

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, October 5, 2021 at the Town of Ledgeview Community Center, 3700 Dickenson Road, De Pere, WI, and via video conference.

Members Present: Allouez – Sean Gehin, Mike Mahloch
De Pere – Scott Thoresen
Howard – Geoff Farr (video)
Lawrence – Kurt Minten
Ledgeview – Greg Potts, Andy Tenor

Excused: Bellevue

Also Present: Todd Bretison (Core & Main)
Eric VanLannen (Core & Main)
Tim Weiss (Core & Main)
Jeff Stelter (Core & Main)
Drew Scranton (Sensus)
Jim Grillo (Sensus)
Rob Michaelson – Manitowoc Public Utilities
Nic Sparacio, CBCWA General Manager

The Central Brown County Water Authority – Technical Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chair Greg Potts of Ledgeview.

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 De Pere, seconded by Lawrence to approve the agenda.
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Approval of Minutes:

2. September 7, 2021
There were no revisions to the draft minutes.
Motion made by Allouez, seconded by Ledgeview to approve the September 7, 2021 minutes as presented.
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Appearances:

3. Core & Main/Sensus Meters

Nic Sparacio reviewed the reasons for inviting some meter vendors to share information with the Technical Committee including planned future meter purchases by some of the Water Authority Members, interest in updated meter technology, and an opportunity to discuss some of the issues the Members have been experiencing. The representatives of Core & Main and Sensus then introduced themselves and presented information on new meter technology, updated base stations and data collectors, and new software application options.

The Committee raised various questions, and the following responses were provided:

- Additional Members could join the existing AMI data collection network, but this would need to be confirmed with an updated signal propagation study. If the coverage is there, no new infrastructure would be needed. If additional coverage is needed in small areas, then there are multiple options for adding coverage at a lower cost than establishing a new network. There would be some start-up and licensing fees, but these cost figures are not known at this time.
- There are now additional meter options that include temperature, pressure, backflow, and various other sensors and alarms as well as remote shut-off capability. There are updated components that can be replaced on existing commercial (Omni) meters to retrofit them for additional data collection and support of Sensus Analytics. There is also a new line of magnetic commercial meters (Hydroverse) already available in the US, and a line of ultrasonic meters (Cornell) in development for future release in the US.
- The expected battery life on Sensus meters is 10 years.
- When a Sensus commercial meter head is replaced (for Omni C-2 and T-2 meters) upon battery failure, it should be replaced with the updated meter head. The AWWA standard requires the meter to then be tested. However, replacement of the head should result in a change of less than one-half of a percent in registered flows.
- There is now a Sensus Analytics software application that provides an interface for the utility and for customers (similar to Aqua Hawk). The cost for the customer interface is reduced if a utility converts to Sensus Analytics at the same time.
- The Logic software will be no longer be supported by Sensus in the next one to two years. No specific sunset date has been determined at this point, but all Members using the Sensus AMI will eventually need to transition to Sensus Analytics.

The Committee thanked the Core & Main and Sensus representatives for attending. Sean Gehin and Mike Mahloch left the meeting due to other commitments at this time.

Agenda Items:

4. Member and Water Authority operations – open discussion

Sparacio asked for feedback on options for housing emergency contact phone numbers online in a more easily accessed and updated location. He will continue to work with MPU on a solution that is more reliable and up to date. There were no other operations open discussion items.

5. Proposal from NIS for corrosion protection system modem upgrades

Sparacio reviewed the proposal from NIS and reported that Option 2 will be sufficient for the Water Authority's needs. He has identified funds in the 2021 budget to cover this work which is estimated at \$6,090. Scott Thoresen asked for clarification on the difference between the two options. Sparacio responded that both would provide about the same length of useful life, but Option 1 includes additional functionality that we would not make use of.

Motion made by Howard, seconded by Lawrence to recommend to the Board approval of the NIS Proposal Option 2 for corrosion protection system modem upgrades.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

6. Project status updates

a. Emergency back-up supply study

No update at this time.

b. Chlorine analyzer maintenance

Sparacio stated that the 6-month maintenance kits are set to ship on October 21. We can look at late October or early November to set up the demonstration with MPU staff. That date will be set once we receive confirmation of the arrival.

c. Meter accuracy and process for calibration

Sparacio reported that LW-2 and LE-1 were retested. They tested accurately this time, but this unfortunately gives us another set of inconsistent data points. Michaelson added that we continue to work with Midwest Meter to schedule a time to investigate the meaning and reliability of these results.

d. Manitowoc pump station optimization

Michaelson reported that MPU continues to await the submittal drawings from Werner Electric.

e. Door replacements

No update at this time.

f. SPLASH Study implementation

Potts reported that Ledgeview recently held its annual training with Fehr-Graham, and their representative stated that they would be interested in providing services on a

larger scale with multiple communities. There could be cost savings, so this opportunity can be further explored with the SPLASH Implementation group.

Sparacio reminded the Members of the two recent data requests related to the joint RFP for tank and reservoir inspections and for a possible future joint RFP for well inspection and tower painting. Regarding well inspections, once we have the data compiled, Sparacio will approach DNR to explore possible approaches to the inspections that would be acceptable, and whether there is any opportunity to better align the timing.

7. Water sales report through September 30, 2021

Sparacio reported that water consumption remained typical in September. Annual water use remains very close to the same amount at this time last year. The current year-end projection is for a relatively small take-or-pay charge.

Old Business:

8. None

Next Meeting:

Agenda Items for the Tuesday, November 9, 2021 Meeting

None identified at this time.

Adjourn:

Motion made by Ledgeview, seconded by De Pere to adjourn at 3:30 p.m.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,
Nicolas Sparacio