

July 18, 2011

A regular meeting of the Wastewater Operations Committee of Novato Sanitary District was held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, July 18, 2011, at the District Office, 500 Davidson Street, Novato.

MEMBERS PRESENT: NSD Board Members Michael Di Giorgio and Dennis Welsh.

STAFF PRESENT: Beverly James, Manager-Engineer
Sandeep Karkal, Deputy Manager-Engineer
Steve Krauthem, Field Services Superintendent
June Brown, Administrative Services Manager
John Bailey, Project Manager, Veolia Water
Lynda Rodefer, Administration, Veolia Water

ALSO PRESENT: Brant Miller, Novato resident

AGENDA APPROVAL: Board Member Di Giorgio approved the agenda as mailed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Board Member Di Giorgio approved the minutes of the June 20, 2011 Wastewater Operations Committee meeting.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT FOR JUNE 2011:

Project Manager John Bailey, Veolia Water, reviewed the monthly operations report for June 2011. He stated there were no NPDES permit exceedances, violations or excursions at the facility during June. He stated that the treatment plant had performed very well for the month of June.

Key events at the Novato facility included transition from Bay discharge to Reclamation on June 1, 2011. Discharge was switched back to the Bay on June 14, 2011 until July 1, 2011, with permission from the Regional Board, due to high water levels in storage. The gravity belt thickener was repaired under warranty by Ashbrook Representative and staff.

Board Member Di Giorgio asked about the status of the Turblex blowers. Mr. Bailey responded that he will be meeting with representatives of the manufacturer. The vibration is in the motor and the assembly is under warranty.

Mr. Bailey noted congratulations are in order for Plant Operators Dean Heffelfinger and Christian Williams on receiving their Grade III Operator Certification.

Mr. Bailey discussed the odor complaint log and noted that three odor complaints were received from residents. Daily Jerome readings were performed in the neighborhood and in the plant, and Summa canisters were provided to two neighbors on Lea Drive.

Board Member Welsh asked if odor complaints are usually received from the same residents. Mr. Bailey responded that 4 or 5 households seem to be most affected and he explained the measures that have been undertaken to improve the situation.

Manager Beverly James added that the landscaping between the plant and the adjoining neighborhood is proceeding somewhat slowly because of standing water in some areas. It will be completed later in the summer when conditions are dry.

Mr. Bailey continued with the key events at the facility, giving a construction update as well as an update of the current safety training that Veolia employees participate in.

COLLECTION SYSTEM OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REPORT FOR MAY 2011:

Sandeep Karkal, Deputy Manager-Engineer, discussed the Collections System Monthly Report for June 2011. He stated that the Collections System spent 53% of its time on sewer maintenance and 47% on pump station maintenance. There were no stoppages and no sewer system overflows for the month. He stated that the Collections System crews cleaned a total of 56,969 feet of pipeline in the month of June.

RECLAMATION FACILITY:

Steve Krauthem, Field Services Superintendent, gave a summary report of the Reclamation Facilities. He reported that the rancher was getting the hay off the ground in June but cutting was severely impacted and baling delayed due to rains. He discussed the irrigation systems, noting that an extremely large leak was found in Site 3 which flooded 10 acres.

Board Member Welsh asked if there are still low spots on Site 7. Steve responded that some of the sites are intended to be rehabbed but the situation has actually improved a little. He then explained problems with control boxes shorting out due to insect and small animal infiltration.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Committee, Member Di Giorgio adjourned the meeting at 2:34 p.m.