

**GREEN BAY METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT**  
**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSION**

Special meeting of the Commission held October 5, 2009.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Alesch, Mainz, Zabel, and Scheberle

**EXCUSED:** Commissioner Hasselblad

**ALSO PRESENT:** T. Sigmund, P. McCarthy, D. Busch, P. Kaster, J. Christ, T. Woodworth, J. Kennedy, M. Pierner, W. Angoli, J. Czypinski, D. Cawley, B. Vander Loop, D. Lefebvre, L. Evenson, M. Erschnig, J. Van Sistine, J. Nicks–Legal Counsel; R. Van Den Heuvel–Eco Fibre; K. Pabich–City of De Pere

Commission President Alesch called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**1) Review of Eco Fibre Special Order and operating proposal.**

T. Sigmund stated that Eco Fibre is requesting permission to start up its facility in De Pere. He stated the Amendment would provide some relief to Eco Fibre for compliance with the Special Order. He reported Eco Fibre is changing its process and has another suitor interested in purchasing the facility that would significantly expand the facility.

Commissioner Alesch asked if the new process would bring Eco Fibre’s discharge back into compliance. R. Van Den Heuvel, President of Eco Fibre responded its wastewater discharge would meet BOD and temperature requirements through January 31, 2010.

Commissioner Mainz asked if Eco Fibre and Fox River Fiber would depend on each other. P. McCarthy replied the industries are mostly independent. He stated Fox River Fiber currently discharges its wastewater into the Ninth Street Interceptor until the mill waste force main is operational. Fox River Fiber’s wastewater discharge must be in accordance with GBMSD standards of 20 ppm average and 40 ppm peak hydrogen sulfide concentrations in the sewer vapor phase. Eco Fibre is also required to comply with GBMSD standards. The two facilities could share the cost of the additional chemicals necessary to maintain these standards. Separate costs were used in the CH2M Hill model.

Commissioner Mainz asked if GBMSD will have an agreement with Eco Fibre. P. McCarthy replied no. He stated Fox River Fiber is working cooperatively with GBMSD staff and we anticipate the same level of cooperation with Eco Fibre.

R. Van Den Heuvel stated that since last September Eco Fibre has been working with some companies on a new process of recycling poly coated cups, beverage cartons, and similar waste materials that are currently land filled.

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R. Van Den Heuvel reported the poly coated materials would be recycled and used to make furniture and produce a poly based fuel. He stated the new pulp is brighter and uses less water and BOD. He reported more water is needed when mill production is at 120 tons per day. He stated Eco Fibre is completely open to GBMSD and will add any required chemicals, but would prefer not to add too many chemicals. The new process would use 60 – 70% less water, electricity, and natural gas. He stated that he has three prospective buyers and the sale of the mill facilities would provide new jobs and bring in \$276 million in new capital to this area.

Commissioner Alesch asked if Eco Fibre is changing its process in order to be in compliance with the Special Order. R. Van Den Heuvel replied yes. He stated BOD levels might be slightly higher, but in compliance.

Commissioner Mainz stated the Amendment to Special Order was drafted by Joe Nicks and asked if Eco Fibre has agreed to sign it. R. Van Den Heuvel answered yes. He stated the interested buyer will not be able to run the facility without construction of a new pipeline to the treatment facility. He stated that Eco Fibre will run independent of this facility.

Ken Pabich, Director of Planning and Economic Development for De Pere stated that Eco Fibre is an important tenant in its industrial park. The City of De Pere is concerned about the future use of this facility for future economy. The City of De Pere supports the Amendment to Special Order Regarding Eco Fibre, which would be in the best interest of the City and an economic avenue for providing jobs.

Commissioner Mainz stated that he applauds the efforts that staff has taken to work with Eco Fibre to get its facility back on line.

J. Nicks stated the Amendment to Special Order Regarding Eco Fibre requires Ron Van Den Heuvel's signature and will serve as an agreement between GBMSD and Eco Fibre. He stated that this is not a stay and the Amendment tracks the operation of Eco Fibre and requires Eco Fibre to comply with flow and loading requirements. The Amendment delegates responsibility to the Executive Director to protect the physical well being of public health.

#### **Motion #09-118**

It was moved by Mainz, seconded by Scheberle, and unanimously agreed to approve the Amendment to Special Order Regarding Eco Fibre, Inc.

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#### 2) Request Commission approval of a salary market adjustment.

J. Christ reported Enetrix, formerly Carlson Dettmann Associates, completed a more extensive research on market trends to ascertain current pay strategies in light of the current economy. Staff recommends a 1.5% pay and structure adjustment for 2010 to maintain salaries at market.

Commissioner Alesch asked how the increased 2010 health insurance premiums and 1.5% market adjustment would impact employees' pay. J. Christ will provide the Commission with that information.

Commissioner Scheberle stated that she thinks a 1.5% pay increase is reasonable and would support it.

Commissioner Zabel asked what the total budget impact would be. J. Christ will provide the Commission with that information.

Commissioner Alesch suggested staff continue to budget for a 1.5% market adjustment and the Commission will discuss it at the next meeting.

#### 3) Budget workshop.

T. Sigmund gave an overview of the proposed 2010 budget, as follows:

- History
- Priorities
- Budget challenges
- Flows and loads
- Operation and maintenance costs
- Expenses
- Staffing needs
- Capital projects
- Strategic investment objectives
- Revenues
- Reserve funds
- Municipal rate compared to CPI and NACWA
- Budget recommendations

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There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

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Secretary