

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 22, 2014

Committee Members Present:

Sandra Rummel-Chair, Marie McCarthy, Harry Melander, Lona Schreiber, Gary Van Eyll

Committee Members Absent:

Wendy Wulff-Vice Chair, Edward Reynoso

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Rummel called the regular meeting of the Council's Environment Committee to order at 4:03 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22, 2014.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Van Eyll, seconded by Schreiber to approve the agenda. **Motion carried.**

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Melander to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, March 25, 2014 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **Motion carried.**

BUSINESS

2014-92 Authorization to Amend and Extend Operations Contract No. C-3439 with New England Fertilizer Company (NEFCO) for the Heat Drying Facilities at the Blue Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant

It was moved by Van Eyll, seconded by Schreiber, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to execute an amendment and a five-year extension to Operations Contract C-3439 with the New England Fertilizer Company (NEFCO) to provide operations, management and guarantees for the heat-drying facilities at the Blue Lake Treatment Plant. **Motion carried.**

2014-93 Authorization to negotiate and execute a Reconveyance Agreement and Determinations with the City of Bloomington

It was moved by Melander, seconded by McCarthy, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a reconveyance agreement with the City of Bloomington, and make the following determinations pursuant to Minnesota State Statute 473.5111 related to reconveyance of the following facilities in the City of Bloomington:

Interceptors 7804 and 7031 are no longer needed to implement the Council's Comprehensive Plan for collection, treatment, and disposal of sewage in the metropolitan area. These facilities are of benefit to the City of Bloomington and are in good operating condition. **Motion carried.**

2014-94 Authorization to Acquire Fee Title and Permanent and Temporary Easements and File Condemnation Petitions, Corcoran/Rogers Gravity Connection of the Elm Creek Interceptor, Project No. 808510, Resolution 2014-7

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Van Eyll, that the Metropolitan Council pass Resolution 2014-7 that authorizes acquisition of fee title and permanent and temporary easements necessary for the Corcoran/Rogers Gravity Connection of the Elm Creek Interceptor, Project No. 808510, and authorizes Council legal staff to initiate condemnation proceedings for those parcels that staff cannot acquire by negotiation. **Motion carried.**

2014-95 Authorization to Increase in the General Manager’s Delegated Change Order Authority for the MWWTP Solids Process System Improvements, MCES Project 805946, Contract 12P005A

It was moved by Melander, seconded by Van Eyll, that the Metropolitan Council authorize an increase in the General Manager’s delegated change order authority for the MWWTP Solids Process System Improvements project construction contract from \$895,891.33 to \$1,650,000.00 (MCES project 805946, Contract 12P005A). **Motion carried.**

2014-96 Authorization to Award and Execute a Construction Contract for Trenchless Phase 3 Interceptor Rehabilitation, MCES Project Nos. 806930, 802870, and 808640, Contract No. 13P260

It was moved by McCarthy, seconded by Melander, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract for construction of Trenchless Phase 3 Interceptor Rehabilitation, MCES Project Nos. 806930, 802870, and 808640, Contract No. 13P260, with Michels Corporation for their low responsive, responsible bid of \$5,986,213.50. **Motion carried.**

2014-97 Authorization to Award and Execute a Contract for Construction of the North Area Interceptor Rehabilitation Phase 2 – Elm Creek West, Project No. 808620, Contract 14P006

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Melander, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract for construction of the North Area Interceptor Rehabilitation Phase 2 – Elm Creek West, Project 808620, Contract 14P006, with Lametti & Sons, Inc for their low responsive and responsible bid of \$3,323,700. **Motion carried.**

INFORMATION

1. City of St. Anthony Village Water Projects

Todd Hubmer, WSB & Associates Inc., and Jay Hartman, Director of Public Works for the City of St. Anthony Village, talked about the water reuse facility that was constructed in the city in 2007 in order to provide water needed to meet the irrigation demand at Central Park. He reviewed the challenges associated with the construction, the benefits of constructing the facility, factors for sizing the tank, the construction costs and funding sources. One of the issues was the very constrained location in the fully developed community. More water is generated than can be used at certain times of the year, so treated water is discharged to the Mississippi River when there is a surplus.

The benefits of the water reuse facility include:

- 55+% annual volume reduction.
- 91% volume reduction during the growing season being passed downstream.
- 77.5% reduction in phosphorus loads from the site.
- Reduced land used for treatment. If it were designed to remove 77.5% of the phosphorus in the system, a typical storm water pond would take up a much larger footprint than the water reuse facility.
- Potable water/ground water used for irrigation. Provides more than 4.6 MG water toward the 6.0 MG annual irrigation demand, which conserves ground water resources.
- Preserves city tax base. Utilized land currently under city’s control, so there is no loss in tax revenue.
- Reduction in sanitary sewer costs.
- Educational opportunities for water resource professionals and the public.

In response to questions from committee members about payback and life expectancy of the facility, Hubmer said structural inspections are performed every other year, and the life expectancy before any major work is required is 50-80 years. In response to a question about how long it took to get permits, he said that as a one-of-a-kind demonstration project, it took a long period of time to educate stakeholders. One of the biggest issues that came out of the permit process was using the water on ball fields and areas where there is contact with people. A risk evaluation was done, which showed that risk was very low from a pathogen or a bacteria contamination standpoint because the water is collected from paved areas where there is not a large amount of animal waste. In addition, 75,000 gallons of chlorinated water coming out of the city's system enters the tank on a weekly basis. Also, sunlight and UV breaks down many of the pollutants of concern very rapidly. There is signage at all park entry points alerting users not to drink water from the sprinkler system, watering is for the most part scheduled during overnight during non-use times. Testing is also performed regularly.

2. General Manager's Report

Leisa Thompson informed the committee that it is budget cycle time and information will be brought to the committee soon for review.

She reported that all plants were in full compliance with NPDES permits.

She mentioned that staff is thinking about doing something to raise public awareness on the water supply issues in the region, and the possibility of utilizing twitter and Metro Transit vehicles as part of the outreach campaign.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Sue Harder
Recording Secretary