

MEETING MINUTES

November 28, 2022

LOWER FOUNTAIN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (LFWQMA)

Member

Attendees: Jim Heckman (FSD/LFMSDD) Jonathan Moore (FSD/LFMSDD), Taylor Murphy (City of Fountain), Roy Heald (SWSD), Brandon Bernard (SWSD), Kevin Niles (Stratmoor Hills), Joshua Watkins (Cherokee Metropolitan District), Tara Kelley (CSU), Travis Jones (WWSD)

Non-Attendees: Fort Carson, Woodmen Hills

Guests: Roger Sams (GMS, Inc.), Jeff Munger (Cherokee Metropolitan District), Kevin Brown (Cherokee Metropolitan District), Will Bonner (City of Fountain), Michael Ladue, JVA Consulting Engineers *via Microsoft Teams*

Meeting Location: Widefield Water and Sanitation District Offices

**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 September 26, 2022, for approval consideration. Mr. Niles made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Watkins. Motion carried.
2. **Review/Approve Finances** - Mr. Moore presented the Treasurer's Report for the months of September 2022 and October 2022 for approval consideration. Mr. Watkins made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Second by Ms. Kelley. Motion carried.
3. **Michael Ladue (JVA Engineers)**- Mr. Ladue with JVA Engineers attended the meeting on behalf of Cherokee Metropolitan District (CMD) and presented a summary for CMD's Lift Station 1B site application. He reported the existing Lift Station 1 (LS1) is near the end of its useful life and is scheduled for replacement. The current LS1 is an underground vault-type lift station which is difficult to access and maintain and also presents a variety of confined space safety concerns. He reported that the proposed lift station will include an emergency backup power generator with a new 300,000 gallon wet well. Brief discussion followed. Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve sending the site application to the Site Application Review Committee (SARC). Second by Mr. Niles. Motion carried.
4. **Taylor Murphy (City of Fountain)** – Mr. Taylor reported that their PFAS Water Treatment Facility is finally up and running but not without some startup issues. He stated the City was given the treatment facility without the normal startup testing so they have been doing their own testing, calibrating, etc. One of the problems discovered was caused by rodents that chewed up the wiring on one of the PLC's which caused the need to perform manual maintenance and operations. He reported that CDPHE did finally approve the treatment facility.
5. **Travis Jones (WWSD)** – Mr. Jones reported on their West to East water transmission main line project. The project includes installing a 24-inch water main to move water from their Booster 2 station to the Goldfield tank farm. They are replacing an aging 8-inch asbestos water main located in Metropolitan St. to better accommodate the 24" main line installation. He reported on some stormwater permit issues where El Paso County approved permits that almost led to houses getting flooded. He reported that they voluntarily

started the process of testing for PFAS in their biosolids. He informed the group that the wait times on testing are long. He reported that they created a new FOG and Pretreatment program.

6. **Tara Kelley (CSU)** – Mrs. Kelley reported that everything is pretty much status quo. She reported that the Las Vegas Facility was having some problems with the microbiology, so they re-seeded it from the JD Phillips facility, and it responded well. However, now the JD Phillips facility has a filament problem which is causing them to struggle with their TSS results. She reported that the Bio-gas project is still progressing at the Clear Springs Ranch facility. Discussion followed on the North Interceptor project.
7. **Joshua Watkins (Cherokee Metro District)** – Mr. Watkins reported their Water Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC) left and took a job with CDPHE, leaving his replacement to learn the operations on his own. He reported that the Vac truck ordered in 2021 was finally delivered. He reported they are reviewing the CMS Utility Cloud Asset Management Program. He reported that their headworks facility has been online since October 24, 2022, and the biological startup of their membrane system is scheduled for the middle of November. The startup of their RO system is scheduled for the beginning of 2023. He reported the recent windstorms have created significant equipment maintenance issues with tumbleweeds getting into the system even causing some equipment failures. He reported they tested for TENORM in their grit and the results indicated no concerns. He also reported they will be working on a big maintenance project in their rapid infiltration basins.
8. **Kevin Niles (Stratmoor Hills)** – Mr. Niles reported all well water is going through their PFAS Treatment Facility now which has also caused some complaints about the water hardness. He reported they have experienced a significant number of water main line breaks for some unknown reason. He stated they will continue using the SL-RAT technology to assess their sanitary collection system annually. He reported that he does not have the manpower to address all the problem areas indicated with the SL-RAT results, so his Board approved outsourcing the jet/vac service with Reliable Sanitation to address those areas needing prompt attention.
9. **Brandon Bernard (SWSD)** – Mr. Bernard reported they are in their final phase of the WWTF expansion. He reported that the biosolids handling facility has been up and running for a couple months. He reported that they purchased a manlift and a skid steer to help the staff with safety and maintenance of the screw press and lifting polymer totes, etc. He reported that they have renamed their PFAS mitigation facility to the Security Area Mitigation System Facility. He stated that they will be using funds received from ARPA to purchase equipment for the mitigation facility and possibly adding an extension to the building. He reported that they are looking to hire another wastewater operator. He stated there continues to be a lot of development interest. Mr. Sams reported that they also received state funding for PFAS which they will use for hoisting equipment.
10. **Jonathan Moore - (FSD/LFMSDD)** – Mr. Moore reported they completed a joint construction project with the City of Fountain on Monterey Way. The District needed to replace a sewer main line and the District reached out to the City of Fountain to see if they had any need to complete some maintenance or repairs while the asphalt is removed, and street is closed. The City did complete some waterline valve patches and extended the street asphalt replacement. He reported that a sewer main line realignment project was completed at the RJCII facility which allowed the decommission of a lift station. He reported on the BNR Demonstration Project at the HDT facility. They diverted all flows through the BNR basin which greatly improved the results. He reported that they have a wastewater operator position open as well.
11. Discussion followed on resource sharing and regional collaboration. Possibly more frequent Microsoft Teams meetings, tours after the meetings or lunch and learns. The group agreed to keep this a discussion item in future meetings.

*There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Heckman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:06 p.m. Second by Mr. Bernard. Motion carried.

Next LFWQMA Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 23, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at Colorado Springs Utilities.