

**Central Wastewater Region Large Users Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday January 23, 2019 – 1:30 P.M.
City of Wilton Manors Island City Park Preserve**

Voting Members Present:

Talal Abi-Karam, City of Fort Lauderdale / Assistant Public Works Director-Utilities
Miguel Arroyo, City of Fort Lauderdale / Water and Wastewater Treatment Manager
Rhonda Hasan, City of Fort Lauderdale / Assistant City Attorney III
Chris Lips, City of Oakland Park / Utilities Manager
David Archacki, City of Wilton Manors / Public Services Director

In Attendance:

Heather Moraitis, City Commissioner, District 1
Susan LeSage, City of Fort Lauderdale / Business Operations Manager
Kym Holcombe, City of Fort Lauderdale / Senior Financial Administrator
Justin Murray, City of Fort Lauderdale / Regional Wastewater Facilities Manager
Jorge Holguin, City of Fort Lauderdale / Senior Project Manager
Bob Mays, City of Wilton Manors / Finance Director
Bert Fisher, City of Wilton Manors / Office Manager
Fernando Martinez, City of Oakland Park / Public Works Manager
Chris Lips, City of Oakland Park / Assistant Public Works Director
Tim O'Neil, CDM Smith
Rafeela Persaud, City of Fort Lauderdale / Administrative Assistant I

Welcome – Mr. Talal Abi-Karam

Mr. Abi-Karam called the meeting to order to 1:32 p.m., welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2019 and introduced Ms. Moraitis, City Commissioner, District 1. Mr. Abi-Karam thanked Mr. Archacki for hosting the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Mr. Abi-Karam stated the business of the Large Users Advisory Board is structured in accordance with the City Ordinance and delegated strictly for wastewater. Mr. Abi-Karam verified there was a quorum.

Approval of August 22, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Abi-Karam introduced a motion to approve the August 22, 2018 meeting minutes. Miguel Arroyo made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Chris Lips seconded the motion. The meeting minutes for the August 22, 2018 were approved. Vote was unanimous.

Update on the G.T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant – Justin Murray

Construction Project Updates

- P11773 (Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) Replacement – Stage 2) - Stage 2 contract documents are being prepared for bid later this year. Construction should begin in late 2019 at an estimated cost around \$4.7 million. Preparation of the contract documents was moved back because funding will occur in FY19-20 and construction should only occur during the winter months.
- P12171 (Pre-Engineered Metal Building Replacement at the Deepwell Site) - Engineering staff is working with a consultant to prepare a design/build criteria package to demolish the building and erect a new one in its place. The bid package should be

ready for advertisement in the spring of 2019. Emphasis has been placed on careful demolition of existing structure to avoid damage to the deepwells.

- P12172 (Electrical Testing of GTL) – The testing and repairs have been completed for this project and the report was received March 27, 2018. The City is expecting to receive the revised single line diagram of the plant to include the work completed under P11710 Electrical Upgrades by March 2019.
- The east end of the site was repaved in January 2019 to prevent discharge of damaged asphalt to the storm drain system (memo attached).
- The mechanical integrity of the 5 deepwells will be tested along with well brushing during the summer of 2019. The bid package was completed by the consultant in January 2019 and bidding should be completed in February. The plan to test the integrity is in the approval process with FDEP.

Capacity Issues

- Annual average flows for the last twelve months are currently at 38.9 MGD.

Operational Issues

- The last two new effluent pump rotating mechanisms will be installed in summer of 2019. All treated effluent pumps will be less than 2 years old when completed. One pump will be changed out at a time.
- The City procured new motors 1,250 – 1,750 HP for two of the effluent pumps at a cost of \$379,000. Delivery and installation of these motors is scheduled for February 2019. The existing motors will be inspected and stored by a vendor in case of future motor failure. This will eliminate additional emergency costs and reduce equipment downtime. Only one motor will be changed at a time.
- An onsite training seminar for the maintenance of the existing belt filter presses scheduled for spring 2019. This will assist new and experienced mechanics to learn factory recommended maintenance. Sludge hauling costs will be monitored in the hope of reduction.

Budgetary Issues

- A number of new capital improvement projects (CIP) will need to be added to the City's plan for the next 5 fiscal years, to include:
 - The rehabilitation of the chlorine contact basin,
 - Replacement of the power/control wiring for the control valves on each of the five (5) deepwells, and
 - A redundant effluent pipeline from GTL to the deepwell site in anticipation of inspection and lining/replacement of the existing line, under Phase 2 of the Consent Order.

This will likely require another rate increase this year. *Bob Mays asked about the estimated cost of the pipeline. Mr. Murray stated it would be about \$2.5M, based on \$1,000 per foot. Mr. Abi-Karam said the numbers will need to be revisited.*

- The 2018 Repair and Replacement Analysis by the consultant concurred with the City's recommendation to replace the addition of Hydrogen Peroxide with a new corrosion inhibitor at the wastewater collection system (re-pumps). This initiative is estimated to add \$2.4 million annually. This chemical will protect the regional force mains, as well as it is expected to reduce hydrogen sulfide levels at GTL.
- The remaining two stages of the PCCP replacement project (P11773) cost will be significant due to required bypass pumping.
 - Estimated cost for Phase II = \$4.72 Million.
 - Estimated cost for Phase III = \$3.70 Million.

Old and New Business

- The GTL operational staff in consultation with the Public Works Engineering and its wastewater consultant executed a task order to prepare a 30% design criteria package (DCP) to replace the existing cryogenic plant (over 30 years old) with newer technology vacuum pressure swing absorption (VPSA). The latest cost estimate by the consultant for the VPSA was revised from \$10-15 million to \$8.9 M plus/minus 30%. The bidding for the DCP should take place this spring.

Mr. Abi-Karam asked Mr. Murray to elaborate on the upcoming annual tabletop exercise to be taken place sometime in February at the GTL Plant. Mr. Murray described the event which had to do with the Mechanical Integrity Contractor having a problem, which would involve multiple departments.

Mr. Abi-Karam mentioned the activities going on currently such as the CIP and operational budgets, difficulties in filling the electrical positions, the on-going maintenance projects at the plants done by staff, etc.

Rate Calculations – Susan LeSage

Included in the packet given to the members was a Computation of Rates to be charted. Ms. LeSage said that through December 2018, we are at 25% in the budget cycle, and 16% of actual dollars, which is well under the budget. Ms. LeSage stated that at the last meeting (August 2018), in discussing the calculation rates, municipalities were billed at \$1.92 per thousand gallons, and it was estimated that it would be at approximately \$2.16 per thousand gallons. After discussion with Finance, it may be at \$2.25 per thousand gallons, which includes the new debt service.

Ms. LeSage said the consultants may present the Water and Sewer Study to the Budgetary Advisory Board (BAB) in February 2019.

Old/New Business

Mr. Bob Mays announced that he will be retiring in May 2019 and thanked everyone for their professionalism and the great experience.

Mr. Archacki introduced his new Office Manager, Bert Fisher.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. and will be held at the George T. Lohmeyer (GTL) Wastewater Treatment Plant, 1765 SE 18 Street, Fort Lauderdale, 33316.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.