

GREEN BAY METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSION

Regular meeting of the Commission held March 27, 2019.

PRESENT: Commissioners Hasselblad, Blumreich, Mainz, and Tumpach

EXCUSED: Commissioner Hoffmann

ALSO PRESENT: T. Sigmund, P. Wescott, B. Vander Loop, T. Brown, J. Smudde, B. Bartel, P. Smits, B. Clausen, S. Georgel, B. Angoli, E. Houghton, S. Bartlett, L. Sarau, B. Brown, P. Mentink, J. Czapinski, B. Oldenburg, S. Thieszen, J. Maas, E. Schroth, J. Van Sistine, J. Nicks & J. Smies–Legal Counsel; J. Stullken–GHD; A. Hermans–Scott Municipal Utility

Commission President Hasselblad called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1) Safety moment.

T. Sigmund provided information on how to prevent serious vehicle damage from potholes.

2) Adopt retirement resolution for Craig Lawniczak.

Commissioner Hasselblad read the retirement resolution, and presented it to Craig Lawniczak.

B. Bartel stated that Craig Lawniczak has worked at NEW Water, the brand of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, for 43 years. NEW Water is very fortunate that Craig Lawniczak accepted a full time position here, and he has been a great asset to the organization. He has held many positions here, and most recently was the project coordinator for the last 12 years. He oversaw the upgrade at the De Pere Facility (DPF) and most recently the R2E2 Project. Our jobs have gotten a little more difficult as of March 2, 2019, with his retirement on March 1, 2019. He wished him the best in his retirement. Congratulations.

Commissioner Hasselblad wished him good health, good travels, and all good things ahead. Thank you.

T. Sigmund stated 43 years is by far the longest employee NEW Water has ever had. Craig Lawniczak has had incredible dedication and commitment for the success of this organization. NEW Water has been very fortunate to have him on the two projects. He will be missed.

C. Lawniczak stated that he feels fortunate to have been able to advance his career at NEW Water. It has been an honor to work at NEW Water. He enjoyed working on the projects and stated that he should be paying NEW Water for the opportunity. He appreciated getting the Treatment Lead position and to finish his career on R2E2, which was incredible. Thank you.

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Motion #19-016

It was moved by Mainz, seconded by Blumreich, and unanimously agreed to adopt retirement resolution for Craig Lawniczak (Resolution #19-004 is on file at the NEW Water offices).

3) Adopt resolution of commendation.

Commissioner Hasselblad stated to extend the discussion on commitment and dedication, NEW Water is adopting a resolution of commendation. The Commission was informed about the impact of the recent wet weather events. She assumes everyone in this room knows about the hours that were spent by NEW Water staff to keep everything operating carefully, smoothly, and safely; and that was no small matter. The Commission has not put up this kind of commendation like this since 1995, so this is really special. She read the resolution of commendation. Words cannot express what it means to have the kind of staff NEW Water has. The Commission is outside in the community looking at NEW Water, hearing about it from other people, looking at the headlines in the paper, and to get the note from Tom Sigmund about the extraordinary effort that this staff went through to keep everybody safe and this place operational. The Commission owes staff a real debt of gratitude. This is a small piece of it. Thank you.

T. Sigmund stated that staff will receive a copy of the resolution of commendation, as well as it will be displayed throughout the facility. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Mainz suggested to send a copy to the Mayor, County Executive, and the town.

Commissioner Hasselblad suggested to include the resolution of commendation in NEW Water's annual report.

Motion #19-017

It was moved by Mainz, seconded by Blumreich, and unanimously agreed to adopt the resolution of commendation (Resolution #19-005 is on file at the NEW Water offices).

4) Green Bay Facility Condition, Criticality, and Risk Assessment Project update.

