

Board of Commissioners
Minutes
June 13, 2018
(approved September 17, 2018)

Present: J. Comer, T. Pellegrino, G. Keller, W. von Schoen, D. Provencher,
Superintendent R. Miner, Water Quality Support/Business Manager J. Lavoie

Board of Commissioners to meet with Underwood Engineers, Inc regarding ongoing and upcoming projects.

1. Introductions

K. Pratt of Underwood Engineers, Inc (UEI) noted that all members of the Board and all members of UEI present this evening know each other

2. UEI Client Portal

K. Pratt noted that all large reports, plan sets and other documents that are too large to email are on this portal. While UEI has access to all client folders, there is a specific folder that only MVD has access to using the provided user name and password. MVD has access to, and can download, all information in this folder but they can only upload documents to the Client Upload sub folder..

3. UEI Existing MVD Planning Documents

K. Pratt noted that dealing with PFAS, while very important, is only one thing that UEI is currently working on and are working with MVD on several important planning documents

a. Master Plan

K. Pratt noted that the Master Plan was completed in 2014. The CIP is, in part, determined using the Master Plan.

b. Asset Management Plan

The Asset Management Plan (AMP) was created using a matching grant from the state. Even though we are currently concentrating on supply and treatment, most of the assets of the District are tied up in the distribution system. The AMP created a plan for long-term funding to replace all assets as they reach the end of their useful life. The CIP is therefore based on both the Master Plan and the AMP. There is no cap on the Capital Reserve Funds created by the District. Since complete funding to replace all assets when appropriate is cost prohibitive, the recommendation was to put 50% of the funds needed for the asset renewal plan into the Capital Reserve Funds.

4. UEI Active/Pending Projects

a. Water Rates

The rate study is done using a spread sheet model. This project looks back 5 years and projects 5 years forward and UE provides regular updates. The latest update will be done within the next few months.

b. Wells #4 and #5

UEI is under contract for the final design for this PFAS removal water treatment plant (WTP). The 30% design and report are on the portal. Other needs of the District, besides PFAS treatment, such as upgraded chemical feed facilities and addition of an interior generator were incorporated into this project. The initial cost of the project was \$4.43M. With a reduction of the building size by moving the generator to an exterior enclosure, the project cost was lowered to \$4.16M. St Gobain Performance Plastics (SGPP) objected to paying for anything that was not directly related to the PFAS treatment, which was estimated at \$810K, and agreed to pay \$3.35M to treat the PFAS. Therefore, there is a shortfall of \$810K from the cost of \$4.16M. K Pratt noted that the District could look for funding from the state trust funds for all or a portion of this but that it would be looked on more favorably if the District was paying part of it. He suggested asking for a grant of \$405K, or half of the shortfall, from the state trust funds and have the District contribute the remaining \$405K from capitol reserves.

G. Keller questioned the effect of this on the O&M budget. M. Metcalf, UEI, noted that there would be no effect on the O&M budget as agreed to by SGPP. K. Pratt noted that the O&M costs agreed to by SGPP are based on the PFAS related use of the plant. SGPP will pay about 50% of the total estimated O&M costs as these are the costs associated with the PFAS.

D. Provencher questioned the reserves of the District. R. Miner noted that these reserves are close to \$3M and only a small portion of these reserves have been allocated to date. R. Miner noted that if there is no grant money forthcoming from the state trust funds the District may be able to fund this through the State Revolving Funds (SRF). However, this action would need approval of the Annual Meeting.

W. von Schoen questioned how quickly this project could be changed if a change in the permissible levels of the chemicals is put in place by the state or the federal government. He questioned whether this is flexible enough to respond to such possible changes. M. Metcalf noted that there is legislation in process which would add two more constituents to PFOA and PFOS such that the sum of the 4 constituents must be less than 70 ppt. He noted that things are changing and the technology is evolving. The District may want to use resins as part of the

treatment process. There is a reopener clause in the agreement with SGPP for the treatment of additional PFAS constituents if these become regulated by the State or Federal government.

