

**Board of Commissioners
Public Session
Minutes
May 16, 2016
(approved June 20, 2016)**

Present: L. Woods, T. Pellegrino, G. Keller, J. Comer, J. Balcom, Superintendent
R. Miner, Water Quality Support/Administrative Manager J. Lavoie

Financial Review – April 2016

L. Woods questioned how the financials looked. N. Couture noted that to date the expenditures are under budget by 7% and the revenue is over budget by 15%.

Non-Public Session:

A motion was made by J. Balcom and seconded by J. Comer to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II(d) "...Acquisition, sale or lease of property". The motion passed 5-0-0 on a roll call vote.

After the Non-Public Session:

A motion was made by T. Pellegrino and seconded by J. Balcom to seal the minutes of the non-public session of May 16, 2016. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Board of Commissioners to approve minutes from the April 18, 2016 Public and Non-Public sessions and Annual Meeting.

A motion was made by T. Pellegrino and seconded by J. Comer to approve the minutes from the April 18, 2016 Public and Non-Public sessions. The motion passed 5-0-0

Board of Commissioners to discuss perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) issue and next steps with Emery & Garrett Groundwater Investigations and Underwood Engineers, Inc.

M. Metcalfe, UEI, noted that a draft report has been written that needs MVD input. There is a temporary solution for wells 4 & 5 and a permanent solution for wells 7 & 8. The District is still waiting for the health advisory level to be set by USEPA. The results of testing at the District's wells have been fairly consistent.

L. Woods questioned whether UEI has looked beyond PFOA and PFOS

for an emerging list for Granulated Activated Charcoal (GAC) filtration. M. Metcalfe noted that this has not yet been done, but it is the next logical step.

J. Emery noted that C6 is the replacement product for PFOA. NHDES has chosen not to evaluate C6 at this time. There are 3 samples pending results to date. He noted that C6 should be seen in these results. M. Metcalfe noted that PFOA is a C8 (8 carbons).

L. Woods noted his concern about rushing to a solution with other problems coming down the road.

M. Metcalfe noted that there is a concern regarding backwashing with GAC. In this process 2 filters would be used in series. Eighteen thousand gallons would be used for backwashing the filters. At wells 4 and 5 the GAC filter could be run for 300 days before the filter media would need to be changed out. L. Woods questioned what would be done with the GAC media when it is replaced. M. Metcalfe noted that the manufacturer would bring in the new media and take away the old media. It would cost the District \$903,000 for rental units for 6 months. It would cost \$35,000 every 6 months after that. It would take 12 weeks to build the structure for treatment at wells 4 & 5. The annual cost to run such treatment would be about \$36,000.

G. Keller questioned whether this treatment would necessitate a rate increase. M. Metcalfe noted that this has not been reviewed at this time. K. Pratt is currently looking at this.

M. Metcalfe noted that per the manufacturers this treatment removes better than 90% of the PFOA. Wells 7 & 8 would need 2-12' diameter filters. L. Woods questioned whether these filters would have the capacity for a third well. M. Metcalfe noted this would depend on the capacity of the new well. If the new well's capacity was 500 gpm the treatment would be okay with 4-12' diameter filters. The ceiling of the treatment plant at wells 7 & 8 would need to be raised if the Calgon treatment is used. The total project cost would be \$3.591M with an 18 month time frame.

J. Emery noted that GAC filtration may not work with the shorter carbon chains.

J. Balcom questioned whether there is a risk of taking more than 18 months for this filtration system. M. Metcalfe noted it could go longer. With a design/build system it could be a shorter time.

J. Emery noted that blending wells 7, 8, and the possible new well could bring the levels below detection before filtration. There is a possibility of concentration of the PFOAs from the Front Street recharge basin. He noted that USEPA needs to make a decision on the contamination levels.

R. Miner questioned whether there are trailer units for treatment. M. Metcalfe noted these are not available for the rates at the MVD wells. No recommendations are being made at this time. Technical information is being presented.

L. Woods questioned what impact this would have on the budget. R. Miner noted that a special meeting and a rate increase may be needed. He noted that Capital Reserve Fund money can be used for treatment. NHDES has not yet finished their investigation and there is no USEPA number at this time. More information is needed. Wells 4 & 5 are not currently being pumped. R. Miner noted he would like to have a meeting with St. Gobain.

L. Woods noted he is concerned regarding the perception that the District is sitting on its hands waiting for numbers and money. He noted that the excuse of waiting for numbers is getting old fast. The District cannot break the budget and needs to make sure that the problem is being addressed.

J. Emery noted it is reasonable to concentrate on wells 4 & 5. He questioned whether it is reasonable to look at the other wells when the concentrations are in the 20s and 30s. He questioned whether there is C6 in the wells and whether this is a problem.

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Don Provencher noted that C6 is low in private wells. There may be an opportunity to give St. Gobain hard numbers and find out their position.

M. Metcalfe noted that UEI recommends that once the Board is on board with the submitted report that this report goes to St. Gobain. M. Metcalfe noted that this report should be treated as a draft, names of C6 compounds should be determined, and TIGG and Calgon should be further contacted regarding treatment.

J. Emery noted that the labs which do this testing are overwhelmed. This generates mistakes on the analyses.

J. Balcom noted he would like to meet with St. Gobain.

M. Metcalfe noted he would add text into the draft report on C6. He noted that the Board is not sitting on its hands. He noted that deciding on treatment at this time would be jumping the gun.

G. Keller noted that the District has no idea what spending \$1M on temporary treatment at wells 4 & 5 will do.

The Board agreed that the discussed information should be added to the report. M. Metcalfe noted that this additional information would cost \$5,000.

Board of Commissioners to hear updates on the construction of the treatment plant from Underwood Engineers, Inc.

M. Metcalfe noted that the plant is at the point of substantial completion. The plant has been putting water into the system since April 19, 2016.

Old Business

There was no old business at this time.

5. New Business

There was no new business at this time.

6. Superintendent's Report

Kinder-Morgan Pipeline – On April 20, 2016 Kinder-Morgan suspended its application on the gas pipeline.

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) – This report is completed and will be mailed out.

7. Questions from the Public

Don Provencher noted that the source of PFOAs was removed in 2014-2015. He questioned whether the amount of PFOAs is increasing or decreasing.

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J. Emery noted that there is no meaningful correlation between well type and concentrations. One well can have a concentration of 2 ppt and the next well can have a concentration of 200 ppt. He noted that some changes will probably been seen, but there is not enough data. It is not known how reproducible the data is. The District is depending on one lab for information.

D. Provencher noted that the levels should be coming down to background levels. "Affected" wells have higher levels than background. He would like to know St. Gobain's reaction to the numbers.

J. Emery noted that the background levels are changing.

10. Questions from the Press

There were no questions from the press at this time.

Adjourn

A motion was made by T. Pellegrino and seconded by J. Balcom to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 PM. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Rita Pointon, Recording Secretary