P. Smits introduced John Stullken from GHD. P. Smits and J. Stullken provided an update on the Green Bay Facility (GBF) Condition, Criticality, and Risk Assessment Project, as following:

- Presentation Overview
- Project Background and Goals
- Project Approach Major Steps

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- Asset Failure Modes and Asset Condition
- Due to Consequence of Failure, 527 (16%) Assets were Selected for Field Assessments
- Trip Bottom Line Consequence of Failure: Environmental, Economic, Social/Community
- Combining Asset Condition and Criticality Scores for Asset Risk
- Risk Plot for GBF Assets Summarizes Condition, Performance, and CoF Ratings
- Next Steps

Commissioner Hasselblad asked staff to provide a brief summary on the assets in zones 4 and 5.

Commissioner Mainz asked if GHD does work for any other wastewater treatment facility. J. Stullken replied yes, Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District.

T. Sigmund asked if there was anything that surprised GHD. J. Stullken replied NEW Water's asset register and list of assets were in better shape than other facilities. Results were good and NEW Water has a lower consequence of failure.

T. Sigmund stated that Brian Vander Loop is leading the effort on non-physical assets and has applied the same Triple Bottom Line.

Commissioner Hasselblad suggested that staff include a narrative on assets in the annual report.

- 5) **Convene in closed session under State Statute 19.85 (1) (e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and under State Statute 19.85 (1) (g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel for the Commission who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the Commission with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved:**
- a) Discussion of negotiation strategy concerning a potential industrial customer**
 - b) Litigation involving industrial and interplant forcemains**

Motion #19-018

It was moved by Mainz, seconded by Blumreich, and unanimously agreed to convene in closed session under State Statute 19.85 (1) (e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and under State Statute 19.85 (1) (g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel for the Commission who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the Commission with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

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6) Reconvene in open session.

Motion #19-019

It was moved by Blumreich, seconded by Tumpach, and unanimously agreed to reconvene in open session.

Following closed session, agenda items were taken out of sequence based on staff's presence for reporting.

7) Approval of minutes of Commission meeting held February 27, 2019.

Motion #19-020

It was moved by Blumreich, seconded by Mainz, and unanimously agreed to approve the February 27, 2019 minutes as distributed.

16) February 2019 Operations report.

P. Wescott reported for the month of February, both facilities were in full compliance with effluent limits and the GBF was in full compliance with air quality limits. On resource recovery, 1,066 megawatts of electricity was generated for February. Staff have been working hard at managing NEW Water's electricity consumption. NEW Water utilized the biogas engines to keep down electrical costs for the month of March, especially during the wet weather events on March 14 and 15, 2019.

P. Wescott stated the nutrient harvesting system was scheduled to start up earlier this year and was put on hold. During initial testing staff realized there were abnormally low levels of orthophosphate, which was constraining how the nutrient harvesting system was operating. Testing for potential causes for low orthophosphate was done, and staff identified that there are higher than normal levels of aluminum and iron coming into the plant. While the startup is on hold, the deficiency has helped the overall plant operations by reducing the struvite formation through means outside of NEW Water. Staff have been working with consultants to analyze plant data to determine the probable sources.

Commissioner Mainz asked if these dischargers are in compliance with their discharge permits. P. Wescott replied that he is not aware of compliance related issues. Commissioner Mainz asked if NEW Water knows who the dischargers are. P. Wescott replied yes, and they are being monitoring.

T. Sigmund stated that if these industries are doing some onsite pretreatment and adding a surplus of either iron or aluminum, it is carrying over into NEW Water's influent providing chemical phosphorus removal as opposed to biological phosphorus removal, which is the intent to run the struvite recovery system. Chemical phosphorus removal is either on or off, but biological phosphorus removal does not

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have the same type of switch. If the industry stops discharging that amount of aluminum or iron, NEW Water's phosphorus numbers would spike really fast. NEW Water needs to react to this.

8) January and February financials.

