

Minutes of the 760th Meeting
“Celebrating Over 50 Years of Continuous Environmental Excellence.”
City of Alexandria, Virginia, Sanitation Authority
6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 20, 2010

On Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 6:00 p.m., the regular meeting of the Authority was held in the offices of the Authority with the following present:

Members: Mr. Edward Semonian, Chair
Mr. Thomas Van Wagner, Vice Chair
Ms. Elise Fulstone, Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. Jim Larrison, Member

Staff: Ms. Karen Pallansch, Engineer-Director
Ms. Maureen O’Shaughnessy, Process Engineer
Mr. Jeff DuVal, Solutions Manager
Ms. Angela Tibbs, Acting Controller
Ms. Patricia Wheeler, Secretary to the Board

Fairfax County Representative: Mr. Shahram Mohsenin

City Representative: Mr. Maurice Daly, P.E., Division Chief/Engineering, T&ES

Counsel: Mr. Jonathan Rak, McGuire Woods
Mr. Dave Evans, McGuire Woods
Mr. Warren Zirkle, McGuire Woods
Mr. John Wilburn, McGuire Woods
Ms. Michelle Gambino, McGuire Woods

Call & Minutes

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes for the meeting held Tuesday, March 16th. Mr. Van Wagner moved adoption of the minutes. Mr. Larrison seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Reports

ASA Board of Directors Retreat: Mr. Semonian reported that Ms. Pallansch has sent out a list of possible dates for the Board retreat to the Members. The most likely date is Saturday, 6/26 for the all day session. Ms. Pallansch will confirm this date with board members later in the week.

March Activities Report: Mr. Van Wagner asked for further explanation concerning the gas station holding tank incident as reported on the Administration page under Process. Ms. Pallansch explained that the holding tank is an old system; the City is not sure if it is connected to the sanitary system. Its probable use was as an oil water separator. The Deputy Fire Marshall requested that a dye test be performed to decide the discharge jurisdiction and the owner has agreed to cap off the overflow to prevent any discharge into the system.

Mr. Van Wagner asked for further explanation of what “the project” is that is referred to on the Administration page under Administration. Ms. Pallansch reported that this refers to the SANUP upgrade project.

Mr. Van Wagner inquired as to the cause for the spike on 3/5/10 as reported on the Effluent pH/E.coli graph on page 16 of the Activities Report. Ms. Pallansch reported that, while unable to confirm that actual cause, it appears that the normal operation of filter cleaning and wash down caused the increase.

Mr. Van Wagner commented on the inclusion of the Fairfax County flows on the Flow/Rain Data graph on page 11. Ms. Pallansch said that Mr. Mohsenin had requested that this information be included.

Ms. Pallansch reported that changes were made to the Financial Reports per their request. She asked the Board members to review the new format and report back any recommendations they might have.

Mr. Mohsenin asked for further explanation on the "No Discharge" DEQ summary performance report (DMR) on page 5 and page 6 which covers Outfall 002. Ms. Pallansch explained that the Authority has 2 outfalls and this report covers the second outfall, which is not used unless there is an emergency or part of a sequenced construction effort.

Quarterly Process Compliance Performance Summary - 1st Quarter 2010: Ms. O'Shaughnessy reported that in the first Quarter 2010, all effluent parameters were met. In this quarter the Alexandria region experienced above average winter weather precipitation resulting in higher wastewater flows and lower wastewater temperatures than previous years. This quarter ASA saw a 28% increase in flows over the average flow for 2009, and 31% higher than the average flow in the first quarter of 2009. In comparison to 2009, wastewater temperatures in February, typically the coldest month of the year, were 3°F lower in 2010.

Earth Day: Ms. Pallansch reminded the Board of the Earth Day celebration being held at Ben Brenman Park on Saturday, April 24th beginning at 10:00am. ASA will be represented with an educational exhibit showing how ASA cleans dirty water and fulfills its core values of being an environmental steward, a good neighbor, and an industry leader.

Mr. DuVal reported that this is the 2nd year of the Ellen Pickering Environmental Excellence Award to be presented at the Earth Day celebration. The nominating committee chose Ms. Montie Kust, a resident of Alexandria since 1957 as the winner.

