

**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 11, 2022 at the Village of Allouez Village Hall, 1900 Libal Street, Allouez WI, and via video conference.

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**Members Present:** Allouez – Sean Gehin, Mike Mahloch  
Bellevue – Eric Woodke (video)  
Denmark – Erika Thronson (video)  
De Pere – Scott Thoresen, Eric Zygarlicke  
Howard – Geoff Farr (video)  
Lawrence – Kurt Minten  
Ledgeview – Greg Potts, Andy Tenor

**Also Present:** Rob Michaelson, Manitowoc Public Utilities  
Gary Rosenbeck, McMahan Assoc.  
Nic Sparacio, CBCWA General Manager

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

**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 Ledgeview to approve the agenda.**  
**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

**Approval of Minutes:**

2. September 6, 2022  
There were no revisions to the draft minutes.  
**Motion made by Lawrence, seconded by De Pere to approve the September 6, 2022 minutes as presented.**  
**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Appearances or Communications:**

3. None.

**Agenda Items:**

**4. Member well water quality and any notable aquifer changes**

Gehin stated that he had requested this agenda item and asked Mike Mahloch to explain the water quality changes that he has seen in one of Allouez's emergency back-up wells. Mahloch explained that he has seen coloration and increased iron levels in recent samples. He has experimented with different pumping rates and flushing to try to reduce the iron concentration. The Committee discussed whether the increased iron could come from the well casing material or from changes in the geology as the aquifer recovers depth. Gary Rosenbeck recommended taking a filtered sample to help determine the possible source.

Rosenbeck reviewed well water quality data that he gathered from current and historic Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) records. The data show that iron levels in the sandstone aquifer have been consistent over time. He noted increases in arsenic, which are most likely a result of improved analytical sensitivity. Rosenbeck also shared data on well construction and current status and asked the Members to review and update the information where needed. Nic Sparacio added that the UW-Green Bay Department of Natural & Applied Sciences is currently seeking funding to expand their research on the confined sandstone aquifer under the Green Bay and Fox Valley metro areas. Their previous study looked at changes in water quantity, and this new study will look at changes in water quality. The Water Authority will provide a letter of support for the proposed research.

**5. MPU valve operations**

Rob Michaelson reported that MPU is planning to operate valves on the transmission main on October 18 and 19. The Members will not be able to take water at these times, so this will be coordinated with each community. The communities before Central Storage will have planned transmission outages on Tuesday. Communities after Central Storage will have planned transmission outages on Wednesday. The Members are advised to fill their storage facilities prior to valve operations. Sparacio asked for confirmation that there are no issues with this timing for any of the Members. There were no issues with the timing.

**6. Report on main break repairs**

Sparacio reported that a break in the Authority's transmission main occurred along American Boulevard in De Pere on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. This is in close proximity to where a similar break occurred in 2020. This area of De Pere can receive water from its other connection stations, so there was no interruption in service to customers. The break was successfully repaired, but there appears to be another active leak in the vicinity. Efforts are continuing to correlate the location of any additional leaks. Michaelson added that MPU is working to ensure that all valves in the area are functioning properly and will then look at options to access the pipe for leak correlation.

Scott Thoresen asked whether the cause of the break is known. Michaelson responded by describing operations during the meter testing and the possibility of corrosion impacting this pipe. Kurt Minten added that Lawrence has best practices in place for operation of the hydrant and nearby valves that all parties should be aware of. Rosenbeck noted that the

manufacturer for this pipe (US Pipe) would like to be present for any future dig on a ductile iron main break.

7. Project status updates

a. **Cell-to-cell pipe survey – report from NIS and proposal from Johnson Creek**

Sparacio reported on the status of the cell-to-cell survey. The effort is incomplete as there are some additional data to be gathered. He expects that the written report will be resubmitted after the work is completed. In reviewing the data collected so far, NIS explained that there are two or three locations that warrant further investigation for potential corrosion or potential interference by other utility corrosion protection systems.

Rosenbeck explained his concerns with the data interpretation provided by NIS and added that he is recommending that we seek a third-party review of the survey data. The proposal from Johnson Creek is for this purpose. The Committee discussed the challenges with ductile iron pipe and the differences between the current main break and the similar break from 2020.

