

Lewes Board of Public Works  
Contingency Committee Meeting Minutes  
January 11, 2024  
1:30pm

## Committee Members

- Barbara Curtis, BPW Assistant Treasurer, chair
- Earl Webb, BPW Board Director
- Tim Ritzert, City Council Ex-Officio
- Mark Prouty, Committee Member
- Bob Heffernan, Committee Member
- Austin Calaman, BPW General Manager
- Donna Colton, Committee Member
- Sumner Crosby, Committee Member
- Daphne Fuentevilla, Committee Member- Absent

## Others Present

- Sharon Sexton, BPW Executive Assistant
- Jeffrey Kerrin, Inframark

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 pm.

## Key Takeaways

- The main topics discussed were past committee minutes, discussing the options for the wastewater treatment plant, and the Wolcott Kansas treatment plant.

## Timeline

- The committee is working on a draft report to submit to the Board by the January 31, 2024, deadline. Committee members are to send credentials and a background summary to Ms. Curtis, along with any notes to add to the report by Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Current Workflow

- The committee approved October 23, 2023, November 6, 2023, and November 14, 2023, minutes with proposed changes.

**ACTION:** *Mr. Heffernan motioned to send October 23, 2023, November 6, 2023, and November 14, 2023, contingency committee meeting minutes to the Board for approval. Ms. Colton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

- The committee discussed a recent meeting with Wolcott, Kansas WWTF representatives. During research and building process, Wolcott employees and engineers visited four active Aqua Nereda Aerobic Granular Sludge sites.

- Reviewed Wolcott Video: [https://www.tpomag.com/video/product\\_profile/success-story-aquanereda-technology-at-wolcott-wwtp\\_sc\\_00092](https://www.tpomag.com/video/product_profile/success-story-aquanereda-technology-at-wolcott-wwtp_sc_00092)
- Wolcott representative Notes the state-of-the-art qualities of the process. The process is intuitive, predictive, and efficient.
- Wolcott utilized HDR engineering.
- Success of the Aqua Nereda system at Wolcott, in terms of water quality, simplicity, ease of operation, and flexibility was emphasized.
- Wolcott's entire WWTF plant is 250 feet long and 90 feet wide. The plant is a 2.39 MGD (million gallons per day) facility and has 3 three tanks.
- The team aims to enhance the capacity and efficiency of the Wolcott plant to align with the increasing population and treatment requirements, while establishing a solution for future growth.
- Discussed the use of fill material to build concrete tanks at a riverbed site in Missouri and the process of compressing original soils.
- Many developments on the East Coast have used fill material from their own sites for construction.
- An estimated 3,000 cubic yards of material would need to be excavated for the proposed array at the BPW existing site.
- Emphasized the importance of conducting a paired comparison of the current plant and a plant with newer technology.

## Decision

- The team chose Aqua Aerobic granular sludge technology for its smaller footprint, cost-effectiveness, and ability to meet future permit requirements. They discussed the benefits of using the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) delivery method for early equipment procurement and tailored facility design.
- Decided to consider leaving the existing plant in place while gradually building a smaller plant on the city side of the canal.
- Research the DNREC parcel and gather relevant information. Demonstrates commitment to addressing concerns regarding suitable wastewater plant locations.
- Agreed that discussions with experts and stakeholders are necessary for informed decisions.
- Requested a proposal from HDR, involving Brandon to demonstrate collaboration. Included mention of additional potential areas in the proposal to show thoroughness.

## Follow-up Meeting

- The potential attendance of individuals from the Kansas site at a future presentation was discussed, but it remains uncertain whether they will attend. The upcoming presentation to the Board will be on January 24th.
- Committee Members will submit comments to add to the committee's final report.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:13pm

Respectfully Submitted  
Sharon Sexton  
BPW Executive Assistant