

Director's Report

Maintenance—Keeping things Humming

SCCMUA maintenance staff has been preparing for the winter. This includes annual generator maintenance which includes ensuring block heaters are operational. The cold weather also has a serious impact on electrical components, particularly in lift stations, where the components are exposed to the cold.

With this summer's lack of rainfall, the flows have continued to diminish; this is not always a good thing. This concentrated sewage increases our chemical usage and cost. A direct result of the more concentrated sewage is the increase in hydrogen sulfides caused by increased detention times in the collection system. We have been making many changes and adjustments in the system to try to minimize odor issues. We have started adding chemical in stations that have never had chemical additions before. Station 501 has had odor issues in the past but not consistently. With the recent construction at this station, odors are more consistent. Chemical is now being added ahead of LS 501 to mini-

mize these odors.

Submersible pumps have continued to keep the crews on their toes. Pump failures at stations 211, 217, and 212 have all been costly replacements. These pump failures are attributed to the environment they operate in. All components of the pump are submerged and when the water finds a point to enter, failure is imminent. The crews have had to get innovative and find ways to make temporary solutions. This ability only helps us grow in our ability to make water move in the direction we need it to, as mechanical failures will always exist.

Administration

With new attempts to reach as many individuals as we can, we have reached out to local school districts offering tours and in class visits. Staff created materials designed for different age levels and ability's. These include various slides and worksheets to help with interaction with the students. This will be great for our message and anyone interested should contact me to schedule tours or in-class presentations.

A few staff members were able to participate in the annual MERS conference. The overall take from the conference was positive on the employee side with a lot of information to assist in the planning aspect of retirement. There was also plenty of information regarding the employer and how the system operates.

Staff has recently reached out to MERS regarding their 457 plan. This is largely due to the lower fees to administer the

plan with MERS and access to adequate fund development. One benefit for using MERS is that they hold the fiduciary responsibilities. This is not the case with most other providers as those responsibilities are managed or co-managed by the owner of those funds. I will be presenting more on this at the next Board meeting.

The SCCMUA administrative secretary position will once again be posted as the current employee has decided to move on and focus on other priorities. We wish her the best in her endeavors. This position is part time and it is difficult to find the right fit, but we will get the position posted and start the process as soon as we can.

**Southern Clinton
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Authority**

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Process—Making it Clean

All parameters of the NPDES permit were met.

Plant maintenance work continues and will ramp up while the weather permits. A few outside maintenance items will be finished before the snow flies.

RBC rehab work has been the main focus for plant staff as delays in the arrival of the journal squirrel have put the start for this project later in the year than we hoped. Work in the RBC's has been continuous and will be until the end of the year.

The SCADA system is near completion. The new system is in full operation with a few check list items remaining. During this process, a tremendous amount was learned and changed. With this growth and change, we continue to work toward our goal to gain accuracy and operational control. Data is being grabbed every second versus every minute, thus increasing flow data accuracy.

The building HVAC system has continued to be challenging with the difference in outside temperature swings

only making the issues more noticeable. With help from the contracted vendor, we have continued to make head way. This has also included a few mechanical repairs along the way. We will get stable temperature eventually. It is a challenge in the meantime.

Staff will be switching to the winter clarifier operation before the hard freeze comes. This is all part of the annual maintenance program to do preventative maintenance and assessments on the conditions of the tanks and mechanisms.

Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop

The 102 station was delivered on site October 4th. The start up for this station will be Oct 13th. If all goes well, there will only be a few minor punch list items remaining.

The cured-in-place lining project for Bath Twp will be starting later this month. The project is not anticipated to last long as the contractor is planning on doing long liner runs to limit the disruptions to the local traffic and residential homes. We look forward to the project completion. This line is the main interceptor in the southern portion of the Township which has had corrosive H₂S issues for an extended amount of time.

Bath Schools are working on plans for upgrades and additions with C2AE. SCCMUA has been in contact with them regarding the impact to the sanitary system with the potential upgrades.

In DeWitt Twp, all the manholes repairs completed last year have been inspected prior to the end of the one year warranty. These findings were passed onto

C2AE.

The Quarry project in DeWitt Twp. is still ongoing with phase 2B installation complete. There is testing to be completed for the southern portion and there is continued work on the northern portions.



Lift Station 102

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