

To: Chairman Arnett and members of the Public Works Commission
3, 2025

December

From: Peter Hartz – Water Systems Manager

Re: December 9, 2025, Public Works Commission agenda item – Water Systems

Review and take possible action Approve change order #1 for revised engineering design and construction related plans for biosolids dryer project to include bagging system, EPA compliant dust control, fire protection system (related to dust control), & cooling water system provided by Mead - Hunt.

Background:

- April of 2023, we circled back on our previous biosolids and methane gas evaluation and hired Mead - Hunt to review and study conceptual biosolids dryer, with a grant from Wisconsin Focus On Energy. Furthermore, on December 19, 2023, we moved forward with our application for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) grant application for a combined heat and power engine to pair with the biosolids dryer project.
- May 14, 2024 – entered into agreement with Mead – Hunt for the Department of Energy Solar project grant and support services.
- September 24, 2024 – Biosolids Dryer Project and presentation presented to the PWC by Mead Hunt. Action by PWC was approved to pursue the contract proposal for engineering and project management.
- November 19, 2024 – the wastewater department capital budget was approved and included the biosolids dryer project in the 2025 capital outlay. **This did not happen as planned – project moved to 2026.**
- December 10, 2024 – the Public Works Commission hired Mead – Hunt to complete the engineering design and construction related services to prepare for a public bidding of the dryer project – with a tentative bid award end of 2025, or early 2026. **This schedule has been moved back one year.**
- 2025 – several meetings have occurred and plans and specifications have been provided at 30%, & 60% - after meeting and discussing the DNR submittal for the project we found that a different dust control system was needed that included a fire protection system. We also desired to reuse treated effluent for cooling water so need additional services for the mentioned changes to the dryer system.

Financial Impact: This project has been shifted back to the 2026 capital improvement budget that was presented, we anticipate paying for this at least ½ of this project with the available cash in investments, and possibly borrowing with a clean water fund loan, estimated not to exceed \$12,500,000.

Recommendation: Approve change order #1 with Mead-Hunt for dryer project to include bagging system, dust control, fire protection, and reuse of treated effluent for cooling water for \$33,900. The completed project design plans and bidding documents will be brought back and discussed along with a project bidding schedule once completed, we anticipate this to be in the first quarter of 2026.

Sincerely,
Peter Hartz

Water Systems Manger