

Minutes

Environment Committee



Meeting Date: April 9, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

- Chair, Peter Lindstrom, D10
- Vice Chair, Wendy Wulff, D16

- Tyronne Carter, District 3
- Yassin Osman, District 7
- E** Anjuli Cameron, District 8

- Diego Morales, District 9
- E** Gail Cederberg, District 11
- = present, E = excused

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Lindstrom called the regular meeting of the Environment Committee to order at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda Approved

It was moved by consensus to approve the agenda. Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by CM Wulff, seconded by CM Osman to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2024 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **Motion carried.**

Consent Business

None at this time.

Non-Consent Business

1. **2024-80: Master Contract 23P092 for Wastewater Treatment Plant Environmental Permitting Assistance** (Rene Heflin, 651-602-1077)

It was moved by CM Osman, seconded by CM Morales, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contracts 23P092A-C for wastewater treatment plant environmental permitting assistance, for a cumulative not to exceed amount of \$2,000,000 in service areas and amounts, as follows:

Organization	Contract Number	Service Area	Contract Amount
Barr Engineering Company	23P092A	air quality permitting assistance, and waste management compliance	\$700,000
Brown and Caldwell	23P092B	water quality permitting assistance	\$400,000
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	23P092C	air quality permitting assistance, and water quality permitting assistance	\$900,000

Discussion

CM Carter: What does the Brooks Act refer to?

Staff responded: The Brooks Act is for federal contracts in which there are licensed and certified staff. It's a two part process that ensures that the consultants were selected in order of the highest technical rating cost proposals are then opened in order of the technical rating for negotiation.

CM Carter: Has that impacted DBE firms negatively historically?

Staff responded: No, the process is not inherent to create any barriers or lack of participation for DBE firms. It's a common procurement process.

CM Osman: It states that the DBE goal was 17 percent, what was the actual number for this contract?

Staff responded: All of them committed to 17 percent.

Motion carried.

2. **2024-81: Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Minneapolis** (Tim Wedin, 651-602-4571)

It was moved by CM Wulff, seconded by CM Morales, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute a Cooperative Construction Agreement with the City of Minneapolis for the design and construction of access improvements to Interceptors 1-MN-310 and 1-MN-330 for an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000.

Motion carried.

Information

1. **Wastewater System Plan** (Kyle Colvin 651-602- 1151, Emily Schon 651-602-1516)

Staff from Wastewater Planning and Community Programs presented the Wastewater System Plan update. This plan is updated every 10 years with the regional development guide. The Wastewater System Plan is a 20-year vision as to how regional wastewater service will be provided. . The plan also includes the long-term (post 20-year) vision for how regional wastewater service will be provided. The Wastewater System Plan includes:

- High level system overview
- Regional resource recovery facilities
- Capital Improvement Program
- Consideration guided by the Water Policy Plan

Resource recovery strategies presented highlight current efforts to recover water, heat and energy, biosolids and reuse. Future strategies will include thermal heat recovery from wastewater effluent, biosolids and solids processing across the region as well as wastewater reuse across the region. Staff discussed the long-term Capital Improvement Program, with project objectives of asset prevention, system expansion and quality improvements. Staff concluded their presentation by sharing their schedule for the Water Policy Plan.



Reports

General Managers Report: Assistant General Manager of Treatment Services, Craig Edlund, announced a reminder for the Metro Plant Tour provided for Council members. It is set to take place on Friday, April 12, 2024.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Environment Committee meeting of April 9, 2024.

Council Contact:

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