

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CENTRAL BROWN COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Pursuant to §19.84 Wis. Stats, a regular meeting of the Central Brown County Water Authority **Technical Committee** was held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at the City of De Pere Municipal Services Center, 925 S. Sixth Street, De Pere WI, and via video conference.

Members Present: Allouez – Sean Gehin
Bellevue – Teal Spellman, Mike Mahloch
De Pere – Scott Thoresen, Eric Zygarlicke
Denmark – Erika Thronson (video)
Howard – Geoff Farr (video)
Lawrence – Tyler Mueller
Ledgeview – Greg Potts

Also Present: Gary Rosenbeck, McMahon Assoc. (video)
Tony Kappell, McMahon Assoc. (video)
Nic Sparacio, CBCWA General Manager
Rob Michaelson, MPU

The Central Brown County Water Authority – Technical Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chair Scott Thoresen of De Pere.

Roll Call:

Attendance was recorded as shown above. (Attendees present via video conference are noted with “video.”)

Approval of Agenda:

1. Approve Agenda
Motion made by Ledgeview, seconded by Allouez to approve the agenda.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Approval of Minutes:

2. March 7, 2023
There were no revisions to the draft minutes.
Motion made by Allouez, seconded by De Pere to approve the March 7, 2023 minutes as presented.
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Appearances or Communications:

3. None.

Agenda Items:

4. Project status updates

a. Ductile iron pipe survey and protection

Sparacio reported on progress with review of the work completed by NIS on the cell-to-cell survey. In a recent meeting with Gary Rosenbeck and Sparacio, NIS staff affirmed their commitment to providing quality services to the Water Authority and adjusted their outstanding invoice accordingly. The revised invoice is included in the meeting materials. Thoresen asked whether we are comfortable moving forward with NIS for additional work. Rosenbeck responded and clarified that this invoice is for work already completed under an existing contract. Discussion on the next steps will be taken up separately.

Motion made by Allouez, seconded by Bellevue to recommend to the Board approval of payment on the NIS invoice for cell-to-cell survey work already completed in the amount of \$7,912.75.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Rosenbeck presented the alternatives for moving forward to add cathodic protection to the ductile iron mains. Survey work completed to date has given us enough information to know that adding protection is advisable. We now need to know whether the pipeline is sufficiently continuous to sustain an impressed current. A protection system could then be designed and installed. Rosenbeck then asked for feedback on how to best approach the survey, design, and build process.

Thoresen asked whether there are vendors in the Midwest that are capable of providing what we need. Rosenbeck responded that there are several potential firms that he has in mind. Sean Gehin asked for the approximate cost of adding cathodic protection. Rosenbeck responded that cost depends on how many impressed current rectifiers are needed, which can only be answered with survey and design. Mike Mahloch asked how long the life of the pipe is expected to be improved with cathodic protection. Rosenbeck responded that a properly designed system can essentially eliminate material loss through soil corrosion. Expected life is extended substantially unless impacted by factors other than material loss through corrosion.

The Committee then discussed possible approaches to the survey, design, and construction. Teal Spellman stated that she finds it beneficial to have the survey and design performed by the same engineer or firm. The quality of the design depends on the quality of the survey, and the designer will know what to look for in the survey process. There was a consensus that it makes sense to request qualifications from firms that can complete the survey and the system design as a packaged first step, and then release for bid the construction as a second step based on the survey and design.

Sparacio then reported on an alternative for condition assessment on metallic pipe sections. As scanning technology has improved, there are now more compact devices that house remote sensors that could work with the limited access points in the

Authority's pipeline. Rob Michaelson added that traditional acoustic leak detection is very challenging on the Authority pipeline, since valves, hydrants and other potential listening points are typically 4,000 feet apart or more. Potholing would be necessary to create additional listening points. Manitowoc Public Utilities (MPU) is working with the vendor to provide details toward an estimate to complete a scan of the ductile iron pipes. Thoresen asked that an estimate for potholing and acoustic leak detection is also provided for comparison.

b. Emergency back-up supply study

Sparacio reported on the projected future water consumption projections toward the emergency back-up supply study. All the Members have now approved their 2045 projections. The projections are based on population trends, future land use plans, and water consumption trends by customer class. As those data points are updated by the Members, the water consumption projections can also be reviewed for potential changes. Rosenbeck reported that he has compiled a draft summary of well facilities for each Member. He will incorporate the projected 2045 water use figures and then forward the drafts along for Member review.

Thoresen noted in the summary of well capacities that De Pere and Howard do not have emergency back-up power. He would also like to discuss, as part of the emergency back-up supply study, whether the Water Authority should take over the wells. Geoff Farr responded that there are reasons that Members would not want the Authority to take over their wells. Future community growth is one example. Sparacio responded that the scope of the study does include consideration of possible Water Authority involvement in managing the emergency back-up wells. The Committee discussed the history behind removal of back-up power at the wells in Howard and De Pere. It had to do with the motors reaching the end of their life cycles, so they could no longer be used.

