

**YADKIN VALLEY SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 9:00 a.m.**  
**YVSA Operations Center**

**THOSE PRESENT:**

**Directors:** Chairman Wayne Moore; Vice-Chair J. L. Lowe, Jr; Director Rheajean Bengé;

**Staff:** Executive Director Nicole Johnston; Administrative Assistant Susan White; Office Assistant Nikki Hembree; Collections Supervisor/ORC Alvin Hayes

**Also Present:** Hal Transou of Suez; Benjie Thomas of West Consultants; Attorney James Freeman; Secretary/Treasurer John W. Holcomb; Jonesville Town Manager Michael Pardue

**Absent:** Director Anita Darnell; Director Woody Faulk

**WELCOME**

Chairman Wayne Moore welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order with a quorum of three (3) directors present at 9:02 a.m.

**I. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Chairman Moore opened the public comment period for the meeting. Director Rheajean Bengé said a huge thank you for the card and prayers for her husband from YVSA. Chairman Moore closed the comment period.

**II. Consent Agenda**

**1. Tab A - Minutes of called Board Meeting on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

- Chairman Moore asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Called Board Meeting on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
  - ❖ This motion was made by Director Rheajean Bengé and seconded by Vice-Chair J. L. Lowe. The vote was three (3) to zero (0) in favor, with no discussion.

**2. Tab A – Minutes of Regular Board Meeting on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

- Chairman Moore asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
  - ❖ This motion was made by Director Rheajean Bengé and seconded by Vice-Chair J. L. Lowe. The vote was three (3) to zero (0) in favor, with no discussion.

**III. Action Items / Updates from Staff**

**1. Tab B - Executive Directors Update – Nicole Johnston**

**i. Operations Discussion**

- There was only (1) one reportable SSO in September:
- The SSO was on 9/14/17 at Claremont Drive and Woodlawn Drive in Elkin around Manhole # 823.
- The main cause was grease and it was about 150 gallons.

**ii. 2015 WWTP Improvements Project**

- The 2015 WWTP Project is underway at the treatment plant. The

- construction of the laboratory building should be beginning soon.
- WWTP staff along with YVSA staff have been documenting the construction process with pictures.

iii. **Civil Penalty Assessment for PGW**

- Staff has documentation of garnet residual present from their facility in to the Collections System at Candlewyck PS in Elkin from 2/17/17 through the present. For the past few weeks, staff has still been completing cleanings of the line every two weeks. The cleanings on 8/25/17 and 9/11/17 the residual debris collected was negligible. However, the cleaning for 10/5/17, staff found buildup garnet debris in their outgoing fiberglass manhole. We will still continue these cleanings to assure that PGW is correcting this noncompliance issue.
- PGW has been in violation of the following part of their IUP (Industrial User Permit) when the debris was found and collected.
  - Part 2 condition 8 of the IUP states the following: **“Solids, sludges, filter backwash, or other pollutants removed in the course of treatment or control of wastewaters shall be disposed of in a manner such as to prevent any pollutants from such materials entering the sewer system.”**
- A civil penalty assessment of \$20,000 was sent to PGW via certified mail on 10/9/17 in order for YVSA to maintain compliance with NCDEQ’s Pretreatment Program requirements. An invoice of \$5,280.00 was also included to provide payment to YVSA for the cleanings (which totals \$480.00 per cleaning for 11 cleanings from 2/17/17 through 10/5/17).

iv. **Project Update Meeting**

- A Project Update Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. Agenda items for the Update include the following:
  - a. Additional changes/comments needed for the By Laws.
  - b. Additional changes to the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan)- Per Benjie.
  - c. Updates on current ongoing projects- Per Benjie
  - d. Any other requests as provided from the Board of Directors.

