

May 16, 2011

A regular meeting of the Wastewater Operations Committee of Novato Sanitary District was held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, May 16, 2011, at the District Office, 500 Davidson Street, Novato.

MEMBERS PRESENT: NSD Board Members Michael Di Giorgio and George Quesada. Member Quesada was present at 2:05 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT: Beverly James, Manager-Engineer
Sandeep Karkal, Deputy Manager-Engineer
John Bailey, Project Manager, Veolia Water
John O'Hare, Veolia Water
Lynda Rodefer, Administration, Veolia Water
Tim O'Connor, Collection Systems Superintendent
June Brown, Administrative Services Manager

ALSO PRESENT: John Coleman, Novato resident

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Member Di Giorgio approved the minutes of the April 18, 2011 Wastewater Operations Committee meeting.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT FOR APRIL 2011:

Project Manager John Bailey, Veolia Water, reviewed the monthly operations report for April 2011. He stated there were no NPDES permit exceedances, violations or excursions at the facility during April.

Key events at the Novato facility included the repair of a mixer failure at Digester #1; aluminum gates ordered to replace heavy stainless gates at aeration basins; decant pump station off for the week of April 18th for chronic toxicity study; clarifier #1 removed from service for the dry season; Bay Area Air Quality Control Board on site on April 4th to test odor detection equipment; and regular odor patrol in the Lea Drive/McClelland area.

Member Di Giorgio asked if the source of odors has been traced yet. Deputy Manager-Engineer Sandeep Karkal responded that the odors are showing up at what is considered below threshold, low level odors. Efforts are continuing to determine what odors occur that are being carried offsite.

The Manager-Engineer added that last week an odor complaint was received that coincided with the time a Vactor truck was being connected to empty its load. She stated that such instances will sometimes be experienced that have nothing to do with odor beds. The aeration basins are not covered or scrubbed but that odor is generally not considered objectionable. If that does become an issue the only solution is to enclose the aeration basins in a building and odor scrubbed which is not typically done.

Member Di Giorgio asked about approval of the Wastewater Operations Report at Board level and suggested that the monthly report be an item accepted by the Board rather than just informational.

Mr. Bailey continued with the key events at the Ignacio facility. Of note was that the flash mixer at the Dechlorination Station was pulled. There was a break-in on April 29th at Ignacio and a police report was filed. No District or Veolia property is missing. However, miscellaneous items belonging to the contractor appear to have been taken.

Mr. Bailey also gave a construction update, Standard Operating Procedures review and development, and discussed Veolia's safety and training schedule for the month of April. No safety incidents occurred.

The first electronic self-monitoring report was submitted to the Regional Board in April for the month of March.

Mr. Bailey discussed the provided graphs that showed plant flow, influent load BOD TSS, effluent BOD TSS concentration, BOD TSS percent removal, ammonia concentration, and effluent disinfection.

189 work orders were closed in April, 174 of which were preventative. 86 work orders were outstanding as of May 1st.

The Manager-Engineer reported that a newsletter would be mailed to all residents in the near future that will include a report to the public on how the treatment plant is performing. Member Di Giorgio agreed this is a good idea and suggested comparing statistics for 2009 with current statistics.

COLLECTION SYSTEM OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REPORT FOR APRIL 2011:

Tim O'Connor, Collections System Superintendent, discussed the Collections System Monthly Report for April 2011. He stated that the Collections System operated with the equivalent of 3.3 full time field workers due to vacations, holidays, sick leave and industrial leave. He noted that 63% of their time was spent on sewer maintenance

and 37% on pump station maintenance. He stated that the Collections System crews cleaned a total of 46,971 feet of pipeline in the month of April.

Mr. O'Connor stated that approximately 207 lift station inspections were conducted for the month. There was one sanitary sewer overflow for the month at 200 Posada Del Sol on April 11th, resulting in a spill of approximately 60 gallons. The overflow was attributed to a trailing root mass that accumulated grease, etc. Mr. O'Connor stated that the line was previously on a 60 month cleaning frequency and now has been scheduled to a 12 month frequency. It was noted that spills average approximately 1.8 per 100 miles of sewer line.

Member Quesada asked if the District experiences many root masses creating sewer blockages. Mr. O'Connor responded that root intrusion into clay pipe systems is a problem and he explained the method of removing roots in the system.

The Manager-Engineer added that the District is working on replacing or re-lining the clay pipe system and is spending approximately \$2 million a year on rehabilitating the collection system. Incidents of root clogging from lateral cleaning are decreasing.

RECYCLING FACILITY:

The Manager-Engineer gave a preliminary report as irrigation is just starting up at the end of winter. Because of late rains it may be necessary to request an extension of the discharge period. The irrigation pump station had a relay failure but will be in working order as soon as the weather permits irrigation.

In response to a question by Member Quesada regarding pasture rehabilitation, the Deputy Manager-Engineer reported that two pastures each year are rehabilitated and re-graded.

The Manager reported that the driving range lease agreement is at a point where attorneys for both parties have reviewed the agreement and the County has reviewed the lease between the District and the Marin County Flood Control District. Board of Supervisors approval of the lease agreement is pending City of Novato verification that the owners of Stonetree Golf Course have complied with City conditions.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Committee, Member Di Giorgio adjourned the meeting at 2:47 p.m.