Discussion continued on how to cover the cost of emergency back-up supply, the importance of maintaining all the wells, and the scope of the study.

c. MPU revenue meter

Sparacio reported that the discussion on transitioning back to the Finished Water Pump Station meter at MPU continues to make good progress. He hopes to have a detailed recommendation for next month.

d. FWPS reservoir roof repairs

Michaelson reported that there is no update on this item. MPU continues to ensure that the roof is watertight, and they continue to have discussions on adding a membrane.

e. Village of Denmark water supply connection

Erika Thronson reported that the connection with the Authority main was completed, and they will soon make the connection to the Village's water main. There have been no issues with the project.

f. Communication planning

Sparacio reported that the Water Authority website has been updated with information on PFAS including the sampling results. He also had a conversation with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) staff regarding PFAS testing methods required by the state versus the methods required by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule process. Because the two methodologies have differing minimum levels of detection, we will not have comparable data between MPU and the Member connection stations for the same water. The sampling being performed at MPU for the water that serves the Member connection stations provides the more sensitive limits of detection, and this is the information that will be provided by MPU for the Members' Consumer Confidence Reports. For these reasons, the sampling results provided by MPU have been shared publicly on the Water Authority website. The Committee would like additional clarification from WDNR on how to communicate these results in CCRs. Sparacio will follow up with WDNR.

g. Chlorine analyzer maintenance

Sparacio provided an update on the total chlorine membrane sensors. These incorrect parts have been shipped back to the vendor for a full refund. He has since learned that there were other errors in the recommended preventive maintenance program, and those have also been corrected at this point.

h. Service line material inventories

The Committee discussed Member progress on water service line inventories. Zygarlicke reported that De Pere is having success with their process, which also includes gathering information on premise plumbing materials when staff has the opportunity to schedule with homeowners. Discussion continued on the inventory requirements. Recent presentations by WDNR have clarified: 1) inventories must be completed by October of 2024, but the initial inventories may still have "unknown" materials listed, and 2) it is not required at this time to inventory premise plumbing materials, but it is advisable to collect this data when possible, since it is likely a future requirement.

5. Cla-Val maintenance

Sparacio explained that this agenda item stemmed from a conversation with De Pere and Allouez on possible maintenance needs on Cla-val valve pilots. Zygarlicke shared the quotes he received from Dorner for this service. There was a consensus that no service is needed at this time, but that it would likely be advantageous to collaborate on requesting these services once they are needed. Farr left the meeting at this time due to another commitment.

6. SCBA kits for chlorination system

Sparacio shared a request from MPU staff regarding Self Contained Breathing Apparatus kits found in their inventory. Three of them are marked as belonging to the Water Authority,

but no one at MPU is certified to use them. These kits have never been used, and they are recommended to be overhauled and tested if we want to keep them. He also noted that we now have the automatic shut-offs in all the chlorine rooms.

Greg Potts asked if we have someone contracted to respond to a chlorine leak or whether we would be relying on the local fire departments. Michaelson responded that MPU would contact a Hazardous Materials responder, and the closest one is in Appleton. The Committee discussed fire department capabilities, and there are no known Haz Mat responders locally. There was a consensus that these kits should be disposed of, but that this should also be reviewed in the Emergency Response Plan to ensure that it is up to date in this regard.

7. Updates to 2023 capital program

Sparacio stated that this item is presented for awareness and feedback at this time. The capital needs have evolved since the budget was adopted last summer, and the revised draft shows the current needs and estimated costs. He further explained that the source of additional funds would be verified once the draft audit report becomes available. Thoresen asked whether these changes would require a budget amendment. Sparacio responded that it will depend on the source of funds. If the capital program portion of the water rate does not need to be changed, then a formal budget amendment is not needed. If unrestricted cash or reserve funds are used, then action by the Board would be sufficient approval. He will bring this back to the Committee for a recommendation when it is ready.

8. Water sales report through March 31, 2023

Sparacio reported that water consumption was typical for the month of March. Water use overall is 3.6% above this same time last year. He also noted that, along with the March invoices, he sent out the estimated year-end true-up amounts as of the first quarter. He plans to start doing this on a quarterly basis so that finance people also receive this information periodically.

Old Business:

9. None

Next Meeting:

Agenda Items for the Tuesday, May 9, 2023 Meeting

Potential items for the May meeting include:

- No items identified at this time

Adjourn:

Motion made by De Pere, seconded by Allouez to adjourn at 3:20 p.m.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,
Nicolas Sparacio