

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Committee Members Present:

Sandra Rummel-Chair, Wendy Wulff-Vice Chair, Marie McCarthy, Harry Melander, Lona Schreiber,

Committee Members Absent:

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. Tuesday, March 10, 2015

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Lona Schreiber, seconded by Wendy Wulff to approve the agenda. **Motion carried.**

It was moved by Wendy Wulff, seconded by Lona Schreiber to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, February 10, 2015 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **Motion carried.**

BUSINESS

Consent Items

Motion to approve consent agenda items 2015-52 and 2015-53 by Wendy Wulff, seconded by Lona Schreiber. **Motion carried.**

2015-52: Authorization to Award and Execute a Contract for Construction of the Lift Station Improvements, Lift Station L-13, Meters 501A and 501B, Project No. 805550, Contract 14P176

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract for construction of the Lift Station Improvements, Lift Station L-13, Meters 501A and 501B, Project No. 805550, Contract 14P176, with Rice Lake Construction Group for their low responsive and responsible bid of \$2,824,800.

2015-53: Authorization to Award and Execute Contract 14P164B for Solid Waste Disposal for Treatment Plants

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a three-year contract (14P164B), with an option to extend for two years, with Republic Services Corporation to provide solid waste disposal services at Environmental Services facilities beginning April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$1,365,634.40.

Non-Consent Items

2015-54: Approval of Agreements to Expand Solar at Blue Lake to Include Community Solar Gardens

It was moved by Lona Schreiber, seconded by Wendy Wulff that the Metropolitan Council approves a land lease and community solar subscription agreement with Oak Leaf Energy Partners. **Motion carried.**

INFORMATION

1. Office of Equal Opportunity, Environmental Services Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Update –

Wanda Kirkpatrick, Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) presented an update regarding the MCES Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program. The program began in 2013 and continually strives to improve the processes and goals set on contracts to involve disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE), which is federally funded, and Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB), which are non-federal funds.

In 2014 there were 209 active DBE and MCUB contracts, 91 were MCES contracts. The office of equal opportunity measures the DBE programs by setting goals, utilization of DBE's as a % and dollars paid to the DBE's. The triennial goal for 2013-2015 was 12% and requires separate minority

business enterprise (MBE) and women business enterprise (WBE) goals of 6% each. Goals are narrowly tailored based on relative availability. Reporting of total monies paid to DBE's as a percentage of total contract value are measured as well.

In 2014 DBE programs were strong for MCES. DBE's worked on 73 MCES contracts and received payment. Total payments to DBE's were \$10 million with a goal of \$8 million (12%) set for the year. This amount attributed to MCES surpassing its goal was 16%. Exceeding the goal by 4% resulted in an additional \$2 million in payments to DBE's.

The triennial MCES DBE goal for the current triennial period is 12%; previously it was 15%.

MBE and WBE contracts are distributed equally.

DBE's by gender and ethnicity are being tracked as well.

Internal local dollars reflect data from 2013 for MCUB ES contracts. Prior to that there was no program on local dollars. There is no overall triennial goal for MCUB.

Goals moving forward include increasing participation of Minnesota small businesses, targeted recruitment of MBE firms to bid and perform on MCES contracts, implement a new OEO electronic monitoring system with improved monitoring and reporting, and business development to increase small business capacity.

Questions/Comments resulting from this discussion:

- Why has the increase been so dramatic? Iqbal Mohammed stated the MCES leadership has supported her along the way along with Wanda's support. Forty percent of her time over the past few years has been working with the stakeholders. She has attended meetings around the region to connect with stakeholders.
- What kind of contracts use MCUB program? Any contract we have Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, Targeted Group Businesses, Veteran owned businesses are listed that can do the work and are taken in to consideration during the evaluation process. Iqbal conducts a calculation to determine the exact goal that should be put on the project for MCUB.
- Once the goals are put in place, if the bids do not reach the goals, then what? Staff stated we find the percentage of DBE's in Minnesota that can do the work versus all the companies across the state.

2. Master Water Supply Plan Update –

Lanya Ross shared an update on the process for the Master Water Supply Plan. The Master Water Supply Plan fits within the planning structure between the water resource policy plan and the local water supply plans. Key milestones of the planning process were shared as follows.

Time Period	Key Milestones for Master Plan Approval
February 25, 2015	MAWSAC receives full draft
March 10, 2015	Informational presentation to Environment Committee
March 11, 2015	MAWSAC provides comments to Council
March 25, 2015	MAWSAC recommends final edits to prepare for public review
April 8 & 14, 2015	Informational presentations to full Council and Environment Committee
April 23, 2015	MAWSAC recommends Master Plan go out for public review
April 28, 2015	Environment Committee recommends Master Plan go out for public review
May 13, 2015	Met Council approves Master Plan draft for public hearing
June 29, 2015	Public Hearing
July 13, 2015	Public comment period ends
July 22, 2015	MAWSAC reviews comments heard thus far, discusses scope of changes
July 31, 2015	Public comments reviewed and summarized, incorporated into Master Plan
August TBD	MAWSAC recommends Master Plan approval (if not done at previous meeting)
August 11, 2015	Environment Committee recommends Master Plan approval
August 26, 2015	Met Council adopts Master Plan; DNR approves Master Plan

Questions/Comments resulting from this discussion:

- Where will the public hearings be taking place and who should be involved? Details are forthcoming and will be communicated to committee members.
- Is the DNR included in the technical work group? Yes, DNR is part of the group and are also a member of the MAWSAC committee.
- A draft plan will be shared with the committee members. A recommendation was made to add “cliff notes” to the plan to aide in answering questions. Staff will assure these are added.

3. General Manager’s Report –

Mahtomedi Forcemain Break – Mike Mereness, Assistant General Manager of Operations presented details surrounding a forcemain break in Mahtomedi on March 9, 2015. A citizen reported sewage in the North side of Lost Lake at approximately 5:00 p.m. Staff responded and arrived at the site by 5:30 confirming the leak. A cleanup crew with vacuum trucks was on site by 6 p.m. Pumps were turned off. Crews were on site until 2 a.m. and back on site by 6 a.m. Water quality monitoring staff was on site evaluating contamination of the lake and will continue to monitor until acceptable levels return to normal. Signs have been posted around the lake area. An informational mailer will be sent to citizens in the area with request for email addresses to provide more timely communication. A new replacement piping project is nearing completion and will be activated once the work is complete. No more leaks in the line at this time.

Questions/Comments resulting from this discussion:

Appreciate quick action taken and commitment of staff with limited sleep.

Fire at Metro Plant – A fire occurred in the floatation building at 10 a.m. March 10, 2015. A contractor was in the process of removing equipment in the building consisting of fiberglass vessel and ductwork. Investigation is ongoing. Muster for all employees occurred and all employees have been accounted for. Fire officials are still on scene to assure the fire is completely out. Two contractors were taken to the hospital for smoke inhalation. Reports are they are ok. The building is no longer in use. An emergency declaration is not anticipated at this time. Good action by staff.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Susan Taylor
Recording Secretary