PUBLIC SPEAKERS

None

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

Roll Call of Members

The special board meeting of the Board of Directors of The Mattabassett District to discuss the Incinerator Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) fire was held Thursday, September 8, 2016, at the Administration Building. Chairman John Dunham called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present. Present from the Town of Cromwell were Directors Bonnie Anderson, Doug Sienna and Tom Tokarz. Present from the Town of Berlin were Directors John Dunham and James McNair. Present from the City of New Britain were Directors Peter Centurelli and Mary Marrocco. Present from the City of Middletown were Directors Dale Aldieri and David Bauer. Also present were Edward T. Lynch, Jr. – District Counsel, Arthur G. Simonian – Executive Director, Michelle Ryan – District Engineer, Brian Warman – Operations Manager, Bill Adkins – Maintenance Manager and David Stille – Incinerator Manager. Berlin Director Ed Kindelan, New Britain Directors Paul Catanzaro, Tonilynn Collins and Timothy Stewart and Middletown Directors Joseph Samolis and Tom Serra were absent. Also present was Therlin Montgomery from Wright-Pierce.

Incinerator GAC Fire Status

Executive Director, Arthur G. Simonian provided details of the Incinerator GAC fire that occurred at the plant on August 22, 2016 after a shut down for preventive maintenance. The Fire Department of Cromwell along with Middletown and Portland responded to the call. One of the causes being discussed is the high moisture content in the ambient air created an exothermic reaction which is a chemical reaction (not with a chemical itself) with moisture moving across the carbon bed creating heat through friction.

He discussed the technical issues with the repairs. The time period for the repairs (about 4-5 months) is due to the grid panels that need to be manufactured. Besides the panels there are interior walls that need to be fixed on site. The majority of the time necessary is procuring the parts and fabrication.

During our annual two week shut down for maintenance our outside sludge/solids merchants were diverted to another facility. Constituent sludges are stored on site with our tanks and processed with a filter cake prior to offsite transportation. The fire changed this process because we would potentially impact the quality ~~of the effluent water~~ going out to the Connecticut River both with increased nitrogen and total suspended solids and potentially other contaminants. Our ability to process sludge through our own system is limited since we are transporting to another facility thus creating backups into our effluent process.

Mr. Simonian stated the contractor is in the process of assessing the damage and starting the repair work. The challenge now is determining what regulatory authority we have to continue to burn our sludge. The CTDEEP diverted to the EPA for direction. The District had a conference

call with EPA and their legal counsel. They discussed operating under a Consent Order Agreement which is how other plants out of compliance are operating. This will not protect the District from fines penalties and possible litigation in the future. We are instead pursuing classification under the malfunction definition within the EPA regulations which will offer us the most protection. We will be exceeding the new Quad-L emissions but most likely be below other regulatory limits. We feel this is the most prudent course of action which offers the most protection for the environment while allowing partial sludge incineration during this period.

Mr. Bauer requested a simpler explanation of the extra thermic process and how this occurred in our incinerator. Mr. Simonian stated the investigation is in the fact finding phase. He is expecting a final report next week which he will share with the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Sienna moved to enter into Executive Session at 6:19 p.m. with District Counsel Ed Lynch, Executive Director Arthur G. Simonian and District Engineer Michelle Ryan to discuss potential claims and contractor liability issues associated with the Incinerator GAC fire.

Mr. Aldieri seconded the motion.

Discussion

RESOLVED: The motion was approved unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Bauer moved to return to regular session at 7:10 p.m.

Mr. Centurelli seconded the motion.

Discussion

RESOLVED: The motion was approved unanimously.

Adjournment

MOTION: Mr. McNair moved to adjourn.

Mr. Bauer seconded the motion.

RESOLVED: The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on **Tuesday, September 20, 2016** at **7:00 p.m.** in the Administration Building, Cromwell, Connecticut.