

MEETING MINUTES

September 28, 2020

LOWER FOUNTAIN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (LFWQMA)

Member

Attendees: Jim Heckman (Fountain Sanitation District), Cindy Murray (FSD), Jonathan Moore (Fountain Sanitation District), Mike Fink (City of Fountain), Taylor Murphy (City of Fountain), Candace Gann (City of Fountain), Tara Kelley (CSU), Brandon Bernard (WWSD), Roy Heald (SWSD), Kevin Niles (Stratmoor Hills), Kent Hoadley (Cherokee Metropolitan District), Jerry Jacobs (Woodmen Hills), Danny Everett (Woodmen Hills)

Non-Attendees: Fort Carson

Guests: Roger Sams (GMS, Inc.)

Meeting Location: Via Microsoft Teams-hosted by Mike Fink (City of Fountain)

**Chairman Fink called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Introductions followed.

1. **Review/Approve Meeting Minutes** - Mr. Fink presented the meeting minutes for July 27, 2020 for approval consideration. Mr. Heald made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Heckman. Motion carried.
2. **Review/Approve Finances** - Mr. Fink presented the Treasurer's Report for July and August 2020. Mr. Heald made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for July and August 2020. Second by Mr. Heckman. Motion carried.
3. At this time, Mr. Fink opened the meeting for nominations for the Vice-Chair position. Mr. Heckman nominated Brandon Bernard. Being no other nominations, Mr. Heald seconded the nomination. Motion carried.
4. Discussion was held on the 2021 Joint Funding Agreement between the LFWQMA and the USGS for monitoring nitrogen levels and groundwater levels in the Fountain Creek Alluvial Aquifer. Mr. Heckman stated that there was a slight increase from last year but it was expected. This year's contribution will be \$11,382. Mr. Niles made a motion to accept and approve Mr. Fink to execute the agreement. Seconded by Mr. Bernard. Motion carried.
5. Discussion was held on the 2021 proposed budget. Mr. Heckman stated that he carried over the fund balance from 2020 due to not having the annual meeting. The dues for 2021 will be \$1450 for Water/Sanitation Districts, \$875 for Water Districts and \$575 for Sanitation Districts. He also reported that the major budget expense is the USGS agreement at \$11,382. With that, the 2021 proposed budget is ready for approval consideration. Mr. Heald made a motion to approve the 2021 proposed budget as presented. Seconded by Mr. Bernard. Motion carried.
6. Brief discussion was held on some regulatory issues including the CDPHE implementation draft policy for Regulation No. 22. Mr. Sams reported that he has been involved in the Historical Lift Station and Interceptor workgroup, focusing on historical infrastructure that were originally implemented without going through the site location or design review process.

7. **Mr. Heckman (FSD/LFMSDD)** – Mr. Heckman reported that he has been spending most of his time on the 2021 proposed budget for both districts. He reported that they are seeing a spike of phosphorus due to what he believes is an increased use of sanitary cleaning products related to the COVID-19 outbreak.
8. **Brandon Bernard (WWSD)** – Mr. Bernard reported they continue to work with the Corps of Engineers on the construction of their PFAS mitigation facility. A brief discussion followed on the progress. He reported that Mr. Dreeson has resigned, and they are currently advertising a wastewater manager position. He is working with the wastewater team to get an in-depth understand of the current process.
9. **Roy Heald (SWSD)** – Mr. Heald reported that the Air Force continues work on the construction of the PFAS mitigation facility; anticipated completion is still scheduled by the end of 2020. He also reported that the wastewater plant upgrade continues to progress. Anticipated operational date is scheduled for May 2021. He reported that working on a water pipeline construction project which includes several thousand feet of pipeline being replaced. He is working on the District’s 2021 proposed budget as well.
10. **Kevin Niles (Stratmoor Hills)** – Mr. Niles reported that all of their current water meters are being replaced with smart meters. This is a planned 2-year project, they are scheduled to replace 800 water meters in 2020 and another 1,300 water meters in 2021. To date, 500 water meters have been replaced. He reported that they will be replacing 780 linear feet of water main line. He reported that they have resolved the replat issues with El Paso County for their centralized PFAS treatment facility. They can now let out the project construction documents for bid. He reported the raw water line project was separated from the centralized PFAS treatment facility due to Air Force funding timing issues. The raw water line project was awarded to RMS Construction.
11. **Kent Hoadley (Cherokee Metro)** – Mr. Hoadley reported they are about 90% in their design review for their new wastewater treatment facility. They anticipate it to be complete by the first week of November and start construction on January 4, 2021.
12. **Jerry Jacobs (Woodmen Hills)** – Mr. Jacobs reported that they are installing four miles of 18-inch water main to their new three-million-gallon water tank. There have been a few problems, but the project is progressing. He reported that their wastewater facility is operating efficiently, and they are currently meeting the parameters of their permit. He reported that their permit expired and applied for a new one but have not heard anything back.
13. **Tara Kelley (CSU)** – Ms. Kelley reported that she is working on 2021 proposed budgets as well. They are in phase 3 of their 5-phase return to work COVID-19 program. She reported that about a quarter of their workforce is not back to work. She reported that they are going through reorganizational changes again. They have combined the water and wastewater treatment, collection and distribution departments under the supervision of General Manager Keith Riley. She reported that they are moving ahead with Northern Monument Project and are now in the environmental permitting phase. Ms. Kelley reported that they have had several regulatory inspections from CDPHE in the last six months and wanted to mention that CDPHE are “pickier” with their regulatory findings. She reported that they are struggling with phosphorus at the JDP facility due to their ongoing issues with the whey project. She reported that unfortunately the whey project will be discontinued. The rehabilitation projects for aging infrastructure continue at all of their facilities which has been challenging because of the lack of staff. She reported that they are in the contract phase of the biogas project at the Clear Springs Ranch facility. She reported that they are still involved with the multi-agency wastewater epidemiology study.
14. **Mike Fink (City of Fountain)**- Mr. Fink reported construction of their new PFAS water treatment facility has started. He reported that the raw water piping has been complete. He reported that they are working with

reduced personnel with COVID-19 restrictions. Their tier-4 allowed only an operator and a supervisor onsite, all others were only dispatched when needed. They just moved to tier-3 which allows most of staff to return. He reported that he is working on his 2021-2022 proposed budget as well.

15. Mr. Fink wanted to let the group know that the Water Quality Management Plan (208 Plan) was updated last year and has been reviewed by the PPACG WQMC, it went through the public comment and outreach period and the plan was approved.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Fink adjourned the meeting at 2:19 p.m.

Next LFWQMA Meeting – The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 22 at 1:30 p.m. via teleconference.