

## West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility

### Commission meeting

March 24th 2022

**Board Members Present:** Gary Newton, Greg Engeset, John Bond, Steve Skinner

**Board Member Absent:** Kevin Westhuis

**Others present:** Matt Holmen, Jeremy Wood, Chris Teeters, Craig Smith, Jim Thanig, Kip Peters, Rich Bignell, Ryan Bignell, Eric Lynne

Meeting was called to order by Gary Newton at 8:35 am.

#### **Consent Agenda:**

Motion was made and passed to approve February bills totaling \$170,453.03. M/S Greg/John

Motion was made and passed to approve February 17<sup>th</sup> minutes with correction showing Greg Engeset absent instead of present. M/S Steve/Greg

#### **Financial Report:**

Randy discussed financial report outlined in agenda packet. Motion was made and passed to approve financial report. M/S John/Greg

#### **Facilities Report:**

Chris Teeters and Craig Smith with Synagro were present to give a transportation update. Company is buying three new semi tractors and trailers for hauling sludge. Chris reported that one tanker trailer is built. Two more tanker trailers are currently being built. The idea with the new equipment is for better reliability for hauling sludge. Once the units are ready for hauling, trucks will be brought to the Biosolids facility.

**Centrisys Centrifuge:** as stated at last month's meeting the Centrisys centrifuge was found to have a bad bearing seal during a weekly maintenance check. Arrangements were made with O'Neil 5 Star Trucking to ship it to Kenosha for repair. Staff removed the rotating assembly from the frame and motor was prepared it for shipping. It was picked up 3-9-2022 and delivered to Centrisys on 3-11 Upon arrival at Centrisys Corp, the unit was dismantled and inspected. The unit needed more repairs than just bearings and seals and would require 2-4 weeks to complete rather than the one-week turnaround time originally stated.

**Alfa Laval Centrifuge:** On February 11th staff started using the Alfa Laval as the main centrifuge. They ran the unit daily for almost 3 weeks and found it to be working well and were comfortable sending the Centrisys unit away for repair. On Monday 3-14 the Alfa Laval main bowl motor VFD faulted, and the main drive motor belts were adjusted as they seemed loose. At this time, staff found that the motor bearings were getting noisy and the motor shaft had some abnormal movement. Randy discussed repair / replacement options with Reliance Electric motor repair. Bearings for the motor could take two days to get, and a couple more days to install. If shaft was damaged, that would add more time to the repair. With this information we ordered a new motor. There was one available in Arkansas. We requested the fastest shipping option available. The Alfa was still operating until normal shutdown at 2:00pm. On Tuesday 3-15 the unit was started and ran fine until 7:30am when again the VFD drive

faulted. Staff found a cut in the insulation of one of the primary feed wires. There was enough wire to cut beyond the damage and re-install. The unit was again started up and able to continue operating. This went on until around 11:30am when the motor overheated and was shut down. Bearing temps reached 250 degrees, and the motor was no longer operable. Motor was removed and taken to Reliance electric for repair. On Thursday 3-17 the new motor arrived, staff installed onto the centrifuge, wiring connections were not the same as the previous motor so an electrician was needed to run new conduits and junction boxes. This work was performed on Friday 3-18, Centrifuge was started and operable on Friday 3-18 @ 1:45pm.

Bioset update from Schwing is that the screw mixer is still in production waiting for back-ordered parts. This unit was approved and ordered March 19th, 2021, so we are now over one year of waiting.

#### **Old Business:**

Erik Lynne with Donohue Engineering presented on what they have been working on since the last time we talked with Donohue. Erik presented a preliminary sludge receiving improvement plan. He talked about design options. One option would be to add extra tank storage capacity under current receiving area and options for facility screening. He is going to put together cost to do the proposed options and present back to Board next month.

#### **New Business:**

Randy presented City of Lake City signed renewal contract. Motion was made and passed to approve contract. M/S Greg /Steve

Randy talked about a request for an employee to get reimbursement for health deductible. The issue is the employee was under the assumption that their health insurance deductible had been met when they sought care in December 2021. They were subsequently billed \$1,200 for care received because of how the health insurance policy with an increased deductible renews. In their discussion with JA Counter they learned that their deductible reset on January 1st and this expense would not count towards the 2022 annual deductible.

Health savings account deductibles run on a calendar year of Jan 1 to December 31, The health insurance policy period was 11-1-2020 to 12-1-2021. The renewed policy starting December 1st 2021 had an increase to the deductible of \$1,200. Because the policy period and the deductible period are different, this \$1,200 out of pocket expense had to be paid in both 2021 and 2022. The employee is asking for reimbursement of the increased out of pocket expense.

This can be avoided from happening in the future with a policy that renews January 1st of each year. Doing this however would not allow for actual rates of the upcoming year when the budget is approved. The new rate would only be known after the budget is done. This may or may not be of concern and we could estimate the health insurance costs just like it is for other budgeted items. After much discussion Randy was asked to check into having health care plan run January to December each calendar year to avoid the issue in the future. Motion was made and passed to reimburse the increase difference of \$1,200 dollars to the employee. M/S Greg/John

#### **Miscellaneous:**

Donohue to give project update at next month meeting.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 9:50am. Motion made and passed to adjourn. M/S Steve/Greg