

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONS – MINUTES 2019  
August 22, 2019

Meeting opened at 2:30 P.M.

**Present:** Carol Beauregard, Paul Joly, Thomas Ferry, Supt. Harold Gracia and Dianne Curtis. Joe Boccadoro and Jarrod Trainor from AECOM, Chuck Samiotes from Samiotes Consultants, Inc., Laura Wernick from HMFH and Ryan Miranda, Facilities Manager at Bristol County Agricultural High School were in attendance.

**Payroll was signed singularly by Carol Beauregard on 7/29, 8/5, 8/12 and 8/19/19.**

**Bills were signed singularly by Carol Beauregard on 8/5/19 and 8/19/19.**

**Minutes:** Regular Board Meeting and Public Hearing Minutes of July 22<sup>nd</sup> were approved.

**New Business:**

**Correspondence:**

**Strawberry Fields, Next Steps:** Dianne Curtis read an email she received from Nicole Skyleson from Z.B.A. to The Board and Supt. Harold Gracia regarding Strawberry Fields. The email indicated that new meeting dates are scheduled to discuss the next steps for the Strawberry Fields project. Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. for a site visit to the property, September 12<sup>th</sup>, a meeting will be held for the work session with the applicants at the Lower Level of Town Hall and October 15<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Public Hearing at the Dighton Middle School Cafeteria.

**AECOM Change Order for BCAHS's Services:** The Board signed the Change Order from AECOM. A signed copy was given to Jarrod Trainor from AECOM.

**3:15 Meeting Regarding Bristol County Agricultural High School's Sewer Expansion Project with Jarrod Trainor and Joe Boccadoro from AECOM and BCAHS's Engineer, Chuck Samiotes (Samiotes Consultants, Inc.) and Architect Laura Wernick (HMFH Architects) to Discuss Expansion of School:**

Joe Boccadoro and Jarrod Trainor from AECOM met before the Board and Supt. Harold Gracia to discuss the 08/21/2019 Draft Proposal from Samiotes Consultants, Inc. for the Sewer portion of the Bristol County Agricultural High School's upgrade project. Mr. Boccadoro stated that there have been a lot of email correspondence back and forth between he, Mr. Trainor and Chuck Samiotes from Samiotes Consultants, Inc., regarding drafts for review. He stated that all involved would like to come up with a solution to move this project forward. Mr. Boccadoro discussed the concerns with the pump station such as, high flows and products being discharged into the system and used this as a basis for review. Mr. Boccadoro stated that what he would like to see from Samiotes Consultants, Inc. is a full evaluation of the current information at that pump station; for example, flow information and how the system is operating under these current flows as well as engineering data and wastewater calculations to support some of the plans and specs from Samiotes Consultants, Inc. He stated that he feels that more engineering analysis needs to be done on this sewer project at BCAHS. Supt. Gracia expressed his concerns with the current pump station and the 1 1/2" forced main. Thomas Ferry stated his concerns with the increased student count along with the water saving fixtures. Mr. Boccadoro stated that from BCAHS's engineering, there has been no engineering calculations stated in their draft. Mr. Boccadoro stated his concerns with regards to products being discharged into the system, that education for the students will only go so far. He stated that he is just touching on some of the concerning issues with Samiotes Consulting, Inc.'s Draft Plan. Both Mr. Boccadoro and Mr. Trainor

suggested that funds be set aside for the upgraded pump station for repairs, maintenance, etc. that the Sewer Dept. could have access to. Mr. Boccadoro stated that a flow meter should be installed to determine flow peaks and related data. Jarrod Trainor stated that two items were recommended: a formal agreement that the Occupancy Permit would be contingent upon Supt. Gracia's inspection and verification that the low flow fixtures have been installed and that Samiotes Consultants, Inc. would have to request in writing, that they would have to expand the student population beyond the design population that is stated in the upgrade. Mr. Trainor discussed details of the proposal that Samiotes Consultants, Inc. submitted, that indicates how they would meet the recommendations made by AECOM.