B. Clausen reported total operating revenues for the month of January were favorable to budget by \$175,000 or 6% due to additional TSS and BOD loadings and hauled waste. Total operating revenues for the month of February were unfavorable to budget by (\$44,000) due to lower than budgeted TSS & BOD loadings. Year to date total operating revenues were favorable to budget by \$131,000 or 2% mainly due to hauled waste. The hauled waste is falling off due to the facility doing its own pretreatment.

B. Clausen reported total operating expenses for the month of January were unfavorable to budget by (\$742,000) due to more expenditures in maintenance – interceptors, power & natural gas, and contracted services, which includes some legal services. In February total operating expenses were unfavorable to budget due to more expenditures in maintenance – interceptors and legal services.

T. Sigmund stated operating expenses were unfavorable to budget due to maintenance – interceptor expenses related to the Bayview Interceptor and interplant and industrial forcemain repairs. These expenses are expected to continue into the first half of 2019 and were not budgeted because amounts recovered through litigation will be replenished to the reserves.

B. Clausen stated year to date total operating expenses were unfavorable to budget due to more expenditures in maintenance – interceptor and legal services. Year to date operating income was \$1,744,000; however, net loss for the year was (\$908,000).

Commissioner Mainz asked if the money should go into operating expenses or should it be capitalized. T. Sigmund replied this is a good question. Staff discussed with the auditors earlier this week about what part of this is an expense and what part should be capitalized, which is contingent on any proceeds from litigation. Some expenses on the interplant forcemain might be able to be capitalized based on the potential of extending the life or betterment of that pipeline.

9) Sewer plan approval:

a) City of De Pere Project #19-01; GBMSD Request #2019-10

Commissioner Mainz asked if there is anything special about this sewer plan request. B. Angoli reported no.

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Motion #19-021

It was moved by Mainz, seconded by Blumreich, and unanimously agreed to approve the City of De Pere sewer plan subject to favorable approval recommendations from Brown County Planning and final approval by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR).

10) **2018 enforcement summary and pretreatment update.**

S. Georgel reviewed the enforcement action that was taken against the industrial users in NEW Water's pretreatment program for 2018 and the corrective measures taken to get back into compliance. Two industries were in significant noncompliance in 2018 and will be published in the Green Bay Press-Gazette tomorrow.

Commissioner Mainz asked if these two customers realize that they were in error. S. Georgel replied yes. Nouryon Pulp and Performance Chemicals LLC failed to televise the receiving sewers in 2018. Nouryon televised late in the year, but the company that did the televising lost the report. Nouryon will televise earlier in the year and if needed, can re-televise. Nouryon also has a backup company to televise as well. Packerland Whey Products Inc. got a permit in June or July last year and has a new person on board that is not familiar with the pretreatment program. She tried to connect with Packerland a couple times and the permit also lists all the requirements. Packerland failed to collect a sample for self-monitoring. Packerland has a plan in place to collect a sample twice a year.

S. Georgel stated five industries were out of compliance in 2018 and received a Notice of Noncompliance. She reviewed the violations and action taken.

11) **2018 Industrial Achievement Awards.**

S. Georgel stated this is the eighth year for the Industrial Achievement Awards. In 2018, there were 45 industries in the pretreatment program and 31 industries will be receiving awards. In 2017 half of the industries received awards, and in 2018 two-thirds of the industries will receive awards. Four industries have received an award every year since the awards program began. NEW Water recognizes these industries by presenting them with a certificate, publish recipients in the newspaper and on NEW Water's website, and puts it on social media. All of the award recipients have told NEW Water that they value getting this award. She recognized Erin Schroth and Billie Komorowski for the work that they do with this program.

Commissioner Mainz asked staff to differentiate in the newspaper that RR Donnelley – Broadway was in significant noncompliance and RR Donnelley – Scheuring Road received the 2018 Silver Award. S. Georgel will note it appropriately in the newspaper.

