

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LEWISTON-AUBURN WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

The regular meeting of the Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority was held on Friday March 17 at 7:30 a.m. at the Authority offices at 535 Lincoln Street Lewiston.

Directors Present: Norm Lamie
 Jeff Beale
 Mark Adams
 Mike Broadbent
 Mary Ann Brenchick
 Steve Ness

Absent: Dan Goyette

General Manager: Travis Peaslee

Assistant General Manager: Paula Drouin

Secretary: Paula Drouin

Treasurer: Ralph Lenfesty

Norm Lamie called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Minutes

Mike Broadbent made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 10, 2023 regular meeting. Mark Adams seconded, all approved and the minutes were placed on file.

Financial Reports

Travis Peaslee reviewed the financial reports. Mike Broadbent made a motion to accept the financial reports, Jeff Beale seconded, all approved and the motion passed.

Norm Lamie made a motion to set 2023 second quarter cost apportionment at 66% Lewiston /34% Auburn. Jeff Beale seconded. All approved and the motion passed.

Public Comment - none

Report from Cities/Sewer Districts

Mike Broadbent reported a sewer re-line bid is opening on Wednesday. The city is also planning for paving projects. The city has also tried to order items early due to long lead times so they do not have to wait to begin projects.

Jeff Beale reported that the city is in the process of sewer re-lining

General Manager Report

Biosolids: Travis Peaslee reported that 630 yards of biosolids were produced in February and all of it was sent to the composting facility to then be transferred by Casella to landfill. Staff is working to make the material as dry as possible. Currently, biosolids are being stored within the compost facility.

Travis Peaslee reviewed biosolids disposal options and recommendation. Motion made by Mike Broadbent to reject the revised Casella agreement, pursue an SOU with the Hartland landfill, and to act on the SME study at Lewiston landfill, and to submit emergency use of the compost facility for biosolids storage. Seconded by Mary Ann Brenchick. All approved and the motion passed.

Anaerobic Digestion and Co-Generation: Travis Peaslee reported that the anaerobic digestion process is working well and both co-generation units are operational allowing for near average amounts of gas and power production.

Septic Receiving: Travis Peaslee reported 67,000 gallons of septic waste was received in February, which is 12,000 gallons or \$1,440 more than budgeted. Year-to-date figures are 55,250 gallons or \$6,630 more than budgeted.

Effluent Quality: Travis Peaslee reported that the effluent quality continues to be good and that there were no influent bypass events, no effluent violations, and no use of the secondary bypass in February. Roughly 289 million gallons of wastewater was treated.

Old Business

Biosolids & PFAS: Travis Peaslee reported that he is working on a state-wide biosolids study. The scope was submitted to the DEP and a draft recently received back from them that he will review.

Travis Peaslee reported on the proposal from Brown & Caldwell to study the feasibility of obtaining IRA grant funds to address internal material handling issues and increase anaerobic digester utilization. Motion made by Mark Adams to approve the Brown and Caldwell proposal in the amount of \$10,364, to be budgeted from the reserve for replacement account (RR). Seconded by Steve Ness. All approved and the motion passed.

Travis Peaslee reported that a structural assessment of the compost facility was received and that no corrective action will be taken until future use of the facility is determined. Travis Peaslee reported that he spoke with SME regarding the biofilter and they feel the data are trending in a positive direction and that a summer meeting with the DEP to discuss successful corrective action is feasible.

Travis Peaslee reported the DEP does not intend to take action on land application licenses at this time but has offered to waive fees due to land application being banned. LAWPCA will relinquish the 13 licenses previously approved by the board but retain the other nine licenses as well as the program license.

CSO Project: Travis Peaslee gave an update on the CSO project, received feedback, and stated there is a March 22nd meeting. Travis Peaslee reported the SRF solicitation is back out and that LAWPCA will re-apply this year to determine eligibility.

Bar Screen Project: Travis Peaslee reported that a late March or early April window install is anticipated, which will complete the project, at which time he will work with bond counsel to make the temporary note permanent.

Charter Change: Travis Peaslee reported that LD640 “An Act to Update the Charter of the Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority” was voted ought to pass by the EUT Committee on March 16. Once ready, a final read will be done and that should conclude the charter change.

Branding: Travis Peaslee reported that LAWPCA intends to have a meeting with Black Fly Media to discuss LAWPCA-specific branding. Paula Drouin and Mary Ann Brenchick will work on this effort.

New Business

Closed Sludge Landfill Logging Activity – Travis Peaslee reported that that a company was observed on February 14 engaging in logging at the closed sludge landfill. This was common practice before LAWPCA obtained ownership. Travis requested the site be removed from the City of Lewiston’s Forest management plan. The city arborist will inspect the site with LAWPCA staff to ensure that it was left in an acceptable manner.

There was a discussion on septic discharge rates. Travis will draft a letter to be sent to towns and will provide it at the April Board meeting for review.

Other Business

Mark Adams made a motion to enter Executive Session- pursuant to Title 1, Chapter 13: subchapter 1, Section 405, Subsection 6 of Maine State Law. Steve Ness seconded the motion.

Norm Lamie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 a.m. Mike Broadbent seconded the motion.

Attest



Travis B. Peaslee, General Manager