

CWEA P3S Committee Meeting

October 21, 2009

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location

City of Riverside, Water Quality Control Plant
5950 Acorn St., Riverside, CA 92504

Those in attendance onsite

Michael Simpson – P3S Committee Chair/LA BOS, Gregg Murray – EMWD, Berlinda McCadney - City of Riverside, Mike Yosmes – City of Riverside, Larry Salazar – City of Riverside, Al Pielin – City of Riverside, Tim King – City of Riverside, Andy Coady – SBMWD, Nicole Greene – City of Montclair, Simon Watson – OCSD, Joe Petchuk – City of Santa Monica, Philip Lo – LACSD, Chris Herbeck – LACSD, Paul Schmidtbauer – SOCWA, Preeti Ghuman – LACSD.

Introduction (Simpson)

Meeting called to order. All attendees present introduced themselves. There was no teleconference line available for this meeting.

Technical Session

“Riverside RWQCP Phase I – Plant Expansion”. Berlinda McCadney of the City of Riverside (City) gave a PowerPoint presentation on the upcoming plant expansion at the Riverside Water Quality Control Plant (RWQCP). Currently, the RWQCP has a capacity of 40 million gallons per day (MGD). The first phase of the expansion will increase the capacity from 40 MGD to 46 MGD. The design will incorporate a membrane bioreactor (MBR) system. The MBRs will be designed so that they fit inside the existing footprint of the activated sludge sedimentation basins.

Berlinda first explained that the expansion of the RWQCP was needed due to projected general plan growth, existing service and development agreements, aging infrastructure, and stricter regulatory requirements. The next two slides showed the timing to implement the expansion and an aerial overview of the treatment plant. The MBR process was selected as a retrofit to the current activated sludge process. The City used a pre-selection process to select vendors to procure the MBR retrofit. The total first phase expansion costs are estimated between \$203 and \$207 million, with \$14.8 million for planning and design costs and \$192 for construction costs. The City Council approved sewer rate increases beginning in July 2009 to pay for capital costs and debt service on bonds. The sewer service charge for a basic single family dwelling unit is \$16.55 per month effective July 1, 2009, and will increase to \$28.55 per month effective July 1, 2013. The construction is expected to be complete by 2013.

After completing the technical presentation, Berlinda talked about the EPA’s Pretreatment Compliance Inspections (PCI) of industrial users for the RWQCP Service Area. Tetra Tech was conducting this audit for the EPA. Overall, everything went well. She wanted to remind everyone that Non-Significant Categorical Industrial Users (NSCIU) are required to submit an annual certification according to 40 CFR 403.12 that states that they are not discharging any waste streams to the sewer that would make them subject to categorical regulations. This certification has to be submitted annually.

Philip Lo asked Al Pielin to briefly describe the City's experience with the unmanned Liquid Waste Disposal Station (LWDS) at the RWQCP. Al said that the LWDS was installed at the request of Operations. The station takes primarily septic waste; a few City entities are allowed to bring chemical toilet waste. Haulers are required to pre-register with the program. Then they are given the appropriate access via a swipe card, and shown how to access and use the automated equipment. The haulers are charged 3 cents per gallon of waste. Currently, RWQCP receives about a million gallons of waste per month at the LWDS and invoices approximately \$30,000 per month. The unmanned LWDS monitors the flow (using a Mag Meter), pH and electro conductivity (EC). If the pH or EC is out of compliance, a shut off valve will stop the LWDS flow to the sewer. Staff at the RWQCP no longer issue rejected load notices to other wastewater treatment plants because they were not receiving them from anyone else. Philip said that he would update the alert list and send a copy around.

BUSINESS MEETING

CWEA- Update

Simon Watson provided an update on CWEA and WEF issues. He said that currently CWEA has about 9,000 members and is doing well.

