

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 11, 2011

Committee Members Present: Chair Peggy Leppik, Polly Bowles, Craig Peterson, Roger Scherer, Lynette Wittsack, Daniel Wolter, Wendy Wulff

Committee Members Absent: Kirstin Beach

There not being a quorum, Committee Chair Leppik called on staff to present the first information item, "**Update on the Construction Cooperation Agreement with the City of Minneapolis.**" Bill Moeller, Interceptor Services Assistant General Manager, and Scott Dentz, Interceptor Engineering Manager, reminded the committee that when item 2010-323 had been presented to the committee, questions arose as to the bidding process and the City of Minneapolis' practice of performing the work itself. At that time, the committee approved the item with the stipulation that Council staff look at alternatives to ensure a competitive bidding process. Staff has proposed that line item pricing will be included in the bid documents for construction work for the Council's forcemain. Prices will be obtained from prospective bidders, and the city may do the work at the low bid price, or have the Council contractor to perform the work. The language has been forwarded to the City, and business item 2010-323 will be brought to the full Council for action on January 26, 2011.

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Leppik called the regular meeting of the Council's Environment Committee to order at 9:40 a.m. on Tuesday, January 11, 2011.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Wolter, seconded by Wittsack, to approve the agenda and the minutes of the December 14, 2010 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **The motion carried.**

BUSINESS

2011-15 City of Willernie 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update, Review No. 20454-1, Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan

It was moved by Wolter, seconded by Wittsack, that the Metropolitan Council approve the City of Willernie's Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan.

Motion carried.

2011-16 Authorization to Negotiate and Execute Amendment to Construction Cooperation Agreement with City of Carver, MCES Project No. 803180, Contract No. 07I019

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Bowles, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to Construction Cooperation Agreement with City of Carver, MCES Project No. 803810, Contract No. 07I019.

Motion carried.

2011-17 Authorization to Negotiate and Execute Contracts 10P224B and 10P224C for Full Service Interceptor Architectural / Engineering Services

It was moved by Wittsack, seconded by Peterson, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute MCES Contract No. 10P224B with TKDA for \$500,000 and Contract No. 10P224C with Foth International for \$500,000, each contract for full service interceptor architectural/engineering services.

Motion carried

2011-18 Authorization to Hold Public Meeting to Gather Public Input on Revisions to the Waste Discharge Rules

It was moved by Wittsack, seconded by Bowles, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes staff to hold a public meeting to solicit public comment on proposed revisions to the Waste Discharge Rules (WDR) for the Metropolitan Disposal System (MDS).

Motion carried.

INFORMATION

1. Update on the Construction Cooperation Agreement with the City of Minneapolis (Business Item 2010-323)

See above.

2. Infiltration/Inflow Grant Program Status

Jason Willett, ES Finance Director, informed the committee that a blanket waiver has been received from Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB), so the grant program can go forward. 25 applications were received. After reviewing the applications, staff determined that the cities are eligible for \$2.6 million out of the \$3 million available. Agreements will be signed in February and March. With monies remaining, it is possible a second round will be done in the fall. If there is demand for a lot more money, MetroCities will ask the legislature in 2012 for additional appropriation.

3. Wastewater Capital Financing Update

Jason Willett reported that \$65 million Council Build America Bonds (BAB) have been sold for wastewater funding. This will fund project expenses that are not eligible to be funded out of PFA and for projects the Council has approved in the capital budgeting process. Funds are projected to last about 14-18 months. PFA loan for \$70 million will close 1/13/2011, with an interest rate of 1.77%. PFA loan will provide about 60% of wastewater capital project spending, and is projected to last about 12-16 months. Reviewed MCES outstanding debt, debt service, and 2011 planned refunding.

4. Update on East Bethel

Bryce Pickart, Technical Services Assistant General Manager, reviewed recent history on the East Bethel wastewater treatment facility and interceptor sewer project. The PCA permit was received in October for the first phase of the work, and agreements between the city and council were recently executed. East Bethel proceeded with the first phase of its utility project, selling bonds in November 2011, and awarded a construction contract for their water treatment system and our contract. A Notice to Proceed was issued in December. Pickart explained that all of this was done under previous administration. The November election resulted in a new mayor and a change in the membership of the city council. The new

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administration is not intending to proceed with work, and issued order to suspend the engineering and construction contracts. The city intends to look at its options before making a decision to postpone or cancel the project. Pickart informed the environment committee that the Council will send a letter to the City of East Bethel, asking them to advise us of their intent since it has suspended the joint construction contract. If the city terminates the project, the council expects reimbursement of \$2 million it has expended to date.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

William G. Moore reported that the Council is submitting comments on the Pollution Control Agency's proposed renewal of a NPDES/SDS permit to 3M for its Cottage Grove Plant.

He also reported that the Council has successfully met NPDES permit limits for 47 consecutive months.

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Harder
Recording Secretary