

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF FOX METRO WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT
HELD WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014**

The Board of Trustees met in a regular monthly meeting at 9:30 A.M. in the offices of the District at the Water Pollution Control Plant on Wednesday, November 19, 2014. Present were, President James K. Detzler, Trustee Judith S. Sotir, Trustee Michael C. Funkey, Trustee Albert E. Heriaud, & Trustee Christopher F. Childress. Also present were Attorney Dallas C. Ingemunson, Manager Thomas F. Muth, Engineer Philippe F. Moreau, John Frerich from Walter E. Deuchler, Maintenance Supervisor Chris Morphey, Field Services Manager Matt Woodin and Norma Rodriguez.

8777 The bills were presented and read. It was moved by Trustee Sotir, that the bills be allowed as read, and that checks be drawn in payment account during the month of October 2014 in the amount of \$1,897,535.53 be ratified and approved. Motion was seconded by Trustee Funkey, put to vote and unanimously carried that the bills be paid as presented.

8778 It was moved by Trustee Sotir seconded by Trustee Funkey, put to vote and unanimously carried that the Treasurer's Report for October, 2014 be approved as submitted.

8779 It was moved by Trustee Sotir, seconded by Trustee Funkey, put to vote and unanimously carried that the minutes of the September 24, 2014 Regular Board Meeting be approved as written, each of the Trustees having received and read copies of said minutes before the meeting.

8780 With no New Business or Public Comments, It was moved by Trustee Detzler, seconded by Trustee Funkey, put to vote and unanimously carried that the Regular Board Meeting be temporarily adjourned for the Committee of Local Improvements.

The Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 9:35A.M.

In the committee of Local Improvements Manager Muth updated the Board with the progress of the construction projects that are taking place at the plant. Manager Muth reported that the Aeration Tank project got off to a slow start. John Frerich and staff began having weekly update meetings with the contractor and that helped speed up the project. Manager Muth explained that this is a very large project and showed the Board a presentation outlining the progress. Manager Muth said that there was an issue with the couplings, the gaskets were wrong and there was the potential for air to leak. The rivets had to be punched out and new ones put in along with the proper sized gasket. The presentation also showed the pieces of pipe being placed. The proper pieces had to be aligned at the right dimension in order to line up with the existing air mains.

A crane was needed to place and align the pipes. During the process the electrical contractor being used left the project and Valley Electric was brought in and they have been doing a great job.

Manager Muth reported that five mixers were purchased from three different vendors. The Plant is going to pilot one tank in Plant 4 and test these mixers to see which brand works best because the new South plant has to be retrofitted with a lot of these mixers. The best one will serve as base bid for our South plant. These mixers are being tested to see how well they mix without getting fowled up with debris. The health of the microorganisms cannot be jeopardized. This is going to help us pilot the Biological Nutrient Process at the North facility but caution has to be used because we don't want to lose treatability by turning all five mixers on and turning the air off in the tank. Next summer this will be piloted to see how we can get phosphorous microorganisms in this tank. This will be an intricate process because there are different microorganisms to remove the phosphorous than to remove the ammonia. Chris Morphey explained that instead of creating an aerobic zone a anaerobic zone is being created which is the void of oxygen but the material will still need to be mixed so that a mixture of the bacteria from top to bottom is obtained and that pilot is going to determine how to biologically remove phosphorous down to a certain level so that we know how much chemical to add when the North plant is retrofitted to do phosphorous removal. Manager Muth said that the goal is to have mixers in the first pass of five of the tanks when we go to the BNR process at the North facility.

The presentation contained a slide showing the complexity of the new piping network of this project and now all five plants are hooked up to this system. Currently the plant is running with two large blowers. The plant used to run with two large blowers and two small ones. The new system has eliminated the use of the small blowers and has reduced electrical expense.

The next project Manager Muth updated the Board on was Service B. He explained that the leaky air pipe approximately 50 feet from the unit had supplied warm air to inside the electrical component and this caused condensation inside the unit. In order to turn power off to Service B our employees had to wear special suits because it is a very dangerous operation. Now underground conduit for Service B was encased in red concrete to show that it is electrical in case of future work around the area is needed. Trustee Childress asked if ComEd installed the main service electrical line. John Frerich explained that the District installed the conduit for ComEd on Fox Metro's site. Where ComEd brought the service into their switch then they pulled the cable through that conduit directly into their metering cabinet. Mr. Frerich said that if they hadn't installed the conduit ComEd would have just buried it in the ground and the District didn't feel that was very safe. Manager Muth said that considering that service is the second main feeder to the plant, it is very important that it is installed correctly. A vault was built underneath the Service B which will enable staff to go down and work on the cables and connections in a safe manner. Also, with this two way switch instead of employees having to wear special suits and a stick to transfer power from one service to another, this can now be done by a push of a button. ComEd also requested a line reactor and that was installed to protect Fox Metro

from power surges from ComEd. A concrete approach was also built instead of an asphalt approach. Manager Muth thanked John Frerich from Deuchlers on doing a good job with Project Management and overseeing those two jobs.