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12) **Presentation on the 2018 Silver Creek Watershed Project, Adaptive Management Plan, and efforts in Ashwaubenon and Dutchman Creek.**

J. Smudde gave an update on some of the watershed activities that have taken place and future efforts, as follows:

- Silver Creek Project
- Success in 2018
- Outreach
- Interseeder Experiences
- Wetland Restoration Efforts
- Managed Grazing and Monitoring
- 2018....By The Numbers
- Next Steps in Silver Creek
- Future Watershed Program Efforts
- Opportunities in Adjacent Watershed
- Ashwaubenon/Dutchman Creek
- Full Scale Watershed Management Program Efforts
- Stream Corridor Inventory
- New Program Name and Logo
- Next Steps in Full Scale Watershed Program
- WI DNR Requirements Update
- Questions

Commissioner Mainz asked staff to keep track of how much NEW Water is spending on the watershed projects, starting with Silver Creek in 2014. He stated that it would also be helpful to include money received from partners and grants. J. Smudde replied that he has this information and will provide it to the Commission.

Commissioner Blumreich asked if NEW Water would consider including the landowners in Silver Creek as part of NEW Water's World Water Day recognition. J. Smudde replied there has been discussion on it. T. Sigmund stated two years ago one of the farmers recognized was part of the Brown County Demonstration Farm.

Commissioner Hasselblad asked if there are any major revisions on the Adaptive Management Plan that staff is working on. J. Smudde replied some of the comments from the WDNR need clarification and a few are just a shift in approach. No major changes at this point.

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13) 2018 Silver Creek water quality updates.

E. Houghton gave an update on water quality in Silver Creek and first year of water quality in Ashwaubenon/Dutchman Creek, as follows:

- Sampling Stem Sites
- Green Bay Precipitation
- Silver Creek Sample Summary
- Silver Creek WDNR May-October Median Water Quality
- Silver Creek Manure Spill
- 2018 Field Season Goals
- Adaptive Management: Full Scale
- Ashwaubenon/Dutchman Creek Water Quality and Biological Monitoring
- Water Quality Sampling Sites
- Adaptive Management Action Area 2018: May-October Median Values
- 2019 Field Season Goals
- Questions

14) 2018 Aquatic Monitoring Program updates.

S. Bartlett thanked NEW Water's nutrient lab for processing 460 samples from the Aquatic Monitoring Program. She gave a 2018 Aquatic Monitoring Program update, as follows:

- Great Lakes Surface Environmental Analysis
- 2018 Highlights
- Sampling Locations
- Lower Green Bay Trophic Status
- Total Phosphorus (mg/L) 2018 vs Historical Trends
- Total Suspended Solids (mg/L) 2018 vs Historical Trends
- Samples From Which Month(s) Exceed Water Quality Standards
- Continuous Monitoring Station
- 2019 Collaborative Research
- NADA SeaPrism Deployment
- How SeaPrism Reports
- How SeaPrism Works
- Satellite/Improved Cyanobacterial Index
- Improved Cyanobacterial Index
- Questions

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Commissioner Hasselblad asked about the water conditions at Bay Beach. S. Bartlett replied staff is currently compiling the data analysis for 2018. This was a three-year program, so the data will be rolled out into presentations to anyone interested.

15) Update of projects:

a) Contract 34 Digestion and Solids Facility

B. Angoli reported the thickening centrifuge was sent back to the manufacturer for repairs and it is back up and running. Work continues on the wall construction. Low phosphorus in the digester was discovered when collecting data for nutrient recovery system startup. Engineer and staff are continuing to collect and evaluate data to determine if operating the nutrient harvesting equipment is appropriate at this time. The wall is about half completed at this time and is expected to be completed by the end of April.

b) 2018 Interplant Forcemain Fitting Repair

B. Angoli reported nuts and bolts samples have been collected and sent out for testing. There is an outstanding issue with Canadian National Railroad on a request for a permit and flagging to perform work near the rail line.

