

**LITTLE ROCK SANITARY SEWER COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of the Meeting Held**  
**June 17, 2009**

The Little Rock Sanitary Sewer Committee met at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 17, 2009, in the conference room of Little Rock Wastewater. Those attending included:

**Little Rock Sanitary Sewer Committee**

James R. Pender, Chair  
Dale J. Wintroath, Vice Chair  
Cynthia C. Miller, Secretary  
Ken Griffey, Member  
Marilyn K. Perryman, Member

**Little Rock Wastewater**

Reggie A. Corbitt, P.E., CEO  
James A. Barham, Manager of Finance  
Howell Anderson, P.E., Manager of Engineering Services  
Stanley Miller, Manager of Operations  
Mack M. Vought, Manager of Maintenance & Construction

Others attending included Andrew Pownall and Craig Johnson of CDM, Vince Hotho of Garver Engineers, Glen Howe and Brandon Burton of HD Supply, Jerry Smith of S&L Construction, and support staff from Administration and Community Relations, Engineering Services, Environmental Assessment Division, and Information Services. Don Hamilton, General Counsel, and Mark Stodola, Ex Officio Member, did not attend.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Pender, and on motion duly made and seconded, the Minutes of the May 20, 2009, meeting were approved with one correction. Mr. Pender then asked for public comment and there was none.

Howell Anderson presented the results of a bid opening held May 12, 2009, for Contract II, Fourche Creek Conveyance Improvements. Mr. Anderson explained that the need was established for a redundant force main between the Arch Street Pump Station and the Fourche Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project was separated into two construction contracts. Contract I is located between the College Station Pump Station and the Fourche Plant and is presently under construction. Contract II is located

between the College Station Pump Station and the Arch Street Pump Station. When both contracts are complete, the new 30 inch force main will provide redundancy to the existing 42 inch force main and will also provide additional capacity during rainfall events. Mr. Anderson said that six responsive bids were received, and the lowest responsive bidder on the Contract II project is S & J Construction Co., Inc, in the amount of \$4,149,782.47, which is less than the probable construction cost previously estimated by CDM. Mr. Anderson said that staff recommended approval of S&J's bid as well as authorization for Mr. Corbitt to execute the contract documents. After discussion and on motion duly made and seconded, the Sewer Committee unanimously approved S&J Construction's bid of \$4,149,782.47 and authorized Mr. Corbitt to sign the contract documents. Mr. Howe, Mr. Burton, and Mr. Smith were then excused from the meeting.

Mack Vought presented a request for approval of the Investment Work Order for purchase of backhoes and trackhoes with the buy-back option which has been very advantageous in previous years. He stated that the buy-back option offered by the vendor this year is even more favorable than in the past and stated that Mr. Barham would present a resolution authorizing LRW to purchase equipment and vehicles using Central Arkansas Water that would allow the favorable terms of this purchase. After discussion, and on motion duly made and seconded, the Sewer Committee approved the following Investment Work Order:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nine 15 foot backhoe Loader and Three Trackhoes	\$561,102.00

Mr. Barham then presented a resolution to authorize LRW to use Central Arkansas Water bid purchases as an option. He presented CAW's bid tabulation for the rubber tired backhoes and stated that the cost of this equipment, after the buy-back is approximately \$3,000 per item compared to approximately \$5,000 in previous years. After discussion, and on motion duly made and seconded, the Sewer Committee unanimously approved the following resolution:

A Resolution to Authorize Little Rock Wastewater to Use Central Arkansas Water Bid Purchases as an Option for the Purchase of Equipment and Vehicles for the current year and Succeeding Years, as Needed; and for Other Purposes

Mack Vought reported three non-capacity or dry weather overflows for the month of May, and a total of fifteen year to date. He also reported that plant maintenance system information showed 21.5% of time spent on preventive maintenance, 60.1% as proactive maintenance and 18.4% as reactive maintenance. He said that the preventive and proactive maintenance amount for the month totaled 81.6% and that the reactive maintenance was primarily due to an equipment failure at the Fourche Plant. Mr. Vought said that the Maintenance Division goal is that the combined preventive and proactive maintenance percentage remains above 75%.

Mr. Barham presented the financial report for the month of May, 2009. After review, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the financial reports were approved by the Sewer Committee, including the payment of Operations & Maintenance expenditures in the amount of \$1,945,410. The Consolidated Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements reflect receipts of \$4,581,346, and disbursements of \$10,462,847, decreasing funds available for the month by \$5,881,501. Net income for the month is \$72,349 and net income year to date is (\$373,144).

Stan Miller reported that the Adams Field treatment facility experienced one NPDES permit violation during the week of May.3-9, when the plant was in violation of the 7-day Fecal Geometric Mean Average. The permit discharge limit is 400 colonies/100 mls, and the geometric mean for this week was 404 colonies/100 mls. The Environmental Assessment Division has agreed to expedite the process and provide process number verification within 48 hours in order to allow for better management of process changes and adjustments in the future. Mr. Miller reported that Little Rock had in excess of 17 inches of rainfall during May, which was the second highest amount recorded for May, and contributed to the Adams Field permit violation. Fourche Creek met permit but experienced a challenge in maintaining the anaerobic treatment processes. He said that the completion of the Peak Flow Attenuation Basin will relieve the issues seen at the Adams Field plant during future events of this nature, but the issue then becomes longer high flow modes at the Fourche Creek facility. Staff is looking at alternatives such as feeding the treatment process to maintain the viable organisms or adding chemicals to aid in the capture of the normal population of organisms to ensure that the treatment process meets the NPDES permit limits. He called attention to the submission of all process control graphs with this month's report and stated that he would be glad to continue to include any or all of these or submit any additional graphs the Sewer Committee is interested in seeing. Mr. Griffey asked whether the methane report is normally included and expressed an interest in seeing the methane report each month.

