

**REGULAR MEETING
RIVER FALLS UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD
March 20, 2016 6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall**

The Regular Meeting of the River Falls Utility Advisory Board was called to order by Secretary Beebe at 6:30 p.m. Present: Chris Gagne, Diane Odeen, Wayne Beebe, and Tim Thum. Absent: Grant Hanson, Duane Pederson, Adam Myszewski. Staff present: Kevin Westhuis, Utility Director; Kristi Hartmon, Administrative Assistant; Ron Groth, Water/Waste Water Superintendent; Julie Bergstrom, Finance Director; Ray French, Management Analyst; Reid Wronski, City Engineer; and Tamarra Jaworski, Engineering Technician Other Present: Marty Melchior, Inter-Fluve, Inc.; Ron, TKDA.

M/S Odeen/Beebe to approve minutes of the February 15, 2016 Regular Meeting. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Acknowledgment of the following minutes:
West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility Commission Meeting – 01-19-16
POWERful Choices Committee – 2-11-16

M/S Odeen/Gagne to approve Consent Agenda. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. Sediment Assessment Report – Hydro Relicensing. Ray French gave the board brief context of the sediment study. The City of River Falls went out for proposals in June of 2015. In July of 2015 an application was submitted for license extension. This gave the city and community time to step back and plan for the river corridor. It was found out last week that the extension was granted. The focus can now be on the Kinnickinnic River Corridor Planning process. The primary goal of the sediment analysis was to identify the costs and methods for sediment management if the city were to pursue dam removal in the future at one or both hydroelectric facilities. This included an initial assessment of sediment volumes, targeted sediment sampling and analysis, and a discussion of the sediment management options available to the city. There was stakeholder input in the selection of Inter-Fluve and in the proposed sediment sampling plan in October prior to the samples being taken in November. The DNR and members of the local chapter of Trout Unlimited reviewed and provided comments on the final Sediment Assessment Report. French stated that this study does not answer every question, but it helps us further along the path and brought clarity to the speculation and unknown questions to contaminants within the impoundments.

French introduced Marty Melcher the Regional Director of Inter-Fluve to give the results of their study. The full study was included in the Utility Advisory Board Packets. Inter-Fluve evaluated the existing sediment conditions in the upper and lower impoundments, Lakes

George and Louise. The main focus of the work was to assess the quantity and quality of impounded sediment behind both dams, and to determine the potential volume of sediment that may be evacuated or need to be excavated in the event of dam removal. Field assessment of existing impounded sediment composition and volume was completed using bathymetric surveys and sediment depth probing.

The sediments impounded within Lake George and Lake Louise area primarily fine to medium sands, with 20-40% silt, clay, and organics. The foreset bed or deltas at the upstream end of each impoundment are primarily medium to coarse sands. Sediment samples were collected at representative locations along the existing main channel and along the off-channel areas within each impoundment, and the collected material was analyzed for physical characteristics, metals, PCBs, organochlorine pesticides, and PAHs. The main channel sediments in Lake George were relatively uncontaminated, although concentrations of two PAH compounds exceed their respective TECs. In the off-channel, floodplain sediments of Lake George, concentrations of mercury, lead, arsenic, hexavalent chromium, total PCBs, and three PAH compounds exceed TECs or EPA screening levels in some of the sediment core samples. In Lake Louise, the downstream channel sediments (LL-C1 and LL-C2) were relatively uncontaminated. However, a high concentration of arsenic was present at LL-C1, exceeding the probable effect concentration (PEC). The cadmium concentration at LL-C1 exceeds the TEC. Arsenic concentrations exceed EPA screening levels for human health concerns at all three sites. At LL-C3, concentrations of 10 PAH compounds exceed their respective TECs and PECs, suggesting that this is a site of contaminant concern. In the Lake Louise floodplain sediments, concentrations of mercury, nickel, arsenic, and hexavalent chromium exceed their respective TECs or EPA screening levels. In addition, concentrations of seven PAH compounds exceed their respective TECs, MECs, PECs, or EPA screening levels. PAH contamination in the upper portion of sample LL-F2 is of particular concern. Sediment management options will include some combination of active and passive sediment management as described above, but the actual management scenarios used in each case will depend on regulatory guidance regarding management of contaminants and ecological impacts. The following next steps will be important tasks in developing refined costs for sediment management under any scenario, including dam removal.

Next Steps: Review of contaminant data will be completed by the Wisconsin DNR to determine possible sediment management scenarios and the need for any further sampling and testing, if any. If dam removal is pursued, a dam removal feasibility study can be completed to build on the sediment volume and quality assessment. Concept designs would be included in the feasibility study, which will also include structural review, dam removal construction logistics, and sediment management and water routing options during construction.