Chuck Samiotes from Samiotes Consultants, Inc. and Ryan Miranda, Facilities Manager at BCAHS came in to meet with The Board, Supt. Harold Gracia, and Joe Boccadoro and Jarrod Trainor from AECOM to discuss the 08/21/2019 Proposal Draft from Samiotes Consultants, Inc. of the Sewer Pump Station Upgrade Project for BCAHS. Mr. Samiotes distributed a copy of the Draft Proposal. Mr. Samiotes stated that he discussed with Ryan Miranda from BCAHS, that all the fixtures be changed to water saving fixtures. He stated that AECOM had requested further information. Mr. Samiotes based his information on schools that had these water saving fixtures with similar criteria as BCAHS. Supt. Gracia confirmed with Mr. Samiotes that the information he submitted were based on these water saving fixtures. Mr. Samiotes continued to state that he had done quite a bit of research with regards to the schools' water usage but not waste water. There was discussion between Mr. Samiotes and Supt. Gracia about faulty flow meters at the BCAHS pump station. Mr. Samiotes stated that BCAHS will not be expanded for about two years. Mr. Samiotes stated he would like to get flow meters in the BCAHS pump station as soon as possible. This would give him about two years of reading information before the expansion project gets underway. He stated that by December 2020 - January 2021, eight composting toilets would be online. Supt. Gracia asked Mr. Samiotes to elaborate on the composting toilets for The Board.

Mr. Samiotes spoke about the monitoring system and the transferring of data at the BCAHS Pump Station. He stated that he would purchase the monitoring system as well as the data transfer. Mr. Samiotes stated that this system will monitor effluent from the pump station. He also stated that this is a real-time system. Supt. Gracia asked Mr. Samiotes some questions regarding the monitoring system. Mr. Samiotes stated he will provide a shop drawing of the monitoring system he plans on using to Supt. Gracia, before he purchases it. Mr. Samiotes stated that this will be the most recent version of this monitoring system.

Mr. Samiotes discussed Number One on the Draft Proposal was the Wireless Monitoring System and Number Two was Pumps in Perpetuity.

Mr. Boccadoro asked Mr. Samiotes questions about the monitoring system.

Thomas Ferry asked Chuck Samiotes when the new water saver fixtures were going to be installed in relation to the flow meter installation. Mr. Samiotes stated that in about a year and a half, the new fixtures would be installed, but they would see actual use information now as the new flow meters would be installed soon.

Mr. Samiotes stated that he discussed with AECOM the finance aspects of this upgrade project.

Chuck Samiotes stated that Jarrod Trainor suggested to obtain a conditional approval until a year after the build-out is completed, approximately the end of Spring, 2027. There was discussion between Supt. Gracia and Mr. Samiotes regarding properly working water/flow meters. There was discussion between Supt. Gracia and Mr. Samiotes regarding Gallons Per Day (G.P.D.) peak flow calculations versus Gallons Per Minute (G.P.M.) peak flow calculations. Mr. Samiotes noted that there are two residents tied into that sewer and difficult to diagnose peak flow issues. He also stated that without detailed work orders, it is challenging to determine why there would be more usage at certain times.

Laura Wernick from HMFH Architects came in to the Board Meeting a little later. Mr. Samiotes stated that he felt comfortable that there will be a significant reduction in the effluent tributary to the pump station and tributary downstream.

Chuck Samiotes discussed the temporary toilets for special events that take place at BCAHS and guiding people to use the composting toilets.

Supt. Gracia questioned Mr. Samiotes about the current sinks, etc., if those would be changed as well. Mr. Samiotes stated that all the fixtures would be changed, campus-wide. Mr. Samiotes indicated that the only fixture that would not be changed, is the dishwasher in the old cafeteria. Mr. Samiotes and Ms. Wernick stated that the new kitchen is the primary location where food would be served, but that the old kitchen would still be there.

Mr. Samiotes stated that Number Seven on the Draft Proposal addresses all the fixtures that would be replaced with water saving fixtures. Mr. Samiotes stated that every fixture (toilets, urinals and sinks) will have a sensor on them and would be more efficient.