**Motion made by Allouez, seconded by Lawrence to recommend approval of the proposal from Johnson Creek for review of the cell-to-cell survey.**

**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

b. **Emergency back-up supply study**

Sparacio reported that he and Rosenbeck are still discussing how to proceed with the project. Rosenbeck added that he is seeking some data from Bellevue on an existing emergency interconnection.

c. **Meter accuracy and process for calibration – report on recent testing**

Sparacio asked whether all those interested in witnessing meter tests were able to do so. There were no concerns or issues raised by the Members. Michaelson reported that he just received the results from Midwest Meter, so he will share this with the Members soon.

d. **Manitowoc pump station optimization**

Michaelson reported that they are working on an additional electrical item with the VFD before it will be fully operational. The whole team needs to be on site to address this, so it will take some time yet.

e. **FWPS reservoir roof repairs**

Michaelson reported that the initial repairs are complete, and it was confirmed that the roof is watertight. This complies with the November 1 repair deadline. MPU continues with making some interior repairs and with considering whether adding a membrane to the roof is the best route forward.

f. **Door replacements**

Sparacio reported on the status of the project. LaForce has installed weather stripping on the doors where gaps were an issue. He asked whether the participating Members are satisfied with the results. Eric Zygarlicke and Minten confirmed for De Pere and Lawrence. Farr stated that he will review the doors in Howard. Sparacio stated that the doors at the Master Meter Station are now complete and functioning well.

g. **SPLASH Study implementation**

Sparacio reported that there is no update at this time.

h. **Asset management planning – report on consultant submittals received**

Sparacio stated that Statements of Qualifications for the project were due on Monday, and he only received two. He further explained that he is following up with some firms that he expected to respond that did not. The goal was to receive three to five responses for comparison of different approaches, so this has not been achieved. Before making a recommendation on how to respond, Sparacio will wait to hear back from the firms that expressed strong interest.

i. **Village of Denmark water supply connection**

Erika Thronson reported that Denmark is preparing for the bid process, and the Village Board adopted its local Water Conservation and Excess Capacity Charge ordinances this week. She anticipates advertising for bids over the next two weeks, holding a November 9 bid opening, and awarding the contract on November 14.

**8. Water sales report through September 30, 2022**

Sparacio reported that September water consumption was typical for the time of year, and the year-to-year comparison remains very flat. Total water use for the year remains about 1% above the total for this same time last year. He encouraged the Members to review the year-end true-up projections.

**Old Business:**

**9. UCMR 5 sampling requirements for consecutive systems**

Sparacio reported that he, Mahloch, and Michaelson were able to follow up on last month's discussion by contacting the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) coordinator for Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR 5). It was clarified that the UCMR 5 process is different from UCMR 4 in that only entry points will be sampled. Distribution samples are not required, so this alleviates the past confusion over water sources within the Authority Member systems. Mahloch added that Members with multiple connection points only need to test their highest volume location.

Zygarlicke stated that he does expect to test the emergency back-up wells for WDNR even though they are not required for UCMR 5. Discussion continued on how to get the timing to coincide for the sampling between EPA and WDNR. The dates for UCMR 5 sampling can be moved earlier to align with the WDNR testing requirements. If all 29 UCMR 5 compounds are tested, this will cover all the WDNR required tests.

Gehin asked for clarification on the requirements for the Authority Members relative to MPU testing the same water. Sparacio responded that each consecutive system is required to test under UCMR 5. EPA will not allow the Authority Members to rely on the sampling done by MPU. Improvements in PFAS analysis sensitivity were discussed. One outstanding question is whether WDNR will require all the Members to test their emergency back-up wells.

**Next Meeting:**

**Agenda Items for the Tuesday, November 8, 2022 Meeting**

Due to elections taking place on November 8, the next meeting will be held at the Public Works Shop in Ledgeview (1915 Scray Hill Road). Potential items for the November meeting include:

- Report on additional ductile iron cell-to-cell survey results
- Meter testing results

**Adjourn:**

**Motion made by De Pere, seconded by Ledgeview to adjourn at 3:05 p.m.**

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Respectfully submitted,  
Nicolas Sparacio