Marty told the board that he was available for any questions and that they could contact him at any time. French stated that the final report is posted on the City of River Falls website at rfcity.org. Beebe and Odeen stated that there is a lot of information in this report and

thanked Marty for the detailed report. Odeen stated that she was happy to hear she read the report correctly and that even though there are some trace metals and contaminants, it is really a lot cleaner than many had feared. Thum was curious about a couple of things. Assuming that we would remove the dams and have a combination of active and passive sediment management, the sediment that would remain (mostly sand) is that stable/non erodible and would it take some sort of treatment to establish vegetation. Marty stated that they have a lot of experience in the state with dam removal. There was a study done on re-vegetation of impoundments following a dam removal and what was found is that if you leave these impoundments alone and do not do any active restoration you are going to get 95-100% invasive vegetation. You can do a lot of things to restore those floodplain areas. Stabilization of the area could be done first and then figure out if it would be a viable surface for planting and what would need to be done. Gagne asked if there would be active and passive sediment management done if we do go with dam removal. Marty stated that based on his prior experience he would say yes. Thum stated assuming the concentrations remain low of contaminants and what we would remove physically/mechanically could that material be used as fill in other areas. Marty stated if the location is close it would make sense.

RESOLUTIONS:

3. Resolution Recommending Bid Award for 2016 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project. Tamarra Jaworski, Engineering Technician with the City of River Falls presented the 2016 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project to the Utility Advisory Board. Maintenance and rehabilitation of existing sewer system infrastructure is essential to preserving the sanitary sewer system. Jaworski showed a short video explaining the process (cured in place pipe CIPP) of the lining of a sanitary sewer pipe. Jaworski stated that you end up with a plastic type PVC pipe inside of the clay pipes you have lined. Maps were shown of the various areas of the City that staff has requested lining from. Staff viewed pre-lined televised data and some of these areas were given a rating of 5 (poor rating). Jaworski gave a summary of what the City wants to line this year. There is roughly 4,700 feet of eight-inch pipe, and one 18" pipe that is 284 feet (Lametti Interceptor Line) that is in rough shape. A total of 5,032 feet of pipe needs to be cleaned and televised.

The city received eight bids with the lowest bid of \$137,470.70 by Insituform Technologies. This is below the budgeted amount for the work. Jaworski stated that the City has used Insituform in the past and has been satisfied and staff recommends the UAB to support a bid award to Insituform Technologies for the provision of the 2016 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project.

UAB member Thum asked how many feet of pipe are they planning on doing. Jaworski stated they are doing a total of 5,032 of pipe. Beebe stated when they divert the sewage, what do they actually do because it is a big pipe (18" Lametti). Jaworski said they put a hose down the hole on the front end (a hose long enough to reach the end manhole) so that the section between will be dry. Odeen stated that generally the re-lining sections are short; is that because there are shorter sections rather than longer sections that need the work.

Jaworski stated that is not always the case and it just ended up that way this year. A video of a televised pipe was shown to the board showing cracks in the pipes. Odeen asked how long does the lining add to the lifespan of the pipe. Jaworski stated it will last fifty plus more years. Gagne asked when you line one section of the pipe and the other section is the old pipe, how do you seal off the end. Jaworski stated they don't need to seal off the ends when they are doing it (would bypass from manhole to manhole). Gagne asked how is the section sealed up that is not lined. So far a single piece has not been done and has only done manhole to manhole. Jaworski explained that the way it cures, it cures right to the pipe. You can have it grouted if after the lining is done and after viewing the post televised lining it shows infiltration.

Thum moved to approve of the resolution number 2016-06 recommending bid award for the 2016 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project. Odeen seconded the motion and the motion passed.

4. Resolution Recommending Professional Services for North Interceptor Sewer Project

Reid Wronski, City Engineer presented a recap on the North Interceptor Sewer Project stating that the north sewer area currently serves 27% of the existing developed area of the city and will eventually serve 42%. This includes all three of the City's Corporate Parks and much of its commercial property. The existing North Interceptor (sometimes referred to as Lametti) was built in 1971 and the N Main Lift Station was built in 1992. A comprehensive sewer study was done in 2009 and predicted the lift station would reach capacity between 2011 and 2018. Wronski stated that pump modifications have added efficiencies and delayed the projected capacity date. The lift station is 25 years old and maintenance needs are increasing. Wronski stated we are not currently at capacity. Analysis has been done on businesses that have shown interest in potentially coming to River Falls and has made staff realize that could eat up the capacity quickly.

