

**TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 18, 2024**

WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mr. Glen S. Searle, Commissioner
Mr. Scott Ellis, Commissioner
Mr. Walter A. Morrison, Chairman

EWWD STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. William G. Burke, Facilities Manager
Ms. Cristina Zghibarta, Department Assistant
Mr. Joe Rock, Chief Operator

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Daniel O. Roop, PE, Project Manager, Tighe & Bond
Mr. Ian B. Catlow, Vice-president, Tighe & Bond
Mr. Brian Kiely, PE, Project Manager, Tighe and Bond

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in the Program Room at the Edgartown Public Library, 26 West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, Mass. At 3:00 p.m. Chairman Walter A. Morrison called the meeting to order. Also present from the Board were Waste Water Commissioner Scott Ellis and Commissioner Glen S. Searle.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update: CIP projects, Tighe & Bond – Dan Roop

Dan Roop, Tighe & Bond, project manager gave an update on CIP projects. After a period of two months of use, the rental unit, Schwing Screw Press, has not been meeting with the Synagro's standard of 17% solids. During that time three containers were shipped and the percentage was consistently below 17%. A discussion between the Board, the facility manager, and Tighe & Bond engineers followed.

The first two containers were processed when the start-up technician from Schwing was on sight and overseeing staff training of the screw press and supervising the entire dewatering process. Frequent samples were taken during the training period and the average solids content for the first two containers was estimated to be about 23% solids. The third container was processed after the Schwing technician had left and the feedstock was inadvertently left in the storage tank for an extended period without aeration, which explained the low solids. The plant staff had grown increasingly suspicious about Synagro's testing protocol, as reported by the roll-off truck driver, and is wary about the reported results. Mr. Burke explained that he had been informed by the Synagro client manager that their testing results were above suspicion and any contestation of their lab procedures or results would terminate their contract with the Town. Mr. Burke and Mr. Rock were currently endeavoring to find alternative disposal sites for the plant's sludge and had preliminary discussions with two composting firms. It was further stated by Mr. Burke that low solids would persist until the plant had returned to a normal mixed liquor concentration and regular wasting reduced the excessive amounts of filaments in the mixed liquor. Ian Catlow mentioned that the Facility may need a bigger screw press if the Plant sees a bigger wastewater flow volume in the future, after collection system expansion. Dan Roop presented two similar units with a slight size difference to the Board. Investing in properly sized and larger machine can certainly pay off in the long run, as it can improve efficiency, reduce costs, and enhance the overall quality of the work being done he explained. Ian Catlow presented the proposed plan for the engineered installation of the screw press to the Board, including layouts and the space to be used for installation. After examining the proposed plans, the Board has agreed to opt for current equipment. Further discussions will continue. Brian Kiely, gave an update on Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan. He presented a draft map to the Board that helped analyze the areas ranked according to level of needs in decreasing order. According to Tighe & Bond, an engineering analysis based on environmental factors, the primary areas that need public sewer connections are in the Ocean Heights areas, which begins with properties surrounding Edgartown Harbor continuing west to Sengekontacket Pond. The Board agreed with Tighe and Bond's assumptions that the main target for sewer connection would be the Ocean Heights areas. Mr. Morrison, the Chairman, suggested the proposal needs to be brought to the Town Administrator's attention. A sum of \$3.1 million dollars to prepare the preliminary design of an Ocean Heights collection system, return effluent disposal sites with possible permeable reactive barriers sites was suggested. Chairman Morrison requested that a proposal from Tighe and Bond be provided and a request for funding be delivered to the Town Manager for inclusion as a warrant article in the Annual Town Meeting.

Discuss: Wastewater Regulations – Incremental increase in Fines

The Board continued to discuss the current wastewater rules and regulations, specifically the penalties in Article VIII, and the potential of increasing the current fine of (\$20.00) per each violation. Currently the Operator, and other duly authorized employees of the Town, bearing proper credentials and identification, shall be permitted to enter all properties for the purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, and testing in accordance with the provisions of rules and regulations. Any person found to be violating Wastewater rules shall be served by the Town with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. The Board proposed to amend up to a maximum amount of **\$5,000.00 for each day of a violation of a rule or regulation**. Chairman, Mr. Morrison made a motion on the following fine schedule:

- *For One (1) to Thirty Days (30) – a fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) for each violation.*

- *For Thirty-One (31) to Sixty Days (60) – a fine of up to twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2500.00) for each violation.*
 - *For Sixty-One (61) to Ninety Days (90) – a fine of up to five thousand dollars (\$5000.00) for each violation.*
 - *For violations exceeding Ninety Days (91 or more days) – maximum fine of five thousand dollars (\$5000.00) for each violation or Termination of Service.*
- Commissioner Ellis seconded. Unanimous.

Facilities Manager’s Reports

Mr. Burke, Facility Manager reported that new staff members will be joining the Wastewater Department in a week or so. Mr. Rock, Chief Operator, reported that FREA has been working on the Scada project and that the issues have been resolved by repairing the screw drive motor. Additionally, the doors of the influent room have been repaired. Zavian Brown, a new operator, was also praised for showing dedication and discipline. The Operators responded to the storm damage caused on Chase Rd., Dock St., Dunham Rd., pump stations. Throughout December month the staff members attended various training sessions to complete TCH requirements for Wastewater license renewal.

Financial Report

On the “FY24 Operating Budget Expenditures as of January 18, 2024” report, Department Assistant Zghibarta Cristina pointed to the \$50,325. in “surplus unspent” Expenditures funds. With more big invoices being processed through the Operating Budget, this amount would diminish rapidly. More projects are following to be expended from the Town Article funds. Throughout the month of December, Cristina Zghibarta, the Administrative Assistant, attended training on Munis functionality to increase efficiency and prepare for the new billing cycle.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

On a motion by Chairman Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Searle, the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 21, 2023** were approved unanimously by voice vote. On a motion by Chairman Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Searle, the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 19, 2023** were approved unanimously by voice vote. On a motion by Chairman Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Ellis, the **Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 26, 2023** were approved unanimously by voice vote. On a motion by Chairman Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Ellis, the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 02, 2023** were approved unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting, which Commissioner Ellis seconded; the motion carried. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 4.50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cristina Zghibarta

Department Assistant

APPROVED:

BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

Walter A. Morrison, Chairman

Scott Ellis, Commissioner

Glen S. Searle, Commissioner