

MEETING MINUTES

Community Partnership for Wastewater – Dennis, Harwich, and Yarmouth

- Date: March 8, 2017
- Time: 6:30 PM
- Location: Dennis Senior Center

Meeting Summary:

- Introduction by Sheryl McMahon (Dennis)
- Presentation by David Young (CDM Smith)
- Selectmen Questions/Comments
 - **Q1**(Dennis): Do the plans incorporate point sources off of roadways-and how till the state's roadways be addressed?
 - **A1** (D. Young): New stormwater regulations go into effect in July for towns and the state
 - **A1** (Brian Dudley, MassDEP): MassDOT will have their own stormwater permit as well
 - **Q2** (Yarmouth): Procurement/prevaling wage is expensive. Has privatizing the system as a utility been considered?
 - **A2** (D. Young): Design-Build is an option, but prevailing wage still a state requirement. Privatizing is more common outside of New England. Could privatize the operations.
 - **Q3** (Yarmouth): What happens if one community does not go through with phasing?
 - **A3** (D. Young): Sewering is required to meet TMDLs in each watershed/town. District would have their own bonding capacity and each town would have to buy their capacity to the plant.
 - **Q4** (Yarmouth): Any discussion of moving the Clean Water Act requirements to state level?
 - **A4** (D. Young): Staffing would transfer from EPA to DEP, but regulations remain.
 - **Q5** (Yarmouth): How are we going to convince the public?
 - **A5** (D. Young): DEP letter requested to show what would happen if the towns do not move forward.
 - **Q6** (Yarmouth): What would happen to each owner? Need to come up with a convincing argument and show that the town will continue to find the most cost effective solutions.
 - **A6** (D. Young): DEP would require enhanced I/A system for homeowners in each watershed, not whole town
 - **Q7** (Dennis): How was Chairman Michael MacAskill's visit to MFN plant?
 - **A7** (Michael MacAskill, Harwich): Amazing facility, spoke with 2-3 town managers, discussed some difficulties developing the agreement, but is working well now, win-win-win
 - **Q8** (Dennis): How does MFN compare to DHY?
 - **A8** (D. Young): Existing plant upgrading from 3.1 MGD to 4.1 MGD. Pay for capacity and O&M based on flow. The District owns the whole WPCF, force main, and recharge site.

- **Q9** (Dennis): In MFN, do other towns take effluent?
- **A9** (D. Young): Yes, payment to Norton offsets tax loss for site used for effluent recharge.
- **Q10** (Yarmouth): How does seasonality go into capacity?
- **A10** (D. Young): Flows in presentation are average daily flows. Peaking factors are applied for the seasonal flows. Peaking factors would be lowered if 3 plants combined- another advantage of partnership. DHY improves nitrogen removal process with the larger steady flow.
- **Q11** (Harwich): Ongoing discussions with Chatham. IMA going to spring town meeting (\$6.75 Million to Chatham) being paid in phased schedule. Don't expect to have to send recharge back to Harwich, but there is a provision for 3 year notice for Chatham to tell Harwich if they cannot handle the recharge. There is a payback period if Chatham kicks Harwich out for capital costs.
- **Q12** (Yarmouth): What would happen to the Yarmouth Septage Plant?
- **A12** (D. Young): Kept under this plan
- Grant Update by Liz Sullivan (Dennis)
- Public Questions/Comments
 - **Q1** (Yarmouth): Where do the costs come from?
 - **A1** (D. Young): CWMPs
 - **Q2** (Yarmouth): What are non-traditional technologies?
 - **A2** (D. Young): Examples from CCC Cost Matrix (ie. PRB, floating constructed wetlands)
 - **Q3** (Yarmouth): Have we looked at energy efficiencies?
 - **A3** (D. Young): Yes, solar and wind were looked at in the Yarmouth CWMP. Heat recovery not an option in sewers with fluctuating flows.
 - **Q4** (Yarmouth): Hyannis Park in Lewis Bay hoping to move up in the phase schedule. Request bi-monthly updates for DHY. Has anything other than conventional treatment been looked at?
 - **A4** (D. Young): WWTF using SBR treatment (modular construction, all in one tank, best for seasonal flows), digester may be considered at Yarmouth septage plant and sludge from DHY could go there
 - **Q5** (Dennis): Any consideration with Orenko system?
 - **A5** (D. Young): Towns are using pressure system and vacuum sewers to make most cost effective collection system. Orenko system is not one fifth of the cost.
 - **Q6** (Dennis): Anything we can do now?
 - **A6** (Diane Chamberlain, Dennis): Dennis starting aquaculture project
 - **Q7** (Dennis): Where does the recharge go after plant? When would it get to each site?
 - **A7** (D. Young): Within ten years, would need Harwich and Yarmouth sites. 35+ppm of nitrogen in sewer, 3-5 ppm after treatment (lowered even more after PRB + aquaculture).
- Closing Remarks from Paul McCormick (Dennis)
 - 2-3 members of Board of Selectmen from each town should continue community partnership discussions and report back to boards and towns