

MINUTES
OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 11, 2024

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

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

The following was present: Steve 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 OPENING:

- Contract No. P2024-03 – Residential Delinquent Notice Posting Service

Ms. Caulk stated that there was one bid received.

	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>	
	<u>YEAR 1</u>	<u>YEAR 2</u>
Autoboyz, LLC	\$202,800.00	\$202,800.00

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 June 18th Board meeting.

Ms. Nichols stated that she did not recall the bid being that high the last time. Mr. Mullen noted that the project estimate was \$205,000. Ms. Caulk responded that the last time the project went out for bid was in 2021 and, at that time, 600 notices per month were required. For this bid, that amount was reduced to 300 notices per month. Ms. Caulk also noted that the 2021 bid amount was \$373,400. Ms. Nichols thanked her for that information.

4. MONTHLY REPORT – DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE: Mr. DiSantis highlighted certain items in the written report. He stated that there were no NPDES violations at the WRTP or at the remote facilities. During May, there was a failure to monitor for oil and grease due to a lab error. That was the only incident to report from a permit prospective. He also noted that flow was drastically reduced from the previous two months due to a very dry May and the flow went down greater than 25% from the March and April rate. Mr. DiSantis stated that there was excellent BOD and TSS removal at 4 and 5, respectively. Regarding reportable incidents, he reported that there were no emissions incidents; however, there were four reportable incidents that were all dry weather overflows. One was caused by a water leak from CWA. Another one was a blockage at the grit cyclones, which is a part of the treatment

process in the plant. It was a very minor overflow that went down a set of steps and out the door. There was also an overflow at a sludge holding tank due to operator error. While it was significant, it was all captured in the system in the trucked waste area and all the storm drains in that area go right back to the head of the plant as our spill prevention. The last one was a leaking drain pipe that was found when aeration tank T-13 was taken out of service. The actual drain line had a leak in it. That issue has been addressed as well. Mr. DiSantis noted that there were no issues to report as the process was moving into nitrification by the end of May. If we get the new permit condition that the EPA is proposing with regards to ammonia reduction, we will have to be able to do that year-round which would require an upgrade to our plant.

Regarding solids handling, Mr. DiSantis reported that progress has been made addressing the slagging issues that were noted in previous reports. Some changes were made to the burners and air control as consultants continue to support our team in this effort. He stated that there were twenty-six loads of cake hauled to compost during May due to the amount of maintenance that was performed on the incinerators. One of the units was down for over a week for de-slagging and the replacement of castables and refractory as needed. Both incinerators were in service 75% of the time. Regarding maintenance, Mr. DiSantis reported that Central Maintenance work orders were 43% corrective versus 57% planned and predicted. Work order aging also decreased by 11% during the month. The Small Diameter Piping Project moved into the fourth and final pump station on the significant goal of removing old piping. In Sewer Maintenance, the department spent 28% of manhours on routine line cleaning and televising with the remaining time spent on other typical tasks. Lastly, he reported that there were 26.56 million gallons received by hauled waste and estimated revenue is tracking ahead of budget. Mr. DiSantis had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no 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 a long list of work was completed. The last item, the Seaport Drive Screenhouse Weir installation relates to our Long Term Control Plan. At CSO #7, the weir was raised dramatically to improve capture and avoid the ongoing dry weather overflows there. Regarding the Townsend Street Separation project, he stated progress has been made by collecting pipe elevations and trying to navigate around some of the PECO obstructions that are there while PECO is working on their side. We are still waiting for the Chester City permit that is needed from the new city engineer, Colliers Engineering. Concerning the B-3 UPS Installation project, Mr. Hurst stated that the actual UPS unit has completed manufacturing and has been delivered. That cost of about \$1 million is on the bill list for this month for that delivery. There are still some land issues to resolve with Monroe. Mr. Hurst reported that really good progress has been made on the Beech Street Pump Station Force Main project in that 600 feet of force main has been installed and one air release valve, but we are on hold until some issues with Lower Chichester are resolved. Regarding the Municipal Inflow Reduction project, Mr. Hurst stated that quite a bit of work is being done on the various laterals. Also included in that project is tank cleaning at the WRTP and purchasing some safety hatches. Under the Long Term Control Plan, Mr. Hurst reported that, as mentioned before, we submitted a document to

the EPA that summarizes our latest proposal and that we are meeting with them on June 13th. Both the EPA and PADEP will have representation there. The report will be finalized and then there will be a broader distribution to the entire regulatory body, including the Department of Justice.

