

MINUTES
OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2024 (VIRTUAL)

Attendants: Messrs. Cartafalsa, Cherico, DiSantis, Hurst, Kern, Lehman, Martin, Moss, Mullen, Nagle, Schuster, Willert, and Mesdames Amadio, 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 were present: Steve Vinci, Andrea Miller, Sarah Onofrio, and Craig Murray. 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: Mr. Mullen stated that there were no bid openings at this time.

4. BID RESULTS RECEIVED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH THE PENNBID PROGRAM ON DECEMBER 10, 2024:

- Contract No. P2024-07 – Liquid Chlorine In One Ton Cylinders

Ms. Caulk stated that there was one bid received. She read the total amount of the following bid received: Kuehne Chemical Company with a bid amount of \$689,100.00 (unit price is \$2,297.00 per ton).

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 December 17th Board meeting.

5. 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 any of the remote facilities during the month of November. The very dry weather continued but there is rain expected tomorrow which will be very beneficial. He reported that 98% of the flow from the Central Delaware Pump Station came to the WRTP. There were four reportable emission incidents during the month. They all occurred at the #1 Incinerator. There was a ground fault caused by an electrical short due to some wires chafing together, most likely caused by normal vibration of the equipment. There was also a restriction found in the RTO combustion air intake. He explained that the air filters are being changed at an accelerated pace on all of the intakes for the air equipment because it is so dry, and we are getting more dust and dirt than ever before due to the very dry weather. Typically, this is handled during normal preventative maintenance tasks. Mr. DiSantis noted that the other incidents were caused by a natural gas regulator that went out of adjustment and an RTO poppet valve that failed within a few weeks of being rebuilt by a third party. All of the issues were addressed promptly and normal operations resumed. Mr. DiSantis reported that

cBOD, TSS and ammonia removal during the month continued to be very good and the clarifier percent removal rate for primaries was 46%. He noted that the goal is 60% minimum and, after figuring out what the issue was, it was up to 59% during the first week of December. Regarding solids handling, he stated that both incinerators were in service 76% of the time with some downtime and there were eleven loads of cake hauled to compost. A purchase order was placed for the new belt presses and he will be working through that process, such as shop drawings, etc.

Regarding maintenance activities, Mr. DiSantis reported that Central Maintenance completed 50% corrective, and 50% planned and predicted work orders. He also noted that Central Maintenance work order aging remained unchanged. Regarding the new asset management platform (MaintainX), he stated that over 100,000 items have been migrated into this new application. These include assets, locations, and historical work orders. That transfer will continue and once the new system is operational, it will be run side-by-side with the current application to ensure that it is functioning properly then the current Infor/Hexagon system will be phased out over time. Mr. DiSantis reported that Sewer Maintenance had a typical busy month with working on routine line cleaning and televising, inspections and cleanings of CSOs, inverted siphons, and manholes. Also, there was a great deal of in-plant support including the sewer maintenance staff who are CDL drivers moving the cake trailers. Regarding the Hauled Waste business, he noted that we received 16.78 million gallons in November. Mr. DiSantis had no additional comments to the written report.

In response to a question from Ms. Keffer about the NPDES violations and whether that just pertains to DELCORA or does that encompass the other authorities that feed into DELCORA, Mr. DiSantis stated that the NPDES permit, which stands for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, allows us to discharge to the Delaware River and when he reports that we had no NPDES violations, it means that we were in total compliance with all effluent parameters on our discharge to the Delaware River. As far as the rest of the system, we have a solid waste management permit that covers some incineration operation and solids handling here at DELCORA including hauled waste. That permit allows us to take in hauled waste. He stated that we also have a Title V Operating permit which is for air emissions and when he reports that we have no incidents with anything regarding sanitary sewer overflows and such, that would include all of our collection system and pump stations. Therefore, in a month like this with no NPDES violations either at the remote stations or at our plant, that means any of our discharges from our treatment plants were in compliance with all permit parameters. Also, when he reports that there were no sanitary sewer overflows, that means that there were no major or any kind of issues to report at the pump stations or in the collection system. Ms. Keffer also asked what "RTO" stands for. Mr. DiSantis responded that RTO stands for Regenerative Thermal Oxidation. It is a unit in the final part of the pollution control process. It exposes and treats the gases coming off of the incinerator and the prior two pollution control devices to a very high temperature, approx. 1500° F, in that RTO to destroy any remaining volatile organic compounds and other things of that nature. 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. Under Sewer Maintenance contract, he stated that some of the CSOs were modified consistent with the requirements of our NPDES permit. These are items that were taken out of our draft version of the Long Term Control Plan and put in our NPDES permit. He noted that work was finished on the Rt. 420 line break, and that we received and deposited a check from insurance for \$457,000. There is some continued debate with insurance on some additional costs but we learned yesterday that this loss claim will not increase our premiums directly. Also, it was confirmed that our insurance is subrogating back to R. E. Pierson's insurance carrier to recoup their costs. Mr. Hurst reported that the Townsend Street project officially started this past week and there is a related item on the agenda that he will explain about further. Concerning the I&I program, he stated that 400 feet of lateral replacement was completed on fifteen addresses in Collingdale Borough, and in the Woodlyn and Holmes sections of Ridley Township. Also, a 30 foot section of main was replaced in Glenolden and a few other miscellaneous small projects were completed.