Howell Anderson stated that the peak flow facility Contract I is 99% complete and the main focus of work on Contract II for the Pump Station, Force Main and Equalization Basin is about 98% complete. He said he witnessed the preliminary start up of the diesel engine drive pumps and explained that the diesel engine pump was chosen because an electric engine result in a demand charge paid every month whether or not it is in use. Mr. Anderson said that if there was a need, the facility could be used, but he was reluctant to do so before final testing, because, if there was a problem, the contractor could use the early start-up as an excuse. Mr. Anderson said that everything seems to be going smoothly and he still anticipates the basin being put into operation in late June or early July and a ribbon cutting ceremony is planned for July 22<sup>nd</sup>

Mr. Anderson reported that the contractor is just getting started on the Arch Street Pump Station. LRW and Van Horn Construction staff attended a joint safety meeting on confined spaces, Arkansas Natural Resources completed their contract review, and the Notice to Proceed was issued on May 18, 2009.

He said the concrete work on the buildings at the Little Maumelle facility continues and mentioned that the conveyance system is becoming an issue due to the easement acquisition problems. He said work is scheduled to begin on the Ranch Properties portion of the project in July. He said that Ranch Properties has filed another motion to dismiss LRW's condemnation complaints, as amended, but there has been no ruling and if there is pipe already in the ground he did not think the judge would make LRW remove it.

Mr. Wintroath asked if construction is going from the river back and Mr. Anderson said that it was but that the high groundwater level had been a problem and that since the trench for a 30" pipeline was quite wide he did not want the high water from the river to wash out County Farm Road. Mr. Wintroath asked about the location of the pipeline and Mr. Anderson said that it was originally designed to go down the middle of the eastbound lane but a cross country fiber optic line is located in that lane. The westbound lane was then considered but Central Arkansas Water has a line in the shoulder of the westbound lane and the Health Department mandates a certain separation between water and sewer lines so the line will probably be moved to undeveloped land just south of County Farm Road. He said that location was originally planned but met opposition from some of the area residents, most of who lived in the developed area on the west end of County Farm. He said that they are negotiating easements with six or seven property owners who live in this area and once the pipeline reaches Beck Road, traffic can be detoured around Beck Road, moved back into the center of the road, and avoid water and fiber optic lines.

Mr. Anderson said he brought to the May meeting 7 easements he thought would have to be condemned, but the number is now down to two. One of the remaining easements is a private property owner and the other is 3M Corporation which has some verbiage in the agreement that Don Hamilton does not feel he can approve so negotiations are continuing.

He said the engine generator at Fourche should be generating power in August and stated that this has been a very complicated project containing some elements we have never used and it has been a slow process. Mr. Wintroath asked if the engine generator would require special training and Mr. Anderson replied that operation of the engine generator is very similar to the one it replaced, and should be easier and have the capability of troubleshooting from a remote location.

Mr. Anderson said that questions about city development were raised at an earlier meeting and he had his staff put together some data which revealed that development is pretty much the same as 2008, but is about one third of the development that occurred for the same period in 2007.

Mr. Griffey stated that he noticed in Mr. Anderson's report that Dukes was expected to arrive in Little Rock in June to begin treatments and asked Mr. Anderson to identify Dukes. Mr. Anderson said that Dukes is a company located in New York who come to Little Rock once each year to apply chemicals to control roots that grow into the sewer

mains. He said this is not as effective as Insituforming a line but is much less expensive and is another tool to maintain the sewer mains.

In the absence of Don Hamilton, Mr. Corbitt reported that Ranch Properties Motion to Dismiss filed on April 30, 2009, is pending, and similar to the motions filed and denied twice already.

Mr. Corbitt said that two LRW staff members have given depositions in the Angela Harrison/Petey King matter and mentioned the list of interrogatories included with Mr. Hamilton's report.

He said the show cause hearing on Mountain Pure Water was held and was left open until June 12, 2009, for Mountain Pure's attorney to add certain additional items of evidence, and the matter will be ready for Mr. Corbitt's decision after the record has been closed.

Mr. Barham reported that Raftelis will show the final rate study model and projections over a ten year cost of service needs for the Utility and present an update on the matter of impact fees, commercial account fees, service line fees, sewer availability fees, and inspection fees at a special meeting of the Sewer Committee on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The RAC Committee has been invited to attend the meeting and the Mayor indicated to Mr. Corbitt that he will attend.

Mr. Wintroath asked how the Raftelis report would be presented to the City Board and Mr. Corbitt said they would give basically the same presentation that will be given to the Sewer Committee and RAC Committee on July 1<sup>st</sup>. However, such things would be contained in their presentation as follows: (1) the impact fees worked out by the Rate Advisory Committee and the consultant, (2) the service line inspection fee agreed to by the anti impact fee faction and the consultant as a compromise, (3) the rates that will have a very positive advantage in future years, which will be very small in 2010 but have a greater impact in 2011-2015, and, (4) the availability fee especially for the unsewered areas where few have connected to sewer. Mr. Wintroath advised that the fee structure be presented as a package rather than separated so as not to have one area "shot down" and others approved. Mr. Pender agreed. Mrs. Miller asked if she could vote even though she will not be present for the July 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, and Mr. Corbitt said that in the past a speaker phone was set up for members who wished to be involved but could not be present and Ms. Miller said that she would very much like to participate.

Mr. Barham said that there would be two resolutions for the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, one for intent to borrow and finalize the Fourche project and one to establish signatory authority for the project.

There being no other business and on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia C. Miller, Secretary