Concerning the UV design, Mr. Hurst stated that we are working towards a pre-purchase of that UV equipment. We are getting draft price proposals from three vendors then we will go through a formal bid process. In the meantime, we are vetting those three manufacturers for technical references and on-site visits have been scheduled for two of them in the next two weeks. Providing an update on the Tunnel Program, Mr. Hurst noted that we continue to accumulate land rights-of-way as needed and that a recent easement was signed by the Governor for a state-owned piece of land with a historical building on it. Continuing, Mr. Hurst stated that Odor Control continues on with the design and we are close to going out to bid on that. There is a proposal on the agenda requesting additional funds for design relating primarily to changes to the chemical feed system that are tied to the conversion to UV. As a result of the UV change, we want to be prepared for some on-site hypo and that will be included in the additional design scope. Regarding Land Services, Mr. Hurst noted that ERM continues to work on various land acquisitions, particularly the Monroe property and the 2nd and Dock Street property. This week, the Monroe property was appraised and we will be getting that report shortly which will assist us with acquisition negotiations with Monroe. The Phase 1 site investigation of the 2nd and Dock Street parcel was completed. A verbal report was received. Nothing worse than expected was discovered for an industrial site in Chester so we continue to move forward on land acquisition. A formal report is expected within a week. 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 month of May with 1.47 inches of rain was half as dry as April with 3.2 inches of rain. These readings are used for modeling. He noted that all other projects, such as the Metering Program, continue with no issues. Mr. Lehman had no additional comments to the written report. The Committee had no questions regarding the written report.

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. D'Huy Engineering, Inc. – Proposal Dated May 28, 2024 – Professional Engineering Services For Additional Scope For The Design Of The PS-6 Odor Control Modifications Project – Total Additional Amount Not To Exceed \$52,000.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this proposal relates to the Odor Control Design with primary focus on the chemical feed systems including other site and structural changes.

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 June 18th Board meeting.

- B. Therm-A-Cor Consulting, Inc. – Proposal Dated June 6, 2024 – For Professional Engineering Services To Provide Additional Investigatory Combustion Engineering Support Services For The Multiple Hearth Incinerators At The WRTP – Total Additional Amount Not To Exceed \$7,000.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that Therm-A-Cor is the combustion consultant that we rely on for various technical issues, such as slagging and other combustion concerns. This proposal is to continue that assistance.

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 June 18th Board meeting.

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

11. AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

- CDW-G – Quote Dated May 13, 2024 – For The Purchase Of Replacement Switches Throughout The WRTP For Business, Process And Security Networks Through PA COSTARS Contract #003-E22-586 – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$65,114.80 (Capital Funds)

Mr. DiSantis stated that this purchase is for network switches used for both the business and process network to enhance cyber security. They are used to communicate throughout both our business and process network. The IT Department provided the necessary information and also conducted a test to make sure these switches were fully compatible with our system network.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above purchase. This item will be placed on the agenda for the June 18th Board meeting.

- Reiner Pump Systems – Quote Dated June 6, 2024 – For The Purchase Of One (1) Sulzer ABS Drypit Submersible Pump And Two (2) Full Repair Kits For The WRTP Through PA COSTARS Vendor #359913 – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$68,405.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this purchase is for a replacement pump in PS-3. There was a mechanical failure and the price to repair it was great enough that it was decided to replace it instead.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above purchase. This item will be placed on the agenda for the June 18th Board meeting.

- DRV, Inc. – Quote Dated May 8, 2024 – For The Purchase Of Three (3) Yaskawa Variable Frequency Drive Control Panels For The Muckinipates Pump Station Through PA COSTARS Contract #016-E22-197 – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$140,520.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this proposal is for three VFDs for the Muckinipates Pump Station. There have been repeated SSO issues so we are replacing the pumps with higher performance pumps, previously approved, and these are the drives that go with those new pumps.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above purchase. This item will be placed on the agenda for the June 18th Board meeting.

- Ferguson Enterprises – Quote #B197572 Dated June 6, 2024 – For The Purchase Of Three (3) Lochinvar Crest Boilers With Boiler Pumps And Multi-Purpose Valves Through Omnia Partners Cooperative Purchase Agreement – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$137,605.60 (Capital Funds)

Mr. DiSantis stated that we currently have two hot water boilers at the WRTP used for both heating and for process where we need hot water. The two current boilers run constantly during the winter. We have no backups and there have been multiple failures of the controllers and other parts on the boilers. Last year, one boiler was out of service and using just the other one wasn't enough to run for heat and process. We want to purchase three boilers instead of two so we can have a true backup, if needed. Also, these new units are being upsized to 1.5 million BTUs from the current 1 million BTUs. This purchase is through Omnia Partners, a national cooperative for purchasing these particular boilers. These boilers were not available under COSTARS. The Omnia Partners agreement was reviewed and approved by Ms. Caulk and the solicitor. Of note, COSTARS is part of Omnia Partners.

Mr. Martin asked if this purchase was anticipated for this year. Mr. DiSantis responded that it comes out of the capital side not the operating budget. With all of the problems we had last year, it was necessary to purchase new ones. We worked with an engineer to size them correctly and we need to move forward on this. He also stated that, no, it was not an unexpected purchase.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above purchase. This item will be placed on the agenda for the June 18th Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Mr. Nagle, seconded by Mr. Martin, and unanimously carried to adjourn the regular meeting at 3:50 p.m.