

**TRI-TOWN JOINT REVIEW COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 15, 2024**  
**10:00 AM-11:00 AM**  
**MS Teams**

In attendance: Bruce Hoar, Chelsea Mandigo, Jess Morris, Annie Costandi, Regina Mahony, Kendall Chamberlin, Randy Bean (consultant)

- 1. Draft meeting minutes from February 15, 2024 approval**
  - a. Bruce made a motion to accept the minutes as drafted, Annie second. Approved.
- 2. High Strength waste surcharge policy**
  - a. Discussion occurred around the BOD allocation/community.
    - i. Allocate the pounds of BOD and not the concentration (mg/L)
    - ii. Group decided to wait until we updated numbers from Aldrich & Eliott modeling program.
  - b. Discussion occurred around how to hold high strength waste producers responsible for sampling and not haulers show up to dump at WWTF without notice. Sentence added to policy.
  - c. General comments to continue to finalize the policy were discussed
- 3. Tri-town Allocation policy**
  - a. Discussion occurred around forming a policy for allocation of flow so that each community uses same gpd
    - i. All communities use the State of Vermont Environmental Protection rules
  - b. Annie and Chelsea will research surrounding communities and put together a summary of how the policies differ and draft for the August meeting
- 4. Digester update**
  - a. The digester has recovered temperature. It was below certifiable temperature for 33 days with the lowest being 31 C (87.8 F)
  - b. Continue to have volatile acid to alkalinity ratio and higher pH
  - c. Changed how feeding to run the thickener 3 days/week to see if overfeeding, even though time ratio not indicating. Issue with mixer tied to GBT so sending lots of dead sludge to digester which may not be helping.
  - d. Digester cleaning to occur in June
    - i. This should help drop our zinc levels in our biosolids which are still 2000 mg/L
- 5. 10 year evaluation progress report**
  - a. Chelsea summarized the meeting with A&E to review progress on 10-year evaluation
  - b. Over influent BOD design loading but not signs of issues when looking at effluent BOD, meaning can handle load. Phosphorus loading is around 50%, trending downward
  - c. Need to do more sampling of side stream for centrate to help create management strategy
  - d. Aeration tank-reviewed draft drawing of proposed alternative to move anoxic and anaerobic zones to side of tanks and gain back area loss from adding them to the front
    - i. Suggested trying an inhouse experiment to improve denitrification to help recover more alkalinity and cut on caustic use

- e. Dewatering-hard to fit another technology like screw press in building due to size. Going to focus on improving what we have and get it tied to SCADA
- f. Disinfection- reviewed initial cost comparison from switching to UV, showing cost savings on O&M, group was in support of this project
- g. Septage and receiving-create a better receiving station, may be grants for this work in future
  - i. Kendall asked if consideration was given taking septage directly into dewatering, it will increase solids output and put less strain on the process. Chelsea responded it has not been investigated. It likely makes our biosolids ineligible for land application certification

**6. Flexible Load Management Pilot #3**

- a. Chelsea explained to the group the purpose of this program.
- b. Phase 3 of this program could result in estimated \$20,000-\$25,000 cost savings/year on electrical use. Could be higher as based on when cogen was not running fully

**7. Next meeting is 5/15/24.**

- a. Agenda items
  - i. Allocation Policy
  - ii. High-Strength Waste Policy

**Adjourned:** 10:51 AM

Respectfully submitted.

Chelsea Mandigo, Water Quality Superintendent