

MEETING MINUTES

May 22, 2023

LOWER FOUNTAIN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (LFWQMA)

Member

Attendees: Jim Heckman (FSD/LFMSDD) Jonathan Moore (FSD/LFMSDD), Brandon Bernard (SWSD), Kevin Niles (Stratmoor Hills), Joshua Watkins (Cherokee Metropolitan District), Tara Kelley (CSU), Will Bonner (City of Fountain)

Non-Attendees: Fort Carson, Widefield W&S, Woodmen Hills

Guests: Tyler Robinson, Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.

Meeting Location: Fountain Sanitation District

**Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Introductions followed.

1. **Review/Approve Meeting Minutes** – Mr. Moore presented the meeting minutes for February 27, 2023, for approval consideration. Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Watkins. Motion carried.
2. **Review/Approve Finances** - Mr. Moore presented the Financial Report for the months of February, March and April 2023 for approval consideration. Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Second by Mr. Watkins. Motion carried.
3. **CSU – Site Location Application Request for the Bradley Lift Station-** Tyler Robinson with Burns & McDonnell attended the meeting on behalf of UFCS Airport, LLC. to present a summary of the Site Location Application request for Bradley Lift Station. The Bradley Lift Station will be in a division within the City of Colorado Springs known as Peak Innovation Park (PIP). The Peak Innovation Park is located at the entrance to the Colorado Springs Airport in Colorado Springs, CO in El paso County. The applicant, UFCS Airport, LLC. is seeking a Site Location Application approval for the proposed Bradley Lift Station, discharge to be tied into Colorado Springs Utility's (CSU) sanitary sewer collection system. The proposed Bradley LS design will serve a portion of the 900-acre PIP near Colorado Springs Airport. The PIP consists of parcels allocated for commercial and industrial uses. Many of the parcels for the PIP are currently undeveloped, and any developed parcels have flows that are collected by an existing collection system and conveyed to one of two existing lift stations, Drennan Lift Station and or the Grinnell Lift Station. The proposed Bradley LS will serve six undeveloped parcels planned for mixed use, industrial, and residential totaling approximately 415 acres. Mr. Robinson provided a description of the proposed Bradley LS, identified the service area, and demonstrated the applicant's and CSU's ability to manage and operate the facility over the life of the project. The CSU Las Vegas Street WWTF will be the receiving treatment entity for the Bradley LS's service area wastewater. Ownership of the Bradley LS capital infrastructure will be transferred to CSU upon commissioning to include the general daily facility operation and maintenance, identification of the Operator Responsible in Charge (ORC), and the terms and conditions for all ongoing operations costs provided by CSU. Discussion followed. Mr. Bernard made a motion to recommend sending the site application to SARC Second by Mr. Niles. Motion carried.
4. Discussion was held on a potential collaboration platform, where operators have a network of peers to ask questions, etc. Ms. Kelley reported that she had the understanding the Colorado Wastewater Utility Council (CWWUC) already had this type of forum. Some of the members stated that they have heard of some

specific topic groups. Mr. Bernard volunteered to contact the CWWUC to find out if a general collaboration platform exists. Mr. Watkins stated that as an alternative if CWWUC does not have a general collaboration group for operators, he would be willing to create such a forum for the front range entities. Mr. Bernard and Mr. Watkins will report back to the group at the next meeting.

5. **Brandon Bernard (SWSD)** – Mr. Bernard reported that their relief valves at the top of their anaerobic digesters corroded and eroded off. They are operating with two digesters until they can figure out a replacement game plan. They are also experiencing some issues with their (Integrated Fixed Film Activated Sludge) IFAS train. Since they do not have a primary clarifier, they are experiencing ragging and material buildup on the media causing it to stick to the screen and backing up the train. He reached out to South Adams County because they have an IFAS train also, but they have never heard of this issue. They have been dropping the train and hosing it down for now.
6. **Kevin Niles (Stratmoor Hills)** – Mr. Niles stated he has nothing new to report, they had a few water mainline breaks that have been addressed. They hired two new operators. He indicated, like with most other members, he is having issues with employee retention. They have had some complaints about the water hardness, so they have started to mix the ground water with the surface water, and it seems to be helping. They plan on using RH Borden and their Sewer Line-Rapid Assessment Tool (SL-RAT) on their collection system this year. He reported on the sanitary slip line issue discussed at the last meeting. He asked the group for any recommendations on a company that can come out and do a complete evaluation/survey on the section of line in question with a formal report. The company that completed the slip liner submitted a letter to one of the homeowners stating that liner has slipped. So, the Board is looking for a formal report stating if the liner is slipping or not. He stated that there is not any indication that the line is slipping, however the slip liner is off center again. Mr. Watkins and Mr. Moore stated that they would send him some recommendations.
7. **Will Bonner (City of Fountain)** – Mr. Bonner reported that they continue to work on the design of the proposed 36-inch pipeline that will connect the FVA tank into the recently installed crossing under Fountain Creek and through the Fountain Sanitation District's property on Santa Fe Avenue. They are in the process of getting the required easements needed to complete the connection.
8. **Tara Kelley (CSU)** – Mrs. Kelley reported their projects are still status quo. They continue to struggle with treatment performance at the JD Phillips facility. They have been working with their engineers and outside consultants to evaluate different treatment schemes and options. They will continue to monitor. She reported they are completing an aeration replacement project at the Las Vegas Treatment Facility as well as rehabilitating some internal primary sedimentation tanks. They are completing a full electrical/control panel system upgrade at Clear Springs Ranch. She reported they are re-evaluating their PFAS acceptance policy and asked the group if anyone had a formal policy and what it consisted of. Mr. Bernard stated that they are in the process of re-writing their policy/permit for Schlage Lock. He will get with Ms. Kelley when it is complete. She also reported that her duties have been expanded to also manage the Water Treatment Facilities.
9. **Joshua Watkins (Cherokee Metro District)** – Mr. Watkins reported they had a pipe scouring issue in their Distribution system that caused sediment accumulation to the lower half of their system. They have drained their 3-million-gallon water storage tank about five times. Everything is back online. He reported they started their hydrant flushing program. They continue to work on their Asset Management Program. He also indicated they have a job opening for a water operator. The MBR process went online at the end of January and is going well. The RO system is going through some fine tuning, so it is not up and running at 100%. He stated that they will be having a grand opening on July 18, 2023, he will be sending invitations out shortly. He reported that they will be starting their CIP project soon. He reported they are at 90% design on the upgrade of their lift station #1.

10. **Jonathan Moore/Jim Heckman – (FSD/LFMSDD)** –Mr. Moore reported they are looking to upgrade the electrical to 3-phase at their Race Street lift station and install new pumps. KR Swerdfeger has completed the Railroad project. He reported that during the last rainstorm events, the contractor working on Mesa Ridge put in a sanitary sewer plug that failed and sent approximately 500,000 extra gallons of water to the RJCII facility. The District made the contractor clean the District’s mainline and fined the contractor for the excess flows.

Mr. Heckman discussed updating the association’s website. The cost would be \$30/month for hosting the website with Streamline. FSD uses this company, and they make sure that the website is compliant with all applicable laws, such as ADA. Brief discussion followed. Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve switching the website to Streamline for \$30/month. Second by Mr. Niles. Motion carried.

*There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Niles made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:41 p.m. Second by Mr. Bernard. Motion carried.

Next LFWQMA Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 26, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at Woodmen Hills Metropolitan District.