



JOINT BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Wednesday, June 19, 2019
9:00 AM

Ruthven Water Treatment Plant
1615 Union Avenue,
Ruthven

MINUTES

Members Present: Mayor MacDonald (Chair); Deputy Mayor Verbeke, Councillors Dunn, Jacobs, Wilkinson - Leamington
Mayor Nelson Santos (Vice-Chair); Deputy Mayor Queen,
Councillors DeYong, Neufeld, Patterson - Kingsville
Councillor VanderDoelen - Essex
Councillor Walstedt - Lakeshore

Members Absent: Councillor Hammond - Leamington

Staff Present: Shaun Martinho - Kingsville
Kevin Girard - Lakeshore

OCWA Staff Present: Susan Budden, Dave Jubenville
Dale Dillen

Call to Order: 9:01 am

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest: none

Adoption of Board Minutes:

No. UW-29-19

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Verbeke

Seconded by: Councillor Wilkinson

That Minutes of the UWSS Joint Board of Management meeting of May 15, 2019 be received.

Carried

Business Arising Out of the Minutes:

There was none.

Report UW/18/19 dated June 14, 2019 re: Status Update of the UWSS Operations & Maintenance Activities and Capital Works to June 14, 2019

The Manager reviews his report with board members. He updates members on repairs and operational activities since the last meeting.

The Manager explains that with the very wet Spring the Cottam Booster Station (CBS) grading project has been put on hold. The contractor has asked to move the completion date to later in July or August as they need a dryer window to complete this project.

The SCADA project is moving forward. The Manager informs the members that he and the operations team travelled to Mississauga for a Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) regarding the four (4) water towers on May 30th. The second FAT meeting is scheduled for next week and will cover the CBS. The final FAT meeting is scheduled to take place at the WTP to cover the plant and this will involve many aspects of operational staff participation. He notes that the SCADA computer screens will be shown to board members once they are closer to completion.

The CO2 pH Adjustment project is still ongoing. The Manager provides pictures of the work in progress. The chlorine building expansion underpinning and foundation works have been completed. The cement pad for the CO2 tank is almost cured and the actual tank should be arriving in the next few weeks. The second pad for the scrubber system is almost complete, but that part should arrive by August. The Manager notes that the chlorine system is on a temporary setup. There has been an issue with obtaining some of the components for the new chlorine injection system. It is his understanding that some of the parts will not arrive until October. Once these parts arrive the installation should be relatively quick.

The new soft start for High Lift (HL) Pump #8 arrived, was installed, and put back in service on June 3rd. It was discovered that HL Pump #6 had a big vibration. Phasor was called in to look at and repair the motor. Repairs have been made and it is now back in service. The new control valve #9 (VC#9), that controls water to the EWT and Essex Centre, has been installed and is now back in service as of May 20th.

The Manager informs the board that the WTP has switched coagulants again. He reminds them that as the water warms the aluminum residual tends to rise, hence the necessity to change coagulants. He confirms that this should be the case until October. He does confirm that the new coagulant is much more expensive and creates a lot more sludge, but reminds members that water quality is of utmost importance.

The new sodium hypochlorite injection pumps were installed at the Low Lift (LL). They are larger in size and will assist with zebra mussel control.

The Manager notes that the flows are down slightly over last year, but still up over the four (4) year average. He notes that the very wet Spring is a contributing factor.

The board asks the Manager about the pump changes that have occurred, and if there are any losses or down time that should be a concern. The Manager explains that there has never been a concern about one pump being off too long, as there are others to cover.

No. UW-30-19

Moved by: Councillor Patterson

Seconded by: Councillor Neufeld

That report UW/18/19 dated June 14, 2019 re: Status Update of the UWSS Operations & Maintenance Activities and Capital Works to June 14, 2019 is received.

Carried (UW/18/19)

Report UW/19/19 dated June 14, 2019 re: 2019 Energy Conservation Demand Management (CDM) Plan update for the UWSS Facilities

The Manager reviews his report on the 2019 Energy Conservation Demand Management (CDM) Plan. He explains that the CDM plan is currently in draft form, and doesn't like to ask to approve anything in draft, but he is looking for approval in principal. This is in order to get the CDM plan on to the website prior to the July 1st deadline.

The Manager briefly reviews the history of the CDM plan and the 2014 CDM that has been in place over the last five (5) years. He notes that UWSS facilities have had an energy reduction of 5-8% from the 2014 baseline. He further explains 2014 numbers to 2018 figures and notes although the amount of energy used has increased, this is due to the increase in water demand during that period. However, using a comparison of kilowatt hours per mega litre of water pump shows that energy consumption has decreased since 2014. .

Further explaining that new lights, valves that don't leak, variable speed pumps etc., have all added to UWSS energy reduction, as well as working with OCWA on other initiatives. The 2014 goals set out in that plan have been met.