ASA Annual Audit Quarterly Progress Update: During ASA's past audit review Mr. Van Wagner suggested that staff produce a quarterly progress update on the Authority's financial status. Ms. Pallansch presented the first ASA Annual Audit Quarterly Progress Update to the Board for review of a synopsis of various items that may be of interest. She asked the Board to review and provide comments to staff for future iterations.

City Master Plan: Mr. Daly reported that the City's Master Plan that was to be presented to the City Council in May has been postponed until the fall due to the discovery of new issues. Mr. Van Wagner asked Mr. Daly to explain how the City does its modeling. Mr. Daly replied that hydraulic analysis is done on each collection sewer for size, grade and flow as well as the City's on-going infiltration and inflow (I&I) television inspection of the lines. Mr. Van Wagner asked how far will the City's projections go and Mr. Daly replied up to 2040 and beyond. The City will continue to collect data on wet weather conditions and the hydraulic modeling as these and many other factors affect this Plan and the City wants to be sure it's complete and correct.

Old Business

Review and Approval of City Staff Representative to ASA Board of Directors: At the Board Meeting in January Mr. Rak reported that the City engineer, Emily Baker, had requested that ASA formally designate a city staff representative, similar to the Fairfax County representative, to serve as a liaison between the Board and City government staff. Mr. Rak presented a draft letter from the Board to the City Manager inviting a city government staff representative to attend Board meetings. Based on discussion and approval by the Board members, Mr Semonian stated that he will sign the draft letter.

Chesapeake Bay Nutrient Issues - CSO Communities Group: Mr. Evans supplemented a presentation provided a few months ago regarding nutrient issues surrounding the Chesapeake Bay. He reported that the EPA is taking a more aggressive approach to insuring that the Chesapeake Bay clean up is successful. This includes its current process to develop bay-wide Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for nitrogen and phosphorus that enter the Bay and the tributaries within the six-state bay drainage area. Mr. Evans reviewed the potential impacts of the TMDLs on ASA and the various strategies being employed by ASA to mitigate near and long-term nutrient regulation costs and growth-related impacts. Mr. Evans reported that these Federal set limits will have consequences on the Authority, the City and the County alike. Once local caps are determined, then no further allocations will be allowed which would be an issue with future growth. Currently these limits are set based on the limit of technology. This creates an issue for the Authority which treats combined flows and will have it count against the load cap. Combined flows put more load on the Authority making it harder to stay within the mass limit.

Currently ASA, Alexandria, Richmond and Lynchburg have formed a CSO Communities group and approached the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) with a proposal concerning additional load allocations for combined flows and having credit given for complying. DEQ has tentatively accepted the proposal which will help when it comes time to approach the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This is also a big help to the City as they also need allocations for their CSO's. Mr. Semonian thanked Mr. Evans for the update.

New Business

Closed Session: At 6:53p.m., the Chairman stated it would be appropriate to convene a closed meeting and made the following statement: "The purpose of this closed meeting is to consult with staff and counsel on probable litigation and legal matters involving land acquisition matters which may be discussed in closed session under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. The Chair will now entertain a motion that the Authority convene in a closed meeting as permitted by VA Code Section 2.1-3711A.7 for the purpose of consultation with legal counsel and briefing by staff concerning the acquisition of real property for a public purpose. Mr. Semonian made the motion, Ms. Fulstone seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Upon conclusion of the closed meeting, and in compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, a motion was made by Mr. Semonian and seconded by Ms. Fulstone to return to the regular meeting.

At 8:15p.m., the meeting returned to open session and the following certification was unanimously adopted by the members: "Pursuant to 2.2-3712(D) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, it is hereby certified that to the best of each Member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Act, and (2) only

public business matters identified in the motion by which this closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by the Alexandria Sanitation Authority." Mr. Semonian made the motion with Mr. Van Wagner providing the second, all Members present voted via Roll Call:

Mr. Edward Semonian	Aye
Mr. Thomas Van Wagner	Aye
Ms. Elise Fulstone	Aye
Mr. Jim Larrison	Aye

Adjournment

There being no further business Mr. Van Wagner moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20p.m. Mr. Larrison seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

The next regular meeting date is May 18th at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED:



Secretary-Treasurer