July Director Questions – Rachel

Tab 11, p. 41. Power failure at all pump stations in addition to past reported pump failures. Can we get more detail on these? These seem to be recurring issues. Maybe a Six Sigma target? Chris includes these as part of his rationale for the new Bryan Mailey Electric contract on p. 90.

Per Lauer: When a pump station or multiple pump stations have a power failure the cause has been with the Utility. Either a power bump or equipment failure on PGE side. Using this past power failure as an example the power service was disrupted at all station for ½ hour. Staff responded to the failure in utility power by monitoring the station until power was restored and then checked the pump stations to verify that everything was working properly. This was a pretty large outage and was more than likely cause by equipment failure from PGE. Pump failures are separate than power failures. The past few pump failures have been the pumps being rag bound and tripping the electrical panel breaker. Staff removed the rags from the impeller of the pump and resets the breaker returning the pump to service. During large storm events staff gears up for power failures by staging portable generators at stations with the anticipation of a power loss.

Tab 12, p. 46. Backing up Trucks and Equipment. Excellent Tailgate Training Report. My question is...Are all of our trucks, carts and forklifts, and our vendor contractor trucks, cranes, forklifts etc. equipped with audible warning systems when backing up?

Per Foley: Carts, forklifts, mobile equipment and larger trucks have audible alarm. The ½ ton pickups and Hyundai do not have audible warning system. The larger vendor contractor trucks such as UPS have audible alarms. Most of the other vendor trucks have backup cameras but we do not track which trucks have audible alarms because it would be unfeasible.

Tab 12, p. 46. Since "The rate of human error and accidents is much higher for infrequent tasks, especially if the shutdown equipment affects multiple systems". This would be really interesting for the Board (in my opinion), to have Chris and Mark make a SOR presentation with real or hypothetical examples.

Per Foley: I would like to have some tangible results from the training and implementation before presenting. After the training we can deploy some of the strategies then provide an update.

Tab 14, p. 55. Glad to see Ray involved with the City Environmental Tech inspecting the business stormwater drains. It would be interesting in the future to get an update on their findings. I recall many restaurants using these drains when washing down their greasy floor mats.

Per Waggoner/DeOcampo: The City of Carmel Stormwater Inspection Contract will expire at the end of July and currently they have not expressed the desire to renew.

CAWD staff will reach out to the City of Carmel to see if they will share their overall findings of the inspections.

CAWD staff will also thru the Source Control Inspections start documenting whether restaurants are using best management practices. By verifying if they are using a company service to dispose and receive new mats. Inspecting where mats wash water is flowing either to sanitary or storm sewers. And whether floor mats are cleaned by restaurant staff in dishwashers or pot sinks.

Tab 15 - 16. Thanks to all for keeping the PIP Schedule and Summaries up to date. I was looking at 22-01 thru 22-06, with 22-02 already completed.

Thank you

Tab 19, p.88. Regarding Annexations, have we, could we or should we issue a Public Notice that we welcome new connections? Maybe publicizing this would spur other private septic system owners/neighborhoods to investigate the process to connect to our system.

Per Lather: I believe that it's the process, the connection fees, and the concept of banding together with neighbors to move forward that is holding people back from connecting to our system. If they get interest among neighbors to build a collection system, then they need money to do the engineering before we even can help them. If we really want to encourage new hookups, we should have a process where if there's (60%) interest, we help with the cost of the engineering. The connection fee is ¼ the cost of a new septic system (if it's \$30K); unless they are forced to do an advanced treatment system, so why spend money on a sewer line and lateral when you have that? I think we need to revisit how we come up with the connection fees. The only District that I know of that has a higher connection fee, did so to stop new connections to the District.

Tab 20, p.90-91. I think your Staff does a really good job on providing the rationales for their contract expenditure requests. I highlight this one by Chris for being so clear and concise.

Thank you again

Tab 25, p.174. Will the proposed Vactor Receiving Station be designed with our 2050 stay/retreat date in mind?

Per Treanor: No because the need is short term. Collections has been asking for this for 7 years. Also, the existing system is questionable permit wise.

Tab 33, p.217. This is an idea for a future CAWD newsletter. The term "potholing" on p. 195 caused me to think of this. How about including a Wastewater Industry word or term definition and example in each newsletter edition such as tertiary, turbidity, trenchless pipe repair, potholing, etc.?

Good idea

Tab. 36, p.241. This question always comes to mind when Patrick issues the Electricity Usage Update. Do we have all significant kW loads on a shedding program to limit 15 minute demand interval spikes? I promise Patrick I will not ask again.

Per Treanor: No, CAWD does not control for demand spikes as part of regular operations. Typically, monthly peak demand is not that far off aggregate average demand (about 1.4 times average), but when we do have significant peaks (about 1.8 times average) it is usually because we needed to run the 75 Hp effluent pumps (which we rarely run but can't avoid running sometimes). I suppose Operations could turn off a bunch of other equipment before they turn on a large short-term load, but that might be a big ask.