

To: Chairman Arnett and members of the Public Works Commission  
22, 2025  
From: Peter Hartz – Water Systems Manager

October

Re: October 28, 2025, Public Works Commission agenda items

**Review and take possible action** - Purchase new primary sludge pumps.

**Background:**

The replacement of the primary sludge pumps has been identified as an immediate priority in the Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities Plan. These pumps are the last major components in the sludge processing system awaiting modernization. Upgrading them will complete the series of improvements already made to the anaerobic digester recirculation and digester transfer pumps, which were successfully replaced with rotary lobe Börger pumps. The new primary sludge pumps will match the same model, creating consistency across equipment and simplifying maintenance, training, and spare parts management for staff. This project will also allow the elimination of the outdated air-operated piston pump system. That system currently depends on costly and maintenance-intensive air handling equipment—including compressors, obsolete valves, and air dryers. By moving to rotary lobe pumps, we will significantly reduce maintenance needs, improve reliability, and lower long-term operating costs. Wastewater staff will assist with removal of the existing pumps. Because the sludge system cannot be shut down completely, replacements will occur in a carefully planned sequence to maintain operations. Additional work—such as electrical upgrades, base removal, and piping adjustments—will be performed by contractors to ensure the new pumps integrate properly with the existing system layout.

Overall, this project represents a key step in completing the modernization of the wastewater treatment plant's sludge handling system, improving operational efficiency, and reducing ongoing maintenance expenses.

**Budget Goal:** Aligns with investments and infrastructure planning.

**Financial Impact:** This project was planned for and part of the wastewater facilities improvements to be funded by available cash from the EPA equipment replacement account. The engineer's opinion of probable cost we estimated at \$188,000.

**Recommendation:** Approve the purchase the four (4) new Borger rotary lobe pumps, accessory instrumentation and controls from Mulcahy Shaw for \$105,206.

Sincerely,  
Peter Hartz

Water Systems Manger