The Regular Board Meeting reconvened at 10:00 A.M.

Attorney Dallas Ingemunson advised the Board that he had nothing to report for the Attorney's Report.

8781 Philippe Moreau addressed the Board with the Engineer's Report. Mr. Moreau requested approval of Partial Payment No. 5 to Frank Marshall Electric, Inc., in the amount of \$62,865.00 for Service B Upgrades Project. It was moved by Trustee Sotir seconded by Trustee Funkey, put to vote and unanimously carried that payment be made in the amount of \$62,865.00 to Frank Marshall Electric, Inc., for work completed on Service B Upgrade Project.

8782 Philippe Moreau requested approval of Partial Payment No. 2 to R.J. O'Neil, Inc., in the amount of \$108,921.60 for Building P-1 HVAC Renovations Project. It was moved by Trustee Sotir seconded by Trustee Funkey, put to vote and unanimously carried that payment be made in the amount of \$108,921.60 to R.J. O'Neil, Inc., for work completed on Building P-1 HVAC Renovations Project.

8783 Philippe Moreau requested approval of Partial Payment No. 7 to Mechanical, Inc., in the amount of \$279,778.50 for the Air Main Header Replacement. It was moved by Trustee Sotir, seconded by Trustee Funkey, put to vote and unanimously carried that payment be made in the amount of \$279,778.50 to Mechanical, Inc., for work completed on the Air Main Header Project.

8784 Philippe Moreau requested approval of Partial Payment No. 2 to LeCuyer Painting & Decorating, Inc., in the amount of \$45,360.00 for Building K Coating System Rehabilitation Project. It was moved by Trustee Sotir seconded by Trustee Funkey, put to vote and unanimously carried that payment be made in the amount of \$45,360.00 to LeCuyer Painting & Decorating, Inc., for work completed on Building K Coating System Project.

8785 At 10:00 A.M. Manager Muth opened and read aloud bids received for P-1, Phase 2 Building Modifications Project as follows: Lite Construction – Total Bid \$240,177.00; L J Dodd Construction Inc. – Total Bid \$278,500.00; R J Sohol – Total Bid \$284,670.00; R C Wegman – Total Bid \$289,000.00; L J Morse – Total Bid \$271,150.00; FBG Corp - Total Bid \$287,800.00. The Engineer's estimate for this project was \$260,000.00. It was moved by Trustee Sotir, seconded by Trustee Funkey, put to vote and unanimously carried that the low bid of Lite Construction be accepted for \$240,177.00 and the bid of L J Dodd Construction, Inc., for \$278,500.00 be held pending specification review by Fox Metro Water Reclamation District and Walter E. Deuchler Engineering Staff.

At this time, Manager Muth addressed the Board with the Manager's Report. Manger Muth advised the Board that the plans for the South Plant designs are 80% complete. Things are moving forward and staff will be meeting with Deuchlers soon and will make any necessary revisions. The specs will still need to be completed and those will accompany a list of agencies that will have to give their approval. Fox Metro is currently working with the Army Corp of Engineers in providing information that they are requesting. Four months ago there was a FEIN public hearing to approve the facility plan and that is very close to being finalized. The IEPA received a comment from the Village of Montgomery regarding odor control at the South Plant. A response was sent to the IEPA addressing Montgomery's concern advising them that Fox Metro will be using modern technology to control odor and advised them that was already a constraint that Deuchlers has in order to build the South Plant.

Trustee Heriaud asked if that had anything to do with converting some of the wetlands. Manager Muth said that is part of the Army Corp study and he believes that we have received approval of a one to one ratio for replacement. The District would need to buy wetlands in another area for the wetlands that we are taking out in the South Plant. The Plans for the South Plant will be submitted to the IEPA around February 1, 2015 but will still continue working on the specs for approximately four months to finalize all the details. The loan application is also going well.

Manager Muth reported to the Board that in October there were some Plant process issues largely in part of lowering the levels in the aeration tanks for the air main construction. They had to be lowered rapidly to comply with the contractor and in doing so there was a plant upset. Chris Morphey was here and Joel Ilseman was on vacation. One of the advantages is that Chris and Joel are interchangeable and Chris is a Class 1 operator and has a large amount of operations background. He and Mark Halm met with staff and were able to put together a plan to ward off a plant upset. Manager Muth said that Chris and his staff did a great job in preventing a big problem.

Manager Muth reported that two operators passed their certification test. John Merrow for Class Operator 2 and also Dan Haick who was recently promoted from maintenance to Operations and one of the requirements for him was to pass the Class 2 exam and he did it the first time he took the exam.

Manager Muth advised the Board that the District advertised in the paper for a full time and part time Customer Service positions in the Billing Department and have received over 500 applications. Pat Divine and Jimmie Delgado will review them and interview the qualified candidates in the next two weeks.

Manager Muth reported that Fox Metro is currently working with the Village of Montgomery to have a zoning change. We want to install a telecommunications tower at 1135 S. Lake St., Montgomery that will be used for our SCADA system. The existing tower is monolithic and is at the wastewater treatment facility. When it needs maintenance a 90 ft. lift is needed to work on it. The tower that we want to install at the Field office is a model that has hinges at the base and it can be lowered to the

ground when it needs maintenance. We have gotten through the Zoning Board of Appeals it is just a matter of consent agenda. We have received full cooperation from Montgomery's Board and staff.

