

Minutes

Environment Committee



Meeting date: June 10, 2025

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

- ☒ Chair, Gail Cederberg, D11
- ☒ Vice Chair, Wendy Wulff, D16

- ☒ Tyronne Carter, District 3
- ☒ Diego Morales, District 9
- ☒ Peter Lindstrom, District 10

- E** Susan Vento, District 12
- ☒ Chai Lee, District 13
- ☒ = present, E = excused

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

Call to order

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

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Council Member Cederberg.

Agenda approved

It was moved unanimously 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 Lindstrom, seconded by CM Morales to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2025, regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **Motion carried.**

Consent business

None at this time.

Non-consent business

1. **2025-131: Purchase of Bulk Chemical, Contract 24P292** (Joeseeph Ward, 651-602-8302)

It was moved by CM Morales, seconded by CM Carter that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 24P292 with Hawkins, Inc. to

provide bulk bleach at MCES Water Resource Recovery Facilities in an amount not to exceed \$7,588,012.

Discussion

CM Carter asked: Once you add the bleach what process is used to separate it?

Staff responded: Bleach is consumed in the process and to neutralize any excess bleach we inject sodium bisulfite so the aquatic life is not harmed.

CM Carter: Your presentation mentioned RAS, what does that abbreviation stand for?

Staff responded: It stands for return activated sludge.

CM Cederberg: Is the bleach purchased as one product, one concentration?

Staff responded: We purchase it in a variety of strengths.

Motion carried.

2. 2025-132: Sludge Disposal Contract 25P021 (Kelsey Hogan, 651-602-8302)

It was moved by CM Wulff, seconded by CM Morales, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 25P021 with SKB Environmental to provide sludge disposal at MCES Wastewater Treatment Plants in an amount not to exceed \$5,779,000.

Discussion

CM Wulff: Are we no longer land applying biosolids from Empire?

Staff responded: We have decided to temporarily pause our program for the 2025 season to ensure we are ready and have the time to develop any changes in evolving regulation landscape.

CM Carter asked: Characteristically how have our biosolids changed in the past 5-10 years?

Staff responded: Overall they haven't changed to much regarding the chemical composition.

CM Lindstrom asked: How many tons are we hauling away and where is the landfill located?

Staff responded: Metro hauls on an as needed basis. Empire typically hauls twice a year, which generates 30,000 tons of biosolids in Rosemount.

CM Lee asked: Do we move sewage by barge and are their risks if we do?

Staff responded: We do not haul any sewage by barge.

CM Cederberg asked: The amount provided covers the transportation and the landfill cost?

Staff responded: It covers both.

Motion carried.

3. 2025-133: Master Contracts for Utility Potholing Services, Contract 24P252 (Chris Remus, 651-602-4538)

It was moved by CM Morales, seconded by CM Wulff, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 24P252 to T2 Utility Engineers, Inc for utility potholing services in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.

Discussion

CM Cederberg asked: Were any of the four companies that submitted bids DBE?

Staff responded: It was found that there was limited DBE vendors who perform this work. Without a representative pool of vendors OEEO determined there would not be a goal for this project. They added a list of the limited DBE to the solicitation. One of the DBE vendors did propose on the RFP but was not selected by the evaluation panel.



Motion carried.

4. **2025-134: Brooklyn Park Interceptor 7015-C Rehabilitation Real Estate Property Acquisition and Condemnation** (Chris Remus, 651-602-4538)

It was moved by CM Carter, seconded by CM Morales, that the Metropolitan Council adopt Resolution 2025-13 authorizing the acquisition and condemnation of real estate property for the Brooklyn Park Interceptor 7015-C Rehabilitation, ES Project No. 808604.

Motion carried.

Information

None at this time.

Reports

1. Chair
2. Committee
3. General Manager

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Environment Committee meeting of June 10, 2025.

Council contact:

Nneka Onah, Recording Secretary
Nneka.Onah@metc.state.mn.us
651-602-8101