The new goals set out in the new CDM plan will be more difficult to achieve, but UWSS will continue to work on them leading up to 2024. The Manager is considering solar energy to assist in achieving those goals. The battery storage has vastly improved in solar panels and he feels the timing is right to try this resource. He further notes that the UWSS has 3.5 acres of potential land to use for solar energy.

He further notes that the UWSS will continue to improve efficiencies in other areas such as the installation of another reservoir around the HL area, new pumps.

The Board asks if all the new investment in efficiencies is worth it financially. The Manager believes it is as this point. The Board also asks if the Province sets the numbers or if UWSS sets the target goals. The Manager confirms that the UWSS sets the targets, however, it should be noted that a water plant will always have energy use, and when it is hotter out and the WTP is pumping more water, that is generally the most expensive time of the day. There are limits as to how much energy the UWSS can conserve. The Manager also confirms that he will be working with an energy expert with regard to the impact of solar energy for the UWSS, and will bring any information back to the board.

No. UW-31-19

Moved by: Councillor Jacobs

Seconded by: Councillor Wilkinson

That the Union Water Supply System Joint Board of Management (UWSS Board) receives UWSS Report UW/19/19 Energy Conservation Demand Management (CDM) Plan Update for UWSS Facilities for information purposes; and

That the UWSS Board endorses in principle the goals of the draft Union Water Supply System Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan 2020-2024 Green Energy Act - Ontario Regulation 397/11 prepared by the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) for the Union Water Supply System.

Carried (UW/19/19)

Report UW/20/19 dated June 14, 2019 re: UWSS Secondary Disinfection Review

The Manager reminds members of the Board that the UWSS Ruthven WTP switched over from chloramination to free chlorine on June 4th of 2018. At that time it was to be a temporary switch, however, with approval of the MECP a one year approval was put in place. However, the Manager confirms that the switch to free chlorine will remain in place until December of 2019. This allows UWSS to collect data through all four seasons, which is helpful in determining the best course of action.

The Manager informs members that a meeting with all four (4) member municipalities took place in April 2019 to discuss the results thus far. So far there have been no real issues, other than a few taste/odor complaints. UWSS is working with the municipalities to determine where to install autoflushers.

He further explains the benefits to working with free chlorine, namely that it is easier to increase the residual when needed, easier to work with for the operators, and it is a more aggressive disinfectant. He notes that there is general support to moving to free chlorine on a permanent basis. However, there is also support to have a third party consultant review the data and determine their own conclusion.

The Manager explains that he has been working with Associated Engineering (AE) and he feels it is best to have a firm that understands the workings of the UWSS system. AE has provided a proposal to the UWSS for the work, which comes in at \$33,800. The Manager is asking for \$40,000 from reserves; the higher price is for an unexpected testing that may be required.

The Board also notes that the chloramination system was a costly system to put in many years ago and while some may like free chlorine more the Board does not want to go back to all the Boil Water Advisories (BWA) that were so frequent at one time. The Manager does not want to dispute what was done in the past, but wants to ensure that UWSS is moving forward in a beneficial way for the UWSS.

The Manager feels that this data collection and the third party consultant will provide a solid understanding of whether or not the switch to free chlorine will benefit the UWSS.

No. UW-32-19

Moved by: Councillor Walstedt

Seconded by: Councillor Dunn

That the Union Water Supply Joint Board of Management (UWSS Board) receives this report for information;

And further, that the Board approves a budget of \$40,000 to be funded from the 2019 UWSS Operations Reserve for the undertaking of the Secondary Disinfection evaluation and review;

And further, that the UWSS Board authorizes the UWSS General Manager to undertake a direct negotiation with Associated Engineering for the this work.

Carried (UW/20/19)

Report UW/21/19 dated June 14, 2019 re: Payments from May 10 to June 14, 2019

No. UW-33-19

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Verbeke

Seconded by: Councillor DeYong

That report UW/21/19 dated June 14, 2019 re: Payments from May 10 to June 14, 2019 is received.

Carried (UW/21/19)

New Business

The Board asks the Manager if the UWSS is prepared regarding any potential algae bloom in Lake Erie this year. The Manager notes that the UWSS and OCWA team are ready. There is continuous monitoring occurring and adjustments will be made if necessary. He confirms that the UWSS is still working with two (2) universities and he confirms that larger sodium pumps have been installed at the Low Lift to help address algae related issues.

The Board also asks whether it should consider the potential purchase of surrounding land, for any future needs. The Manager indicates that at this point there is plenty of land surrounding the UWSS that there is no concern about being land locked.

The Manager confirms that the UWSS and its municipal partners met to discuss the issue of Common Assets. All aspects of municipal administration were present and he feels that a plan to move forward has been identified. He is hoping to address the Common Asset issue within the restructuring framework that is taking place.

The Manager also confirms that the OCWA Operations Contract is being reviewed by the UWSS Legal Council and he is hoping to have a final version ready for the next meeting.

Adjournment:

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Queen

Seconded by: Councillor Jacobs

That the meeting adjourn at 9:43 am

Carried

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 31, 2019 at 9:00 am at the Ruthven Water Treatment Plant

/kmj