Manager Muth advised the Board that he received a call from the IEPA and it involves our NPDES permit which was scheduled to be renewed two and a half years ago. It was believed that many of the issues were resolved at the IEPA and the USEPA but they may be resurfacing. Over the last couple of weeks Manager Muth has received some emails from John Weimhoff at the USEPA. When the first email was received the Districts environmental attorney was involved because there were ramifications involved with the answer and all bases need to be covered. Currently we don't have anything in writing from the IEPA/USEPA but it was discovered that October 30, 2014 the IEPA and the USEPA had a face to face discussion regarding our permit. There is a lot of concern on the part of the USEPA regarding following their guidelines to the letter and it goes back to blending and all the influent from all of our interceptors coming into our one box. The IEPA has always considered all the flows coming in to our plant have been defined as combined flows. The USEPA is starting to have an issue with that and we may be confronting some problems with them. This is a huge concern for Fox Metro because there could be a big challenge and we could be the waste water agency that the USEPA is going after this issue. John Frerich explained that the blending had been an issue and the USEPA has been disputing on that aspect as far as getting monitoring points inside the plant. This has been worked out with IEPA to get it removed from our permit. What has happened is that they have gone back to square one from when they visited our facility in 2009. The USEPA is disagreeing with the IEPA regarding our initial outfall 002 which is at the headworks. There is a treated outfall which is 001 and at the beginning of the headworks, flows come in and combine at the bar screen building. There is a weir that anything the plant cannot take through the plant, it overflows that weir and is discharged right out into the river. For over the past thirty years this has always been considered a combined sewer overflow. A DMR is issued every month detailing how many CSO events we have had. The USEPA is now disagreeing that outfall is even a CSO. They gave the IEPA two options; the first option was that they want the IEPA to now classify it as excess flow outfall and make it subject to secondary effluent treatment limits. Mr. Frerich said this is practically impossible because they basically want Fox Metro to treat everything as secondary treatment and discharge it. The other option is classifying the outfall as a prohibited bypass. This would then make it subject to what is referred to as 40CFR part 122.41 regulations which means it is prohibited. This would mean that instead of doing the monthly DMR reporting and submitting it, any time that an overflow become active the IEPA would have to be notified within 24 hours and provide them a reason why it occurred and a corrected action plan to why it would never happen again. The IEPA argued at length in our defense and said the USEPA is going to question if it is a CSO. If it isn't a CSO why did the USEPA then require a CSO Long Term Control Plan to be completed by April of 2010. They said we should stop now and get the issue resolved and then we know which direction we are going. The IEPA disagrees with the USEPA's interpretations but their hands are tied and they are looking at seeking permission right now from the USEPA to share with us a draft objection letter that they

submitted to the IEPA. It wasn't a formal letter but a draft objection letter to our permit. Mr. Frerich said the IEPA would respond in a week but it may longer due to the holidays.

When Manager Muth and Mr. Frerich spoke with the environmental attorney he said the IEPA has two options. The first option is that they can object to the USEPA's options and the IEPA may or may not choose to issue us the NPDES permit. If they chose not to issue our permit then the USEPA could intercede and then take over the issue and they would then be in charge. This is an option that would not be in the District's best interest. The other option is that we could allow the IEPA to issue the draft NPDES permit for Public Comment. The District could then request a Public Hearing through that process. This would be for the District's ability to add all information into the administrative record. The IEPA could be called in as witnesses. It would be a while until we get to this point and there will be discussions with the IEPA and the environmental attorney to determine the best course of action. That concluded he Manger's Report.

Maintenance Supervisor reported that the plant is running well, the water temperature has dropped five degrees and there are no current issues.

Controller Jimmie Delgado reported that Human Resources Coordinator Pat Divine organized Bullying and Harassment presentation for the district that was well received and was successful. He also reported that the Audit is almost complete and is just waiting on a couple of items for the final draft which is expected to be completed by the next Board Meeting.

Trustee Chris Childress inquired if the District has ever thought of leasing our property to companies to putting signs on the property for advertisement or a cell tower. He believes this would be an incremental revenue opportunity. Trustee Detzler said that was interesting idea and it would be something to consider.

Trustee Heriaud asked if anything is going to be resolved this year with the issue of replacing the wetlands that we will be using for the South Plant. Manager Muth said that the District has to have particular approved wetland areas and there are three locations that have been located. John Frerich added that the wetlands that would have to be bought to mitigate them have to be Army Corp approved and have to go through their process. The wetlands that are currently being considered would have to be certified wetlands by the Army Corp as acceptable. This is a lengthy process. It has to be approved, created, maintained and cultivated as wetland.

With no other business to come before the Board, it was moved by Trustee Sotir, seconded by Trustee Funkey, put to vote and unanimously carried that this meeting be adjourned, there being no Executive Session this month.

The Meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M