Mr. Samiotes and Ms. Wernick discussed the reason for eight composting toilets. Ms. Wernick stated there had to be a certain number of areas for the composting toilets to be easily accessible. There was discussion on details of how the composting toilets function.

Mr. Samiotes stated that he skipped over Number Five on the Draft Proposal, which is the education of female students and staff on a yearly basis, regarding feminine hygiene products and disposal. He also stated that he would notify the Sewer Dept. when that has taken place. Ryan Miranda, Facilities Manager at B.C.A.H.S. stated to Supt. Gracia that every building is going to be metered. Thomas Ferry asked if the new meters would be installed by 2020, before the new fixtures are installed and online. He stated that there would be information on water/waste water measurements before and after the water-saving fixtures are in place. There were questions and discussions regarding the compost from the composting toilets and different uses of the compost (the human waste aspect). Mr. Ferry referred to Number Three and Four from the Draft Proposal and asked if there was something in place to protect The School and The Town, in terms of pumps, etc. Mr. Miranda explained that the Draft Proposal is just an outline of an agreement, but a legal agreement would have to be drafted in order to protect The Town. Supt. Gracia stated that he would like to see a peaking factor in the projected 10,000 G.P.D. There was discussion regarding how to correct any issue, if the G.P.D. exceeds 10,000. Mr. Samiotes stated that he hopes to have the new meter installed by the middle of September.

Joe Boccadoro asked Mr. Samiotes if they were looking to receive an approval from The Board to move forward with the Project, conditionally. Mr. Samiotes confirmed that they would move forward with the Project on a conditional basis, until a year after the anticipated build-out in the Spring of 2027. Mr. Boccadoro stated that in the meantime, data would be collected and would see how the current Pump Station is functioning. He stated that if the low-flow fixtures are installed sooner than anticipated, the data collected would reveal how much reduction in flow these fixtures would produce. He asked Mr. Samiotes, if the data shows that flows to the Pump Station are higher than anticipated and cause pumping impacts, what would happen then. Mr. Boccadoro clarified that the Pump Stations are built to handle the peak hour of flow. Mr. Boccadoro expressed his concerns with the Draft Proposal and stated that it would have to be written in such a way to reflect the unforeseen aspects of data collected with the low-flow fixtures. Mr. Samiotes stated that there would be two pumps in the Pump Station. Mr. Samiotes stated that the second pump would be running in the background. Thomas Ferry stated that The Board is going by AECOM's recommendation regarding the upgrading of this Pump Station and Chairwoman Carol Beauregard agreed.

Chairwoman Beauregard thanked everyone for coming. She stated that all the information that was gathered at this meeting would be taken into consideration.

Thomas Ferry motioned to take Chuck Samiotes 08/21/19 Draft Proposal under advisement with the understanding the flow meter will be installed A.S.A.P.; Paul Joly seconded the motion; all ayes; none opposed; motion passes.

Chuck Samiotes thanked the Board for their time and patience. He stated that he is looking for an agreement that is good for both parties.

**Drain Layer Renewal Application – MJD Excavating:** The Board reviewed a Drain Layer Application from MJD Excavating, Inc. Paul Joly motioned for MJD Excavating, Inc. to become a licensed Drain Layer for the Town of Dighton; Carol Beauregard stepped down as Chair and seconded the motion; all ayes; none opposed; motion passes.

**Discussion Re: Engineering Services:** The Board discussed engineering services. Thomas Ferry stated that engineering would need to be explored for future projects in the Town. Thomas Ferry stated to contact some engineering companies to see if they would be interested in engineering services for the Sewer Dept.

**Superintendent's Report:**

Supt. Harold Gracia gave names of some engineering companies to explore for engineering for the Sewer Dept.

Thomas Ferry motioned to adjourn at 5:11 P.M.; Paul Joly seconded; all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,

Minutes taken by Dianne Curtis. Transcribed by Joelle Anger.

Carol Beauregard  
Carol Beauregard

Paul Joly  
Paul Joly, Clerk

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Thomas Ferry