c) 2018 Industrial Forcemain Fitting Repair

B. Angoli reported nuts and bolts samples have been collected and sent out for testing. There have been some issues with traffic control, erosion control, and settlement. SEH and Advance are currently working with the City of De Pere to resolve these issues.

d) Meter Stations 6, 8, and 9 Rehabilitation

B. Angoli reported work on meter stations 8 and 9 is nearly complete. Remaining work includes landscaping and exterior painting. Work on meter station 6 includes interior painting and fixing the flume.

e) 2018 Motor Control Center Replacement

B. Angoli reported the contractor is onsite doing some demo work, concrete coring, and conduit installation.

f) De Pere Facility Electrical Distribution and Emergency Generator

B. Angoli reported the contractor is onsite and the majority of work has been reviewing shop drawings.

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g) Bayview Interceptor Replacement

B. Angoli reported the contractor encountered soft soils during the boring process, so the boring machine was removed and a 72-inch diameter pipe casing was installed through the soft soils. The boring machine is in place and operational. The weather has put the project a little behind schedule.

Commissioner Meinz asked if there is going to be a pipe installed in the 72-inch pipe. B. Angoli replied the 72-inch pipe was put in to allow the boring machine to move forward. Commissioner Meinz asked if the 72-inch pipe is permanent. B. Angoli replied yes. T. Sigmund added there will be two pipes installed inside the 72-inch pipe, one is the casing and the other is the interceptor pipe.

17) Executive Director's report:

a) April Commission meeting

The April Commission meeting will be held Wednesday, April 24, 2019, beginning at 8:30 a.m. There will also be a Commission workshop on strategic planning on Thursday, April 11, 2019, beginning at 8:30 a.m. facilitated by two staff from Core Consulting Group.

b) Wet Weather Event

There was very high wastewater flows throughout the system on Thursday and Friday, March 14 and 15, 2019. The plant is for the most part back to normal with flow up a little bit.

Commissioner Blumreich asked for the statistics for the GBF. B. Bartel replied 30 mgd average and design average is 49 mgd.

Commissioner Meinz asked what the design max is. B. Bartel replied the GBF is 120 mgd, and it was at 105 – 110 mgd.

T. Sigmund stated the DPF design peak is 29 mgd and it was over that for 18 hours.

Commissioner Meinz asked if NEW Water maintained permit. B. Bartel replied the GBF yes, and not sure on the DPF.

Commissioner Meinz asked if NEW Water notified the WDNR in advance. B. Bartel replied yes, with the possibility of violating the DPF permit.

T. Sigmund stated that staff did all they could with the amount of water that was coming in. Staff used all of our assets and did a great job.

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Commissioner Mainz asked if the Commission could get information on how other wastewater treatment facilities around the area handled the high flows. T. Sigmund stated yes, it is public record.

c) Brown County Resource Recovery 2018 Annual Report

A copy of the Brown County Resource Recovery 2018 Annual Report was included in the Commission packet. Mark Walter will provide an update on Brown County Resource Recovery and the work Brown County is doing on Renard Island at the May Commission meeting.

Commissioner Mainz asked how much NEW Water sponsors the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. J. Maas replied \$107,000 a year and it is based on the consumer price index.

Commissioner Mainz asked how long NEW Water's agreement is for. T. Sigmund replied that he was not sure there was a termination date. Commissioner Mainz would like to know how long the agreement is good for.

d) World Water Day event

NEW Water teamed up with the Green Bay Water Utility for the World Water Day event last week. It went well. Congressman Mike Gallagher and Troy Streckenbach both spoke at the event. The WDNR was honored for its leadership in leading the Lower Fox River PCB cleanup. Commissioner Blumreich was there.

T. Sigmund will be in Washington, DC next week attending the National Water Policy Fly-In and will be meeting with Congressman Gallagher, Senator Baldwin staff, and the DNR on a number of items.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

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Secretary