

MEETING MINUTES

October 23, 2023

LOWER FOUNTAIN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (LFWQMA)

Member

Attendees: Jim Heckman (FSD/LFMSDD), Cindy Murray (FSD), Jonathan Moore (FSD/LFMSDD), Roy Heald (SWSD), Brandon Bernard (SWSD), Tyler Drennan (Cherokee Metro District), Josh Watkins (Cherokee Metro District-*via telephone*), Taylor Murphy (City of Fountain-*via telephone*), Kirk Medina (Stratmoor Hills W&S), Tara Kelley (CSU-*via telephone*)

Non-Attendees: Fort Carson, Widefield W&S, Woodmen Hills Metro

Guests: Roger Sams, GMS, Inc., Ryan Gomez, JVA Consulting Engineers-*via telephone*

Meeting Location: Security Water and Sanitation District Offices, 231 Security Blvd., C/S, CO 80911

**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 August 28, 2023, for approval consideration. Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Heckman. Motion carried.
2. **Review/Approve Finances** - Mr. Moore presented the Financial Report for the months of August and September 2023 for approval consideration. Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Second by Mr. Heckman. Motion carried.
3. Mr. Drennan presented to the group Cherokee Metro District's Site Location Application Amendment for Solids Handling Improvement Project and requested a recommendation to send it to Site Application Review Committee (SARC). Mr. Drennan reported that the purpose of the amendment is for a project to replace the existing solids handling centrifuges with three screw press solids handling dewatering systems. The existing centrifuges present operational challenges including excessive monitoring requirements, significant power usage, significant maintenance costs, and frequent down time. The proposed screw presses are intended to simplify operations and allow staff to maintain and repair the equipment as needed in-house. Overall, the newly proposed solids handling system equipment should address operational issues currently associated with the centrifuges, maintain continued operation and provide greater operational flexibility for the facility. Discussion followed. Mr. Bernard suggested the review of installing some type of safety platform around the screw presses. Mr. Heckman made a motion to recommend sending the amended site application to the SARC noting Mr. Bernard's safety related comment. Second by Brandon Bernard. Motion carried.
4. **Discussion/Consideration of approval of 2024 Joint Funding Agreement (JFA) with USGS** – Mr. Heckman reported that there was an increase from last year of \$12,855 to \$14,069 in 2024. The program involves sampling 13 wells on a biannual basis, (12) in the Fountain Creek alluvial aquifer and one (1) well in the Black Squirrel Basin. Lengthy discussion followed on the costs and the need for the sampling data. Mr. Bernard made a motion to accept the 2024 JVA with USGS and request a presentation and review of the data from the USGS at the beginning of 2024. Mr. Bernard also requested that the JFA be critically discussed for modification or expansion of PFAS. Second by Mr. Medina. Motion carried.

5. **Discussion/Consideration of approval of the 2024 Proposed Budget** – Mr. Heckman presented the proposed budget to the group. He stated that the dues have increased slightly to cover the increase in the JFA and the annual meeting. Discussion followed about the annual meeting and the decrease in attendance. He did report that Security received the award for most attendance this year. Mr. Moore suggested making the annual meeting attendance an agenda item for a later meeting. Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve the 2024 Proposed Budget as presented. Seconded by Mr. Drennan. Motion carried.
6. **Brandon Bernard - (SWSD)** – Mr. Bernard reported that they are still tracking their PFAS breakthrough through their Ion Exchange resin bed. He stated it has been frustrating on the long wait times for results. He reported they are also dealing with higher-than-normal operating pressure differentials in their lead vessels. They believe their troubles began from the startup of the facility. The contractor hired by the Air Force somehow introduced sand to the lead vessels. In an effort to remove the sand, they performed a back wash of every vessel all at once which caused resin beads to be released back into the effluent piping which eventually put the resin beads into their tanks/distribution system. They completed an ice pigging procedure to remove the resin a couple years ago which removed most of the resin but not the sand which went on to clogging the septa. They are hoping the conclusion will be to get the resin changed out of the lead vessels by next summer. He reported that they are in the final stages of their wastewater treatment facility expansion. Everything is working well, and the numbers are good, although struvite development is causing them to pull pumps monthly to clean. Tara Kelley stated that they have struvite at the Clear Springs Ranch facility and have found a cleaner that has been effective.
7. **Tyler Drennan (Cherokee Metro)** – Mr. Drennan reported that their District participated in a voluntary water sampling study by the State and the study found PFAS compounds above the health advisory levels. They are working with the State to come up with a treatment plan.
8. **Kirk Medina (Stratmoor Hills)** - Mr. Medina reported that RH Borden completed their annual acoustic inspection assessment of their collection system. He is meeting with them today to discuss the results. He stated that the preliminary findings showed little improvement from last year. He will update the group at the next meeting. He reported their pumps at the Forest lift station in Stratmoor Valley are being upgraded. He reported he is working on balancing how much water to deliver to their customers from the Fountain Valley Water Authority vs. groundwater. He inquired if anyone in the group had reasons not to shut off the groundwater supply during winter months. Discussion followed.
9. **Jim Heckman (FSD/LFMSDD)** – Mr. Heckman reported that they will be switching biosolids haulers from Denali Water to Terra Genesis at the beginning of the year. He reported that they are participating in a pilot program with RH Borden for an Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) program. They will monitor 3 wet weather events with probes and are able to narrow the location down.
10. **Jonathan Moore – (FSD/LFMSDD)** –Mr. Moore reported that they continue to wait on parts to repair a tear in the BNR curtain membrane material at the HDT Lower Fountain facility. He reported that they are looking into either replacing pumps at one of their smaller lift stations or replacing the whole thing. He reported that Total Terrain, Inc. was awarded the Fountain Creek streambank repair project. They started today 10/23/23 and anticipate the project completion in a month.
11. **Tara Kelley – (CSU)** – Mrs. Kelley reported that they continue to struggle with multiple treatment challenges at the JD Phillips facility to include high TSS, poor secondary clarifier settling, and abundance of undesirable filaments. They are currently diverting 100% of the flow to the Monument Creek interceptor after treatment and then to the Las Vegas facility for treatment again until they get the issues under control. They contracted with Dewberry and Hazen to help with the challenges of getting JDP back in compliance. She reported three of their resource recovery facilities have multiple capital projects centering around reliability, redundancy and rehabilitation of aging infrastructure. She reported that the complete electrical control system upgrade at the Clear Springs Ranch facility has started. She reported that at the Clear Springs

Ranch facility they are engaging Jacobs and a large attorney client privilege conceptual site model assessment to better understand the present migration of PFAS due to the municipal solids handling at the site. This will give insight into some sources, pathways, receptors and some operational recommendations to minimize the impacts of PFAS at the site. This is in conjunction with a large sitewide stormwater redesign. She reported the biogas project has been put on hold due to the \$35 million dollar cost.

*There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Bernard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:53 p.m. Second by Mr. Heckman. Motion carried.

Next LFWQMA Meeting – The next meeting is TBD.