2. **Weyerhaeuser Update – Gary Stainback**

- On September 20, 2017 Weyerhaeuser had a conference call with Suez, West Consultants, YVSA, and ProChem, regarding the most recent pilot test results and upcoming activities related to the Industrial User Permitting process for the Weyerhaeuser process discharge.
- The review of the latest three batches of pilot tests indicated improved stability and pollutant reduction through the use of hydrogen peroxide feed and UV treatment. However, during these pilot test, utilizing the established test protocol, the treated total cyanide continued to exceed the test and MOU cyanide limitation of 0.015mg/l In response to this latest elevated cyanide sample concentrations, it is our understanding

that Prochem prepared a composite of the latest three pilot batches and then processed this wastestream through the B-Pro System and hydrogen peroxide feed system three (3) times to then achieve a cyanide concentration below permitted levels. It is our understanding that this test also included the use of UV treatment rather than carbon treatment reported in earlier correspondence.

- During the meeting we discussed the details of the testing, results, and the direction that Weyerhaeuser would now pursue to confirm the latest pilot testing results and apply this treatment strategy in a full- scale application. We also questioned the potential for the proposed Weyerhaeuser Pretreatment RO discharge to have adverse corrosive effects to YVSA's collection system and treatment system. ProChem indicated during the meeting that the characteristics of this wastewater discharge would not have any adverse effects to the collection system or treatment system. Our understanding is that the final characteristics of the pretreated discharge along with the blending of the on-site domestic wastestream will mitigate any adverse effects. We would like to reiterate that this will be a very important design and operational criteria to consider for the full- scale application.
- While YVSA is encouraged by continued improvements with the pilot test process stability and further pollutant reduction, we have noted that the latest pilot test effort will need additional confirmation testing to demonstrate consistent compliance with regard to cyanide. This should include the following:
  - a. Confirm that the pilot treatment strategy for cyanide is repeatable through six (6) additional pilot test runs utilizing the engineer's prescribed test protocols (cyanide only).
  - b. Adjust the protocol to include the required amount of recycle through the B-Pro System and hydrogen peroxide feed as well as required use of the UV treatment system.
  - c. Confirm what changes this strategy will require in the construction design and full-scale implementation.
  - d. Confirm that multiple recycles of the wastestream are sustainable for day to day full scale operations.
  - e. Submit the six (6) additional cyanide results and any other pertinent findings to the YVSA for review.
  - f. As noted during the meeting, successful confirmation will depend on all six (6) cyanide results being below the concentration level of 0.015mg/l.
- With regard to the pending construction of the public sewer extension, we discussed during the meeting the fact that YVSA has an acceptable bid in hand from Gilbert Engineering Company but that the bid expired. However, Gilbert Engineering has communicated a willingness to hold their bid price at least through October 1, 2017, except for any increase in PVC pipe due to market volatility that has resulted from Hurricane Harvey. We reiterated during the meeting that, in accordance with the

MOU, YVSA cannot proceed with construction until the pretreatment system design is validated by testing and the final plans and specifications have been submitted. It was also mentioned that the contract time to complete the construction will be 10 months from the time construction begins.

**3. Tab C - Engineer's Update- Benjie Thomas –**

**A. Sewer Improvements to Serve PGW (EDA, IDF, and REDD/DOC funded)**

- Construction is complete. Final EDA grant payment has been received. The remaining funds to be spent by YVSA to meet the match requirements of the EDA/ARC grants is \$130,935.26, of which 43.5% comes from the EDA/ARC funds received from EDA. The remainder would come from YVSA. Items the funds should be spent on:
- Candlewyck PS Rehab Project (Gilbert Eng. Bid \$20,815)
- Restoration of properties (Eidson, Gaddis, Sellars)
- Improve the ditch along the driveway to Little Dutchman PS where erosion is starting to undermine the new pavement.
- Possibly add a davit crane/hoist at Candlewyck PS or Little Dutchman PS or both.
- Any I/I rehab still needed in the Little Dutchman PS sewershed.

