



**ENGINEERING & PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT**
Utilities Division
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UTILITIES ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Thursday, June 9th | 17:15pm
2520 Barrett Ave. & Teleconference – Zoom

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:23pm by UAB Chair, Andrew Campbell.

Members Present: Andrew Campbell, Geoff Larson, Stuart Cohen, Elizabeth Pederson, Janet Schempf (teleconference)

Members Absent: Grant Ritter

Staff Present: Chad Gubala (teleconference), Denise Koch, Brian McGuire (teleconference), Ty Yamaoka

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

a. April 14, 2022 UAB Agenda was approved by Board vote.

b. *Geoff* made Board aware of his presentation at the Governors Convention

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. The April 14, 2022 Draft UAB Meeting Minutes were approved by Board vote with no edits.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a. *None*

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Compliance Order By Consent (COBC) Update

i. *Chad Gubala* gave a brief presentation on the COBC from ADEC. The objective of the COBC is to stop periodic noncompliance in effluent discharge. One of the tasks of the COBC is the contracting of cruise vessels for discharging to the JD plant in order to better understand the composition and size of the discharges in a timely fashion, thus allowing operators to prepare and to more efficiently handle the discharge. To date in 2022, cruise vessels are discharging below normal rates at this point and JD Plant is handling quite well.

ii. Another focus of the COBC is the monitoring of the city wide collections system. *Chad* presented a map of the collections system and discussed the isostatic rebound of .5" per year. Accompanying this presentation were photos of the collections systems pipes to better understand the condition of the assets in the ground. The Utility's new camera van is used to monitor the water collection systems for damage from isostatic glacial rebound, deterioration, and harmful influent. This will help quantify the level of repairs needed and could help in keeping influent infiltration from storm water and other sources to a minimum.

iii. Another of the requirements of the COBC is to establish an industrial wastewater source control program. Beyond the requirements of the COBC, this could be mandated by EPA and ADEC, and will include establishing an industrial pretreatment program with CBJ would

as the regulatory authority. This puts the Utility in the position of establishing, monitoring, and enforcing local discharge limits for and with borough-wide industries. This collaborative process has begun with the largest industrial users and is going well to date. From these conversations has come a draft contract in place for the landfill, one of the largest industrial users. Another step in this process will be ensuring how much loading is coming from industrial sources. Then, the Utility will work with those users to minimize the size and harmful composition of this loading, thus improving the efficiency and life span of the collections system and the treatment plants. CBJ is on track with ADEC and hopes to have a comprehensive plan in place for source control within the coming year.

b. Q&A

- i. *Janet* asked about a study looking at outfalls into Mendenhall River. *Chad* said they weren't looking at it but that he would check on it.
- ii. *Stuart* circled back to source point monitoring, what other kinds of businesses or entities might be a problem for source control, how many there are and how to monitor them? *Chad* answered that there are quite a few and there is cooperation from significant entities, including: BRH, AK Brewing, and Waste Management. List of all users in a report that will be sent to the UAB.
- iii. *Stuart* asked how do we monitor their discharges? *Brian* spoke to the difficulty of pinpointing this information at present, but used examples of grease from restaurants and how the Collections team is aware of the hot spots for grease. One of the simple solutions as part of source control would be mandating the installation of grease collectors for new restaurants and enforce the cleaning of grease traps on regular basis. Entities would work with contractors to clean grease interceptors. Recycle Works currently handles this grease.
- iv. *Geoff*: How much of the influent infiltration is from isostatic rebound vs. households? *Chad*: not sure as of now.
- v. *Geoff*: Board shares concern of storm water is going into our system. How do we know who is pumping in? *Brian*: Agrees, and noted that it can become political when the Utility gets too involved with what's going on in private citizen's houses. We can check water flow meters in certain areas, seeing how much water went in and how much is coming out. *Chad* noted that when it is warmer and wetter, it is harder to tell exactly how much. *Brian* offered that we do have the ability to see how much water is being distributed to an area and measure how much is returned.

c. Board Composition

- i. *Geoff*- When Bryan stepped down, he represented a regulated utility, Grant might be able to fill that role. Board should have fairly broad representation

VI. ACTION ITEMS

- a. None

VII. NONE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. *Geoff* gave a brief overview of his presentation to the governor's conference about using spent grain as replacement of fossil fuel. Juneau could be a test case using biosolids to supplement fossil fuel usage to, in turn, heat the bio solids dryer. One gallon of fossil fuel burns at about 140,000 BTU/GAL, One pound of biosolids is about 9000BTU/LB, thus about 15lbs of bio solids is equal to one gallon of fossil fuels.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm

Next Meeting: **July 14th, 2022 | 17:15 PM | In Person & Teleconference**