

La Conner Wastewater Advisory Board
1st Quarter Meeting
Tuesday, April 4, 2017

The La Conner Wastewater Advisory Board was called to order at 3:30 p.m. Present were Administrator John Doyle, Chairperson and Manager for the Swinomish Utility Authority John Petrich, Town Councilmember Jacques Brunisholz (arrived later), Finance Director Maria DeGoede, Plant Operator Kelly Wynn, Swinomish Utility Employee Mike Poppe and Citizen Dan O'Donnell.

Approval of Minutes:

John Doyle moved to approve the Minutes of November 8, 2016. Seconded by Maria DeGoede, the Minutes of November 8, 2016 were approved unanimously.

Finance Report:

The financial report is through the month of March 2017, for 25% of the budget year. Revenues and expenditures are both through March 2017. Income is on track, expenses are rather low. John Petrich asked if they are expecting the expenditures to increase soon. John Doyle said we haven't started the collection rehab yet or the collection pipe, that's approximately \$90,000.

Public Forum:

Dan O'Donnell passed out a document regarding the issue with the Tribal meter for the WAB members to review. He believes there is a discrepancy in what the Tribe owes the Town. John Doyle said he wants to wait at least 6 months with the new meter in place before looking at the figures. He may want to wait an entire year to compare figures. Dan stated the Swinomish Tribal Agreement with the Town has a minus sign when it should be a plus sign in section 14.4.3. John Doyle stated he would take a look at that section.

Old Business:

John Petrich asked if they were going to work on the 2016 Fair Share this month. John Doyle stated yes, they are working on it and it should be out in about a week or so.

New Business:

Tammy Thomas with Terre-Source nominated the compost program at the La Conner Wastewater Treatment Plant for an article and it was accepted. John Doyle is preparing some information for the article. Tammy has been a big asset to us.

Kelly asked what was going on with the fish processing plant. John Petrich stated he didn't know if it was going to be running for this humpy year. He stated as far as major processing, it is basically shut down. There is a skeleton crew and they still do some cold storage of fish, but in terms of the canning processing it is shut down. Fish runs are down which could be part of the reason why the plant isn't operating like it used to. John Petrich will double check but he is pretty sure it will be minimal operation. Mike Poppe stated he agrees with John Petrich, it should be slow and they aren't expecting anything to increase this year. This helps the La Conner Wastewater Treatment Plant know if the flows will go up like they usually do during a humpy year.

Operator's Report:

Kelly Wynn stated the barricades are working to keep the front loaders out of the free compost bin. John Petrich asked how the yard waste program has been going with the City of Mount

Vernon. Kelly stated it is going very well, they have been bringing their yard waste to the treatment plant and we bill them between \$2,000 and \$3,000 a month for it. This has helped in reducing the amount of woodchips we have to purchase for the compost.

Town Councilmember Jacques Brunisholz arrived and John Petrich updated him on what had occurred in the WAB Meeting thus far. Jacques asked about the flow with the new Tribal meter. John Doyle stated he reported back to the EPA about our status of meter installation and monitoring the meter. At this point we cannot make any categorical assumptions about its flow because it varies by the seasons and we need an extended history. They did calibrate it after the last WAB meeting and it does look like it's working properly. They will continue to calibrate it regularly and make sure it continues to work properly as time passes.

Miscellaneous:

None

There being no further business, John Doyle moved to adjourn, seconded by Jacques Brunisholz. Meeting adjourned at 3:51 p.m.