K. Pratt noted that permission is needed from the Board to submit the pre-application for trust fund grant. R. Miner noted that a public hearing would be needed to accept the grant if it is offered to the District. K. Pratt noted that UEI will submit the pre-application on behalf of the District.

A motion was made by D. Provencher and seconded by T. Pellegrino to go ahead with the grant funding application for \$405K with the remaining \$405K to come from District reserves. The motion passed 5-0-0.

K. Pratt noted that when the State Trust Fund Group meets he or his representative will be there. There is no regular schedule of meetings for this group at this time. This meeting will probably be held in July or August. W. von Schoen questioned the best way to present the MVD case to the grant committee. R. Miner noted that this issue can be further discussed when a date for this meeting is determined.

c. Turkey Hill Road Booster Station

The budget for this project is \$1.3M. This money is coming to the District as a loan from the trust funds. The rate on money borrowed from these trust funds is subject to change (increase) on July 23, 2018. K. Pratt noted he would like authority to submit the full application before the rate change goes into effect.

A motion was made by D. Provencher and seconded by T. Pellegrino to authorize R. Miner to sign and submit the Drinking Water and Ground Water Trust Fund Application for the Turkey Hill Booster Pump Station. The motion passed 5-0-0.

d. Wells #2, #3, #7

K. Pratt noted that UEI recommends Lime Station improvements at wells #2, #3, and #7. However, other chemical feeds will also need to be updated and UEI recommends that we look at all chemical feeds comprehensively. The project to evaluate all the chemical feeds at these wells is in the CIP for \$20,000. The scope of this project is on the way to the District.

A motion was made by D. Provencher and seconded by W. von Schoen to authorize Underwood Engineers, Inc. to move forward on the lime station improvements for wells #2, #3, #7, and #8. The motion passed 5-0-0.

e. PFAS Feasibility Study

A motion was made by D. Provencher and seconded by W. von Schoen to authorized UEI to move forward on the PFAS Feasibility Study for Wells 2, 3, 7 and 8 based on the ESR dated 5/17/18. The motion passed 5-0-0.

K. Pratt noted that the original \$12 million dollar figure for treatment of these wells was based on the \$4 million cost for wells 4 & 5, times 3 locations and not on the design per facility. At this time the treatment target is community driven since the wells meet state and EPA standards. The next step is to pick a standard for designing treatment whether it be no-detect, 50% of the current standard or some other goal.

f. Planning Board Projects

Concern had been expressed by the Board about the impact of potential projects on the District's water supply capacity. K Pratt noted that UEI is tracking the water demand for all upcoming projects and comparing it to current capacity as part of the review process.

5. CIP and Budget

Update Hydraulic Model – K. Pratt noted that there have been requests to borrow the MVD hydraulic model. This model needs to be updated to bring it up to date with changes in the system since the model was developed and to ensure that the model is accurately representing the actual system. The cost for this updating will be \$10-20K.

Emery & Garrett Groundwater, Inc. (EGGI) – Work between EGGI and UEI will be discussed when J. Emery is available to attend a meeting.

6. Other

M. Metcalf noted that UEI is still in the early stages of the design for wells #4 and #5 but needed to know whether they were designing a \$4.1 M or \$3.35 M WTP. K Pratt noted that if the MVD is willing to pay the \$810K from reserves then it is okay to go forward with this project. M. Metcalf clarified that Plan A is to use trust fund money with a match from the MVD and Plan B is to use MVD money only. J. Lavoie noted that a reimbursement of \$438K is expected from SGPP. This money along with \$400K from the MVD Capital Reserve Fund will be sufficient to continue this project. K. Pratt noted that UEI will stay the course and create the design for a \$4.1 M facility at wells #4 and #5.

The Turkey Hill Road Booster Station and Wells #4 and #5 will be bid this winter with a 1-year construction timeline.

W. von Schoen questioned fencing and signage for wells #4 and #5. R. Miner noted that this could be completed by MVD staff.

Adjourn

A motion was made by D. Provencher and seconded by W. von Schoen to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 PM. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Rita Pointon, Recording Secretary