The annual WEFTEC conference was held October 10-14, 2009 in Orlando, FL. The attendance was down slightly (from about 22,000 to 16,000) because several agencies have reduced their budget money for conferences. For example, the State of Utah has a travel ban for out of state conferences.

CWEA has introduced a new and improved E-Bulletin that provides more info about our profession and CWEA. The site is www.cwea.org/ebulletin. Michael Simpson is the Committee contact for the E-Bulletin. CWEA also recently sent out the CWEA Member Value Report for 2009. The back of the report includes the CWEA 2009-10 Training Calendar. Simon noted that the calendar includes the P3S 2010 Conference and that this serves as great advertisement for the conference. The Scholarship Fund is able to give out 5 percent of the total asset value in scholarships per year. This is inline with other non-profits.

Old Business

➤ **Strategic Plan for the Committee:** Michael Simpson discussed the Strategic Plan for the P3S Committee. He said that he is not sure that everything will get done but his goals were to get more people involved and get new people into work. Next year the Committee may try to hook up with the Young Professionals Committee. He said that he had contacted AirTran Airways and they will be providing two round-trip airline tickets as conference sponsors.

➤ **Treasurer Report:** No report. Joe Lucia was not available for the meeting.

➤ **Awards Subcommittee:** Paul Schmidtbauer stated that LACSD had mailed out approximately 700 letters for the 2010 Facility of the Year Awards. The nomination due date is in early December 2009 and the interviews will be conducted in early January 2010. The City of Riverside may recommend Pepsi for the Pretreatment Award and Edison (Temecula) for the Storm Water Award.

➤ **Technical Certification Update:** No report. Julie Taylor was not available for the meeting.

➤ **Webinars:** Philip Lo is working on conducting P3S Meeting Webinars. Several companies are offering webinar services including GoToMeeting.com as well as GoToWebinar.com. The presentation (picture as well as sound) will come across on the computer. Some services also allow participants to hook up via conference call at the same time, and a few have a box in which attendees can interact with the speaker. The services cost approximately \$49/month (limited to 15 connections) and \$100/month (limited to 1,000 connections). Simon Watson mentioned that CWEA subscribes to GoToMeeting.com and he would check to see if the P3S Committee would be able to utilize the CWEA subscription.

New Business

Conference Planning:

Simpson directed a session planning the 2010 P3S Conference in Long Beach.

➤ **Conference Chair Report:** Michael Simpson will schedule a separate conference call with Bill Garrett, Joe Lucia, Julie Taylor, and himself to discuss prices for the Conference. The pre-conference networking event will be free.

➤ **Conference Brochure Report:** Joe Petchuk reported that the designer needs about 20 days to design the brochure. He is shooting for everything to be submitted to the designer in the middle of November 2009. The Highlights Section is needed by the middle of November. Philip Lo will do the Transit Section. Bill Garrett will do the Hotel and Tall Ships Sections. The brochure is scheduled to go out in mid-December 2009. Simon Watson mentioned that CWEA would be closed from Christmas to New Years.

The Save the Date postcards are ready. OCSO offered to print the Save the Date post cards at no charge, but the Committee would need to pay for the postage. The Committee was looking for a mailing list for the Save the Date postcards as well as conference brochures. Also needed was an email list for the Save the Date e-blast. Since CWEA staff was not available via phone members will need to email them for more information on the mail and email lists.

➤ **Vendor Chair Report:** No report. Alex Mackie was unavailable for the meeting.

➤ **Program Chair Report:** Preeti Ghuman handed out the most recent program draft and solicited comments. Philip Lo wanted his presentation scheduled for an earlier time slot due to a conflict. Also need to change date from 2009 to 2010 on the Monday, March 1, 2010 Afternoon Program title on the spreadsheet.

➤ **Doing Business with the EPA:** Philip Lo is working hard to put together this session. The Committee decided that the session title would be Opportunities for Doing Business with the EPA and Other Public Entities.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,
Preeti Ghuman and Chris Herbeck
CWEA P3S Committee