

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

Committee Members Present: Chair Sandy Rummel, John Đoàn, Harry Melander, Edward Reynoso, Lona Schreiber, Gary Van Eyll, Vice-Chair Wendy Wulff

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Rummel called the regular meeting of the Council's Environment Committee to order at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 22, 2011.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Melander, seconded by Wulff, to approve the agenda. **The motion carried.**

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Schreiber, to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2011 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **The motion carried.**

ORIENTATION

Overview of Metropolitan Council Environmental Services

William Moore, Environmental Services (ES) General Manager, provided an overview of the Environmental Services Division, and referred members to the publication "*About MCES*," which was included in their packets for this meeting. The ES org chart was reviewed, and Mr. Moore introduced ES department heads to the committee. The award-winning video of ES history and operations was shown.

Draft Environment Committee Work Plan

Moore discussed routine functions of the committee, key policy issues, and the plan for presenting orientation information to the committee over the next few months.

Council Member Đoàn asked about the process for rate setting. Moore explained it is done annually; cities would like our rates set by August so they can set their budgets.

BUSINESS

2011-74 Authorization to Award and Execute Construction Contract 10P052-A for Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant Primary Settling Tanks Sludge Collection System Improvements, Biofilter Access Addition, and Liquid Waste Receiving Tunnel Access, MCES Projects 805920, 805942 and 805951

It was moved by Melander, seconded by Wulff, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to award and execute a Construction Contract for Metro Plant Primary Settling Tanks Sludge Collection System Improvements, Biofilter Access Addition & Liquid Waste Receiving Tunnel Access; MCES Projects No. 805920, 805942 & 805951, Contract No. 10P052-A, with Rice Lake Construction Group in the amount of \$3,071,600. **Placed on Council Consent Agenda.**

2011-75 Authorization to Reject All Bids for Construction of the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant Double Barrel Interceptor Improvements, MCES Project No. 805960, Contract No. 10P257

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Schreiber, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to reject all bids for construction of the MWWTP Double Barrel Interceptor Improvements, MCES Project No. 805960, Contract No. 10P257.

Motion carried. *Placed on Council Consent Agenda.*

2011-76 Authorization to Award and Execute Contract 10P220 for Construction of 1-MW-413 Interceptor Rehabilitation, MCES Project Number 807000

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Đoàn, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute a construction contract for 1-MW-413 Interceptor Rehabilitation, Project No. 807000, Contract No. 10P220, with Michels Corporation for their low bid of \$2,928,999.

Motion carried. *Placed on Council Consent Agenda.*

2011-77 Authorization for Sole Source Procurement from Electric Machinery for Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) Parts

It was moved by Melander, seconded by Wulff, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to procure Electric Machinery drives and controllers and original equipment manufacturer (OEM) replacement parts on a sole source basis from Electric Machinery (Converteam) for all wastewater treatment facilities. This is for an amount not to exceed \$375,000 over a five-year period

Motion carried. *Placed on Council Consent Agenda.*

INFORMATION

Flood Update

Leisa Thompson, ES Deputy General Manager, briefed the committee on the flood preparations and flood forecast.

Council Member Reynoso asked how often we have had to construct the road, and why not consider building a permanent road. Thompson explained there have been four floods in 18 years and none 28 years prior to that. A permanent connection would be more costly than the temporary measures taken during a flood event. The City of Saint Paul owns the road, and major rerouting would be required.

William Moore, General Manager, said the previous Council approved an emergency declaration to authorize expenditures for flood preparations, which Moore estimated could be \$500,000-\$600,000, most of which may be eligible for reimbursement from FEMA.

East Bethel Update

Bryce Pickart, Assistant General Manager of Technical Services, explained that this is a proposed facility serving East Bethel in northern Anoka County. The facility will include a water reclamation plant. Pickart reviewed the project timeline and recent events. The city approached the Council several years ago about the Council providing the city's wastewater service. In 2010, the city and council entered into a construction cooperation and cost sharing agreement. The 2010 election resulted in a new mayor and city council members who opposed the sewer project, and the city suspended construction contracts. After hiring a consultant to evaluate risks of proceeding with project versus ending it, the city decided to proceed with sewer and water lines. Easements are being acquired, and construction will begin soon. Final design is underway for wastewater treatment and

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reuse. It is expected that a construction contract will go out for bids in Fall 2011, with completion of the project in 2013.

Council Member Reynoso commented that he is looking forward to working with council staff and the community to move forward on projects that are good for the region.

Introduction to MCES Finance and Budgets -- Postponed due to time constraints

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Bill Moore informed the committee that as of February, Environmental Services has achieved 49 consecutive months of effluent limit compliance.

The Environment Committee discussed changing the start time of their meetings. Committee members agreed to change the time of the meeting from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Staff will prepare a business item and resolution for Council action.

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Harder
Recording Secretary