Regarding the Multi Facility Upgrade project, Mr. Hurst stated that this project included boiler replacement in B-3 and one of those boilers was started up yesterday. The other two installations are being completed and will be started up this month, as well as the work on the sump that needs to be recoded as part of the incinerator project. Mr. Hurst reported that we are proceeding with the UV design and we are going to get a pilot unit from one of the manufacturers. There is a concern about their quartz sleeves fouling in our waste stream, so they are giving us a pilot to demo. Regarding Land Services, ERM is working with a few landowners to get tunnel easements that are still pending. Also, we continue to work with the City of Chester regarding the 2nd and Dock Street property to figure out the best place for the parcel that we are going to get within the larger parcel and preserve the park land that they want to preserve. 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 SWMM Modeling continues and noted that there was zero precipitation recorded at the plant during the month of September, something that he has never seen before in the years he's been doing the modeling for DELCORA. He reiterated about how dry it has been lately. He noted the November numbers were a bit over two inches at the plant. Mr. Lehman reported that the Metering Program continues to proceed with no issues. He noted a brief kick-off meeting was held for the new project with DELCORA for the re-evaluation of EDUs. There will be a further meeting later this week with staff to begin going through the data. Mr. Lehman had no additional comments to the written report.

Ms. Keffer commented on an item noted under the section 'General Engineering Support' regarding looking into the breakdown between haulers that originate in Delaware County and those outside of Delaware County, and what is the percentage of those in the watershed versus outside of the watershed. Mr. Lehman responded that the data request was made by the DRBC because they are very concerned about any flow

that comes into the Delaware River Basin which may end up in the Delaware River, especially if there are haulers coming in from Maryland or from western or central Pennsylvania, outside of the watershed. Mr. Hurst stated that the vast majority are in the watershed but we are still doing the tabulation. The DRBC has caps on what can come from outside the basin and it is part of our docket renewal. The last time we renewed the docket, they asked the same question so this is an opportunity for them to check our records. He stated the vast majority is inside the basin. The Committee had no other questions regarding the written report.

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

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

- Contract No. SEW-2203-CO – Annual Sewer Maintenance (A. J. Jurich)

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above Contract Close Out and Final Payment. This item will be placed on the agenda for the December 17th Board meeting.

10. AUTHORIZATION FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

- A. Chavond-Barry Engineering Corp. – Proposal Dated November 20, 2024 – For Professional Services To Conduct Incinerator Operator Training In 2025 – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$11,000.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. DiSantis stated that this proposal is for the required operator training per the Title V permit.

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 December 17th Board meeting.

- B. HRG, Inc. – Proposal Dated December 5, 2024 – Professional Engineering Services For The Preparation Of The 2024 Chapter 94 Wasteload Management Report For The Edgmont Township Collection And Conveyance System – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$3,800.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this proposal is for the annual Chapter 94 report for Edgmont Township due on April 1st and it basically just summarizes everything that happened from both the flows and loads perspective within the system.

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 December 17th Board meeting.

- C. Weston Solutions, Inc. – Proposal Dated December 4, 2024 – For Professional Engineering Services To Prepare DELCORA's Annual Chapter 94 Municipal Wasteload Management Reports For 2024 – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$34,000.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this is an annual PADEP required report that all municipalities have to complete each year. This report includes both the eastern and the western municipalities, except for Edgmont Township.

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 December 17th Board meeting.

