

MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 2023

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), Wally Eaves (Woodmen Hills-*via MS Teams*)

Non-Attendees: Fort Carson, Widefield W&S

Guests: Roger Sams (GMS, Inc.), Rachel Knobbs (CSU), Eric Shea (CSU), Patty Zietlow (CSU)

Meeting Location: Colorado Springs Utilities, SCADA Conference Room

**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 November 28, 2022, for approval consideration. Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Niles. Motion carried.
2. **Review/Approve Finances** - Mr. Moore presented the Treasurer's Report for the months of November 2022 and December 2022 for approval consideration. Mr. Niles made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Second by Mr. Watkins. Motion carried.
3. **CSU – Site Location Amendment Request for CSU JD Phillips WRRF**- Rachel Knobbs, Eric Shea and Patty Zietlow with CSU attended the meeting to present a summary of the Site Location Amendment Request. They reported the amendment has already been presented to the Site Application Review Committee (SARC). The amendment request covers a demonstration project at the JDPWRRF to improve biological nutrient removal using baffle curtains installed in their aeration basins. The project has been up and running for more than two years and the amendment request is to convert the demonstration project to a permanent part of the biological nutrient removal process to consistently and reliably help meet the limits of Regulation 85. CSU installed these temporary curtain baffles in 2020 to increase the anaerobic zone volume and the phosphorous removal results have been good without compromising denitrification performance. Although the curtain baffles were installed as a temporary demonstration project, the material is high quality and is expected to last a relatively long time while retaining the flexibility to be moved if necessary. The proposed changes would not affect the performance of other parts of the treatment works or effluent quality. Discussion followed on the sequence for site approvals. Since CSU has already presented to SARC, Mr. Bernard made a motion to recommend sending the site application to the Water Quality Management Committee (WQMC) and then to PPACG Second by Mr. Watkins. Motion carried.
4. **Taylor Murphy (City of Fountain)** – Mr. Taylor reported continuing to research a Fountain Reservoir project as means of securing more treated water to serve interested residential development. It would entail diverting water off Fountain Creek to storage pits and then treated on site. They have initiated preliminary design and started the permitting phase. They will be using some of the ARPA monies they received.
5. **Joshua Watkins (Cherokee Metro District)** – Mr. Watkins reported they have an open Water Operator position. They are in the planning stage of their Ellicott Pipeline replacement project. This project would be

installing a 30-inch parallel line that goes from Ellicott to the west. He reported that they are updating their chlorination process with the addition of sodium hypochlorite. He reported that they are still waiting for some components to be completed before they can perform the start-up of their RO system.

6. **Roy Heald (SWSD)** – Mr. Heald reported that the Board approved rate increases of 4% for water and 11% for wastewater.
7. **Brandon Bernard (SWSD)** – Mr. Bernard reported they performed PFAS sampling for their Biosolids back in December and still have not received those results. They are currently pouring concrete and laying down asphalt at the new WWTF. They are waiting on pipe and other related supplies to finish construction of the digesters. He reported that they have some small water pipeline relocation projects coming up.
8. **Kevin Niles (Stratmoor Hills)** – Mr. Niles reported his Board also approved a 3% water increase this year. They are experiencing an iron content issue from their wells going into the water treatment facility. They are needing to change out the prefilters more frequently than expected so they are only operating one well. They are trying not to take water from the Fountain Valley Authority under the CSU reverse flow agreement but may need to. He reported that he is still getting complaints about the water hardness. He reported on a sanitary line issue and requested input from the group. The sanitary line in question was deeded from CSU in 2009 and has been lined. There are only two service line taps on this line and in 2016 they discovered a service tap was drilled off center in the lining. The District paid for the service tap to be re-centered. Just recently the homeowner had the line video inspected again and found the slip liner is again off center and blocking his tap. This time the homeowner paid to have the piece of liner cut out that was blocking his tap. The homeowner is demanding the District reimburse charges incurred of more than \$15,000. Mr. Niles asked the group if they have ever heard of or experienced a liner moving. No one in the group indicated any experience or hearing of a liner moving. Mr. Niles is working with CSU to find out more information about who and when the pipe was lined prior to deeding it over to Stratmoor. Mrs. Kelley stated that she will email him with the appropriate person to talk with.
9. **Jonathan Moore/Jim Heckman - (FSD/LFMSDD)** –Mr. Moore reported they awarded a contract to KR Swerdfeger for a Railroad project. It will include a bore-and-jack under the railroad. The total length of this project is roughly 600-feet. They anticipate construction will start during the first week in March and should be completed in two weeks. They are also evaluating sanitary main line replacements in the older sections of the system that are still VCP. Mr. Heckman reported the open wastewater position has been filled.
10. **Tara Kelley (CSU)** – Mrs. Kelley reported that their projects this year are centered around reliability. Projects include aeration tank rehabilitation and coating, flow gate replacements and the redesign for a 60-inch influent pipeline that broke last year. She stated they had the 84-inch influent line coming into the Las Vegas plant videoed and sonar inspected and should have those results back in about two weeks. They are working to complete a treatment optimization plan for the JD Phillips facility. They continue to work on completing a full electrical system upgrade at the Clear Springs Ranch facility. She reported the Biogas project at the Clear Springs Ranch facility continues. They are trying to figure out how to get the renewable gas into the Colorado Interstate Gas (CIG) pipeline. She reported alternative analysis study on the Indirect Potable Reuse/Direct Potable Reuse (IPR/DPR) and the future of non-potable water has been completed. She informed the group that there is a Water Smart/Recycle planning grant available from the Bureau of Reclamation. The application deadline is February 28 and to contact her should there be any interest. She reported another study that will fully be completed by mid-year is the Banning Lewis Ranch alternative analysis study for wastewater and if CSU will be able to meet the future wastewater needs. The amended Lower Fountain Metropolitan Sewage Disposal District Service Agreement helped open the door on options of where to take wastewater flows from future growth. She reported on the Northern Interceptor project, they will decide whether to continue the project after 30% design report has been received and reviewed. Only two of the six other original interested entities remain, Triview and Forest Lakes. The alignment for the pipeline continues to be a major issue, it currently is planned through a landfill which may not even be

feasible. If this project doesn't come to fruition, they will need to have a parallel planning path of how to rehabilitate their existing lift stations and collection system that this project would have eliminated. She also reported that CSU had a rate increase of about 3-5% for both water and wastewater.

11. **Wally Eaves (Woodmen Hills)** – Mr. Eaves reported they approved a wastewater rate increase of 8% and they increased their tier rates on the water but not the base rate. He reported all their water meters were replaced with 5G units last year. He stated funds were budgeted for the water meters but not the meter installation so his staff members have been busy with the installation since last June and have about six left to install. He reported that they are having their SCADA system replaced by 5-Star Automation. He stated that they are evaluating their current regulations and specifications to accommodate high density development and they are seeing a lot requests for this type of development lately.

*There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Niles made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 p.m. Second by Mrs. Kelley. Motion carried.

Next LFWQMA Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 27, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at Cherokee Metropolitan District.