00

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 April 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 the average daily flow during March was 46.46 MGD which was the third highest flow for a month in the last twenty years. He stated there were no NPDES violations as the cBOD data not available at the time of the report has been confirmed. Further, he noted that while still in compliance, secondary treatment is being affected by the very high flows. There were sixteen reportable incidents during March. One was an emissions incident that was caused by a breaker failure for the utility water pump system. He explained that the incinerator system has a required NFPA safety setting that upon any loss of scrubber water will automatically shut down the incinerator operation and opens the incinerator main bypass as a precaution. Mr. DiSantis stated that there were fifteen wet weather SSOs. These include two at the Rose Valley Pump Station, two at the Beech Street Pump Station, two at the Muckinipates Pump Station, three at the Martin Lane Pump Station, and two at the Taylor Arboretum. There were also two at the Central Pump

Station caused by a mechanical failure of the bypass pump system. All of the SSOs were due to a hydraulic overload from wet weather. He also noted that for the first seven days of April, the average daily flow is over 65 MGD which is 50% higher than the capacity of the facility and which will probably result in a violation.

Regarding solids handling, Mr. DiSantis reported that there continues to be a lot of slugging issues which is being addressed internally and with the assistance of outside contractors. He also noted that there was one violation for exceeding the TSS concentration at the Pocopson Preserve plant which is typical of pond stabilization process issues during colder weather. Continuing, Mr. DiSantis stated that there were no system failures during the month and that Central Maintenance was extremely busy with a 50-50 percentage mix of corrective versus planned and predictive. Work order aging decreased by 34%. Also, Sewer Maintenance spent nearly 30% of manhours on routine line cleaning and televising with the remaining time spent on other routine tasks. Lastly, he reported that there were 31.7 million gallons received, which is a monthly volume record basically due to the recent heavy rains. Mr. DiSantis had no additional comments to the written report. In response to a question from Ms. Billings regarding the Central flow, Mr. DiSantis stated that the first 20 million gallons are sent to our plant and anything over that is sent to Philadelphia to treat. During dry weather months, all Central flow is treated at the WRTP since sending it to Philadelphia to treat is three to four times more expensive. 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. He stated that a significant amount of time was spent last month on drafting the memo to submit to the EPA on May 1<sup>st</sup>. That includes the proposed Long Term Control Plan improvements that he discussed with the Board last month. It also includes deep linear storage between Chester and Ridley Creeks but not doing a lot of work in the Delaware River initially in exchange for some community benefit improvements that we are going to propose. He reported that work is ready to start on the Beech Street force main but some issues need to be worked out first with one of the municipalities involved. Regarding the Townsend Street Separation project, he stated that issues with PECO continue. Pipe will be laid up to the point that we cannot get past PECO at Fourth Street. We have been able to clear up two of the hurdles by changing the design but the issue at Fourth Street will halt the project at that point until PECO can resolve their issues. He noted that the Stormwater Authority is proceeding with building their project at Memorial Park so we do need to move ahead.

Mr. Hurst also mentioned that work was started by ERM (Environmental Resources Management) on some land issues. One item they are working on is to identify a place where we might do a land swap with the City of Chester so we could take ownership of the parcel at Second and Dock Streets that the City currently owns. That land is directly adjacent to our Chester Pump Station and building on that piece of land is anticipated to be the most economical way to replace that pump station. The Solicitor is currently drafting an agreement to define the terms of that land swap with the City of Chester. 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 their major effort in March was compiling and submitting the 2023 Chapter 94 reports to the DEP and the Philadelphia Water Department. The reports were completed and submitted electronically on March 28<sup>th</sup>. He thanked the Engineering Department for putting the data together for those reports. He noted that all other projects continued with no issues. Mr. Lehman had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no questions regarding the written report.

In addition, Mr. Hurst reported that the Annual I&I Report for Year 4 was also submitted to the PADEP. He stated that the PADEP again requested, and we provided, supplemental flow data for the Darby Creek Pump Station which is more about addressing issues that the DCJA catchment has with the SCUD line. We have coordinated with the DCJA engineer regarding that.

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

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. Catania Engineering – Proposal Dated April 5, 2024 – For Professional Engineering Services To Provide Construction Administration Services For The SDCA Market Street Force Main Project – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$27,000.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this proposal is for office engineering support of the construction of our Beech Street Pump Station to Ridge Road Force Main project. Catania is reviewing submittals and RFIs so this proposal is to compensate them for that 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 April 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- B. Greeley & Hansen – Proposal Dated April 8, 2024 – For Professional Services To Provide Assistance In Refining The System-Wide Hydraulic And Hydrologic (H&H) Model To Account For Recent System Improvements And Meter Data. This Relates To The Long Term Control Plan Update. (Task Order No. 16) – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$295,000.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst explained that we had an H&H Model that was used to predict the performance of our collection system during wet weather events. “Performance” meaning estimating how much of the water we capture versus how much of it goes out of a CSO’s outfall. It is a calibrated model. When we did the metering for the first time in

2017, it turned into a drought and in order to calibrate the model, wet weather is needed. The Board approved the purchase of additional meters to bolster the metering data and that has been very successful because of all of the rain. We are now at the point where we can recalibrate and finetune the model. He added that the final total amount of the proposal may change by the Board meeting. He is in discussions with Greeley & Hansen on that.

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 16<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.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Ms. Keffer, seconded by Ms. Billings, and unanimously carried to adjourn the regular meeting at 3:48 p.m.