- D. CHA Solutions – Proposal Dated November 27, 2024 – For Professional Engineering Services For Design Services For DELCORA’s Combined Sewer Separation Of CSO Regulators 5, 7, And 8 Catchment Areas – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$1,895,000.00 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that the nature of this job is to complete the design for the separation of three different catchments, CSO's 5, 7, and 8. These areas include the land on either side of where the Commodore Barrier Bridge hits the city. As included in our Long Term Control Plan, we are proposing to separate these areas because there are housing development areas within these catchments which were separated when the developments were re-done but they just get to the edge of that part of the property then they enter into the combined sewer system. These catchments are well suited to do the separation work since they discharge on either side of the boat ramp at the stadium. It is estimated that all three of these areas combined will be a \$25 million investment. Even if there was a tunnel going directly under Rt. 291, \$25 million is comparable to what it would cost to tap into that tunnel. So, this is a good investment from the capital side.

Mr. Hurst also stated that there was a formal Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP was sent to three firms. Orientation meetings were held with all three firms with a Q&A session. Out of the three, two were considered responsive. There was a formal selection committee process and captured the outcome of that in a memo. CHA was \$400,000 lower than Kleinfelder, the next responsive bidder. CHA staff was considered more responsive than Kleinfelder and included some Delaware County individuals. Mr. Hurst said he agreed with the recommendation of the Selection Committee and reminded the Board that CHA merged with D’Huy, a firm DELCORA has engaged many times in the past. He noted that Craig Murray of CHA is in attendance if the Board has any questions.

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 December 17th Board meeting.

- E. Remington & Vernick Engineers – Proposal Dated October 21, 2024 – For Professional Engineering Services For Additional Design And Inspection Scope Resulting From The PECO Conflicts Regarding The Townsend Street Combined Sewer Separation Project (Task Order No. 1) – Total Additional Amount Not To Exceed \$72,631.00 (Capital Funds) (New Total - \$197,203.00)

Mr. Hurst stated that this is an amendment to an existing project. This is the result of a long series of problems with utilities on this project, most notably PECO, as mentioned in previous reports. This construction contract was awarded at the end of 2022 and there have been numerous re-designs, schedule changes, and also inflation issues. This amendment accounts for all of those changes to this project.

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 December 17th Board meeting.

F. Trinity Consultants – Proposal Dated December 9, 2024 – For Professional Services To Provide 2025 Title V Compliance And Reporting Assistance To DELCORA – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$36,600.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that Trinity provides most of our Title V Permit support work including our Title V renewal request to modify the way the burners are configured.

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 December 17th Board meeting.

11. AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS:

- Contract No. P2025-01 – Dewatered Solids Transportation, Stabilization And Beneficial Use/Disposal Services
- Contract No. P2025-02 – Lawn Mowing And Maintenance Services
- Contract No. P2025-03 – Janitorial Services
- Contract No. P2025-04 – Polymer Flocculant – Dewatering Process
- Contract No. P2025-05 – Polymer Flocculant For Sludge Thickening

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board approval of the above Authorizations to Advertise for Bids. These items will be placed on the agenda for the December 17th Board meeting.

12. AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

- S. J. Thomas Company, Inc. – Proposal Dated November 12, 2024 (Job Order No. 136043.00) – For Purchase Of Labor And Materials For Facility Services And Lateral Modifications Related To NPDES Permit And Draft LTCP Prescribed Municipal I&I Engagement At Various Locations Through The Keystone Purchasing Network (Municipal Inflow Reduction-Phase 2) – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$5,185,621.10 (Capital Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this is Phase 2 of the I&I lateral program. This is the same level of funding as the one last year and is just a continuation. We will continue to focus on the red areas and the CDBG areas. He noted that there has been a great deal of positive feedback on the I&I program.

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 December 17th Board meeting.

- S. J. Thomas Company, Inc. – Proposal Dated November 18, 2024 (Job Order No. 136032.00) – For Purchase Of Labor And Materials For Plant Services Through The Keystone Purchasing Network – Total Amount Not To Exceed \$2,217,131.60 (Operating Funds)

Mr. DiSantis stated that this is the Plant Services Project. We averaged about \$100,000 a month on the previous contract. This project is for a two year period. It will include all tank cleanings within the plant, and all other cleanings and repairs at the WRTP.

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 December 17th Board meeting.

- George S. Coyne Chemical Co., Inc. – Quote Dated November 25, 2024 – For The Purchase Of Liquid Caustic Soda (#P2024-08) And Phosphoric Acid 75% (#P2024-09) Annual Chemicals Through PA COSTARS Contract #015-E23-045 – Total Combined Amount Not To Exceed \$420,200.00 (Operating Funds)

Mr. Hurst stated that this is for the purchase of two chemicals. The caustic soda is used for a couple of different applications at the plant. The phosphoric acid is used to add phosphorus to the treatment process. We are using a PA COSTARS contract to purchase these this year.

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 December 17th Board meeting.

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