**B. Sewer Extension for Weyerhaeuser (Surry County, GLF, IDF, and ARC funded)**

- The pretreatment system design by Weyerhaeuser's engineers is not yet complete. Refer to comments by Gary Stainback.
- The low bidder, Gilbert Engineering, agreed to extend its bid price until October 1, 2017 except that PVC pipe price increases would have to be passed on.
- TVA is continuing to administer ARC funds but needs the project to move forward very soon.
- Surry County requested a time extension with Golden LEAF of November 30, 2018. Golden LEAF indicated 9/30/18 can probably be approved.

**C. 2015 WWTP Upgrades (CWSRF funded)**

- The formation of the clarifier wall continues. Concrete pours for the wall will continue throughout October. The floor was built 20" lower than shown on the plans. This costs the Contractor more time and materials but will not be detrimental to the function of the clarifier.
- The lab building foundation was delayed due to longer-than-expected work on the clarifier concrete.
- WWTP contract is 29% complete.
- Effluent Line Rehab (Insituform) - Complete but additional CCTV may reveal more rehab needed. It is going to be camera inspected to see if further work needs to be done.

**D. 2017 WWTP Improvements Project (CWSRF funded)**

- \$966,000 (50% Grant)

- The Engineering & Environmental report has been approved and preliminary design is underway. The next DWI milestone is to Submit a bid and design package by May 1, 2018.

**E. 2017 Collection System Rehabilitation Project (WWSR funded)**

- \$2,645,500 (75% grant)
- The Engineering report has been approved and preliminary design is underway. The next DWI milestone is to submit a bid design package by May 1, 2018.
- Surveying for the Orangeburg pipes serving the Cherry St area continues. Surveying for replacing the orangeburg pipe on Pruitt St has been completed, though not part of the approved or budgeted work.
- An agreement with Jaamco was signed and they have scheduled the CCTV inspection and cleaning work to begin 10/23/17.
- Regarding YVSA providing water for the CCTV work cleaning, Jonesville is requiring an account to be set up from which to be billed for the water used. Water purchased from Jonesville is reimbursable using grant/loan funds.

**F. North Bridge Street CCTV Investigations**

- The additional CCTV inspections completed by KRG are being reviewed. Any new repairs will be incorporated with the previous repair plan that was completed. The worst areas will more than likely be the first to be reviewed, that will keep the cost down.

**4. Tab D – Financial update- John Holcomb**

- There is about \$908,000 in the bank as of 10/9/17.
- There is one debt payment of \$47,000 for equipment purchases, it will be paid off early.
- The audit will be finished soon, and there will be more accurate information on the budget.
- Payments from the towns are all coming in on time.

**IV. Legal Update - James Freeman-**

- James has been working on an easement with Benjie Thomas on the East Wilkes Pump Station.

➤ Chairman Moore asked for a motion to go into **Closed Session Discussion pursuant to N. C. G. S. §143-318.11 (a)(6)**

- ❖ This motion was made by Director Rheajeane Bengé and seconded by Director J. L. Lowe.

➤ After discussion, Director Rheajeane Bengé ask for a motion to bring the Board out of Closed Session.

- ❖ This motion was made by Director Rheajeane Bengé and seconded by Vice Chair J. L. Lowe. The vote was three (3) to zero (0), in favor with no discussion.

**V. RECESSED**

- Director Rheajeane Bengé ask for a motion to recess the meeting to 9:00 a.m. on November 14, 2017, for a Regular Board Meeting.
  - ❖ This motion was made by Director Rheajeane Bengé and seconded by Vice- Chair J. L. Lowe. The vote was three (3) to zero (0) in favor, with no discussion.

**The next meeting of the YVSA will be held on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the YVSA Operations Center.**

Respectfully Submitted By:

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Nikki Hembree  
Office Assistant

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Wayne Moore  
Chairman of the Board

Attest:

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John W. Holcomb  
Secretary/Treasurer