On November 16, 2015, staff presented a draft request for proposals to the Utility Advisory Board and laid out a plan for proceeding forward with necessary planning of a North Interceptor Sewer project. On December 1, 2015, a request for proposals was mailed to five firms including: Ayres, MSA, SEH, Strand and TKDA. On December 17, 2015, a pre-proposal meeting was held for prospective consulting firms to seek clarification to questions regarding the RFP. On January 15, 2016, staff issued a revision to the RFP adding additional scope of work to address coordination of sewer interceptor issues with upcoming substation and trail projects. The due date for proposals was extended from January 20, 2016 to February 3, 2016. On February 3, 2016, staff received proposals from MSA, SEH, and TDKA. A selection committee was formed and members included Reid Wronski, City Engineer; Kevin Westhuis, Utility Director; Diane Odeen, City Council; Chris Gagne, Utility Advisory Board; Ron Groth, Waste Water and Water Superintendent. On February 23, 2016, the selection committee met and discussed various aspects of the three proposals received. General consensus and recommendation was to go with TKDA. Staff liked TKDA's project management experience and their acquisition experience and understanding through a company they use called Land Service Company. Staff asked TKDA to finalize their scope of work and included four items to focus on including a north interceptor routing study, St.

Croix Street outfall study, downstream interceptor planning and preliminary design and preparation for land acquisition.

The purpose of the North Interceptor Routing Study (estimated fee \$45,300) is to determine a route for a new 21" sewer interceptor line that would replace the existing north side lift station and forcemain with a gravity flow sewer. The new interceptor sewer would discharge into an existing or rebuilt gravity sewer manhole located in the current St. Croix Street Outfall Pond or another manhole downstream of that one. The purpose of the St. Croix Street Outfall Study (estimated fee \$48,800) is to create a concept plan for expansion and rehabilitation of the St. Croix Street Outfall Pond in order for the pond to provide rate control and sediment treatment consistent with current standards and be coordinated with the plans for the North Interceptor. The purpose of the Downstream Interceptor Planning And Preliminary Design (estimated fee \$39,800) work will be to determine the routing and alignment associated with the eventual upsizing of the North Interceptor south of the St. Croix Street Outfall as identified in the 2009 Sanitary Sewer Collection System Study. This will allow better coordination with the upcoming substation project and the Heritage Park to Division Street trail project. The purpose of the Land Acquisition (estimated fee \$14,500) work will be to get a head start on land acquisition that will ultimately be necessary once the above noted studies are complete and provide some up front outreach to parties that may be affected by the project.

Wronski introduced Ron from TKDA. Ron stated he would be the project manager for this project. Ron stated TKDA is an employee owned firm and been around for over 100 years. TKDA has a Municipal Division that will be working on this project and will pull from other divisions of TKDA where needed. Gagne thanked Ron for the detail in the proposal and appreciates the years of experience the staff has.

Wronski and staff recommended approval of the Resolution 2016-07 recommending that the City Council enter into an agreement with TKDA for professional services necessary to complete initial work for the North Interceptor Sewer Project. Beebe made a motion to approve of the resolution recommending professional services for the North Interceptor Sewer Project. Thum seconded the motion and the motion passed.

REPORTS:

5. Finance Report: Finance Director Bergstrom stated the Electric, Water and Sewer funds are where she expects them to be at this time. Staff heard from the PSC and has scheduled a public hearing for the water rates and will be on April 20th at 2pm at City Hall. Information on the public hearing will be included in the April Utility Bills, will be published in the River Falls Journal and listed on the City website. Bergstrom stated that for an average user (4,000 gal per month) there would be an approximate increase from \$15.30 to \$17.70. Bergstrom stated that bids will be received tomorrow for the sewer revenue bonds and this is for the Waste Water Treatment Plant project.

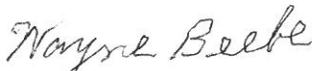
6. Utility Dashboards for, Electric, Water, Waste water and Powerful Choices were included in the UAB Packets. Utility Director Westhuis mentioned that the utility has had numerous calls from residents concerned that Advanced Disposal was putting trash and recyclables in the same truck. Advanced Disposal was contacted and they stated they have a split truck that can handle both trash and recycle materials (separate compartments on the same truck).
7. Monthly Utility Report was included in the UAB packets for review. Gagne stated that there was an outage on March 13th and commends the utility staff for the quick action they took to restore power. A single squirrel took out the entire South Fork substation. After the power was restored a customer mentioned on Facebook that her power was still out and Westhuis sent out lineman to investigate and her service line to her house was bad and they fixed her service. The reliability tracker 2015 annual report was included in the packets for review. Westhuis stated that the Utility about four months ago introduced a seven day on call service and up until that point had a lineman on call for Friday, Saturday and Sundays and during the week it was whoever was available. This will help our reliability and getting customer's service back into service faster. Westhuis also reported that the utility received the Demonstration for Energy and Efficiency Developments (DEED) award from the American Public Power Association.

Westhuis invited the Utility Advisory Board to the WPPI Regional Power Dinner on April 27th in Eau Claire.

ADJOURNMENT:

M/S Thum/Gagne moved to adjourn at 8:01 p.m. Unanimous.

Reported by: Kristi Hartmon, Administrative Assistant



Wayne Beebe, Secretary