

La Conner Wastewater Advisory Board
2nd Quarter Meeting
Tuesday, June 28, 2016

The La Conner Wastewater Advisory Board was called to order at 3:30 p.m. Present were Administrator John Doyle, Town Councilmember Jacques Brunisholz, Chairperson and Manager for the Swinomish Utility Authority John Petrich, Plant Operator Kelly Wynn, Finance Director Maria DeGoede and Citizen Dan O'Donnell.

Approval of Minutes:

Jacques Brunisholz moved to approve the Minutes of December 8, 2015. Seconded by John Doyle, the Minutes of December 8, 2015 were approved unanimously.

Finance Report:

The financial report is through the month of April 2016. Maria mentioned she can provide an updated Finance Report in a few days as the one in the packet is only for 1st Quarter 2016. John Petrich mentioned the expenses seem low, but they are just for the 1st Quarter and have since risen. Jacques asked if the \$160,000 improvement was for the compost slab and Kelly verified it was. We now have two and there is discussion for a third.

Public Forum:

Dan O'Donnell wanted to know if the WAB will be discussing the leak under the channel. John Doyle mentioned there is no proof there is a leak, but they will be discussing the issues with the flow. He will be following up with EPA and meeting with them and some engineers along with the Tribe.

Kelly stated they did clean the line and they recalibrated the meter, but there were issues with that. They have decided to completely replace the meter. Kelly stated it's more of an electrical issue. The meters are calibrated every year. This year the calibration came back showing there is a potential problem with the existing Tribal meter. The new meter will be installed in about 30 days. There was build up in the transmission main pipe and the cleaning did not help the calibration or the flow readings. They went at least to the flow meter. John Petrich wanted to know if there was sediment in the pipe. Kelly said there was not. There needs to be a completely full pipe all the time. He had our engineer review and he stated the elevations keep the pipe full all of the time at the meter location.

John Petrich wanted to know if they were able to do the videoing in the pipe, Kelly stated no. Pipe repair will begin in two weeks and he could attempt to video, but he doesn't think it will be possible because of the twists and turns. They are going to do a test to see where the water sits at a static level.

Kelly stated they have been watching both totalizers and they haven't seen a difference. They even switched to the more reliable totalizer and the readings are the same. If there was a discrepancy between the two totalizers they would have seen it when the two were switched. Therefore, it is his opinion that they are reading correctly. The readings are in question now because of the potential for moisture in the meters. John Doyle stated last year when they did the inspection there was not moisture in the meter and it past the test. Kelly stated now the calibration machine won't allow it to pass because there is moisture in the electronic areas.

The meter itself is about 7 to 8 years old. It will cost about \$5,000 to replace it. They have only changed the meter out twice in the history of the pit.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Operator's Report:

Kelly Wynn stated they ordered in-ground, locked bollards to prevent people with front loaders from coming in and moving the existing blocks and using their front loaders to load the free compost. The free compost is not meant for this purpose. It is meant for people who need a bucket or two. He stated passersby have been complaining about people who are moving the blocks. We are close to running out of compost all together. The plant is controlling the output of the compost.

Sewer line repairs will start in July; there are a number of locations around town that are flagged for repairs, most of which will be below ground. John Petrich wanted to know if the treatment plant flows have stayed at historical levels. Town flows were still staying high while Tribal flows were dropping. Kelly stated he believes that's true. John Doyle stated the Tribe flows are starting to fluctuate more.

They are going to begin the surplus process for the old dump truck that the treatment plant bought from Public Works. They just finished a solid waste plan for the facility. They need to complete an assessment and a safety and operations response plan for the treatment plant. This is a state requirement.

Miscellaneous:

Dan O'Donnell wanted to know what happened with the electrical upgrade at the treatment plant. John Doyle said it was reviewed and the plant was fine and didn't need an electrical upgrade. Jacques stated this is a good thing because the Town didn't have to spend any money.

John Petrich wanted to know if the micro-inverters have been working. John Doyle stated they are working fine.

There being no further business, John Doyle moved to adjourn, seconded by Jacques Brunisholz. Meeting adjourned at 4:07 pm.