



CAPITAL & CONSTRUCTION MEETING

Monday, July 7, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.

Memorandum

Ms. Foley called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Committee Chair Amanda Foley, members Steve Pittman and Jeff Hill. Others in attendance were Legal Counsel Anne Poindexter, Utility Director Andrew Williams, Engineering Manager Wes Merkle and Administrative Assistant Maggie Crediford.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present from the public.

SERVER CONSOLIDATION

Mr. Williams said the server consolidation was also discussed at the Infrastructure and Security Committee meeting. The current servers are out of date and need to be updated. Core Managed recommended consolidating the two servers into one during the upgrade. Mr. Pittman asked if Mr. McDonald had been consulted. Mr. Williams said he was during the Infrastructure and Security Committee Meeting and he is fine with the upgrade. Mr. McDonald did have some requests for server room security and HVAC changes. Mr. Hill asked if this upgrade will have enough space to support TriCo's new efforts with HCRUD. Mr. Merkle said he anticipated more capacity will be needed years down the road as we add staff and likely when the equipment is due for replacement anyways. Hamilton County and TriCo will maintain their own separate systems and networks for security purposes.

HCRUD AGREEMENT

Mrs. Poindexter explained that all the colored text in the proposed agreement are changes suggested by either her or TriCo staff. Mr. Mills wanted all the committees to meet in a small group setting and have an opportunity to discuss any concerns. The contract has gone before P&B and B&F Committees as well. The agreement is written to protect the operator of record who will be responsible for operating and regulatory reporting for the plant. It also has a 48-hour termination clause that allows TriCo to end the agreement if we feel Hamilton County is asking to operate the plant in a way that is below TriCo's operating standards or goes against the operator's best judgement. Mr. Merkle explained the County desires to maintain control of their utility and function comparably to how our board does by making higher-level decisions; they have no desire to micromanage day to day operations. Mrs. Poindexter said county staff has become

more aware of what they will need to run their end of the Utility. HCRUD will have their own accounts. Mr. Hill asked about how the two utilities will split costs on materials. Mr. Merkle said that HCRUD will be billed by TriCo for materials or services purchased through TriCo, but they expect to directly pay their own recurring costs like utilities as well as major expenses.

Mr. Merkle explained that we are offering to operate and manage their facilities with the same level of skill and care as we operate and manage our own facilities, which is the standard of care both parties strongly desire. The county agreed to limit TriCo's liability to available insurance coverage so that TriCo's rate payers are never on the hook for HCRUD operations, as we have proposed to provide services at cost and without compensation for risk premium or profit. The County asked to raise TriCo's umbrella coverage by \$1 million to \$6 million, which TriCo staff had discussed raising anyways. Mr. Merkle explained the County desires to keep our contract flexible with regards to scope of work as they believe there will likely be more things that they need us to do. He then explained the proposed reimbursement structure, anticipated costs and staff time.

Mr. Williams said TriCo is looking at options to track time and expenses for purposes of reimbursement and billing HCRUD. Mr. Merkle said later this year or next year we may need to add staff to accommodate the work associated with HCRUD. By 2027 he projects there will need for up to three additional full-time staff members. Discussion with the committee members continued and all were fine with the agreement as presented.

Mr. Pittman left the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Merkle provided an update on TriCo's capital projects.

- Staff installed new pumps at Lift Station 3 (116th Street/College Avenue) as well as Digester 3 at the WRRF. These projects are complete.
- Low pressure sewer mains are installed, tested and in service at Lacoma Estates and Six Points Road. We are waiting for construction contractor TPI to finish restoration.
- Pump and discharge piping repair at Lift Station 1 (Keystone Parkway/99th Street) is complete.
- Deep interceptor sewer for Union Woodlands Section 1 has been installed. The development team is working on testing and will soon shift to construction of the temporary lift station. Managing ground water during construction has been challenging. Section 2 is expected to begin construction late summer or fall, which also includes deep interceptor sewer and necessitates an amendment to our sewer service agreement.
- Late this month a contractor plans to replace a deteriorated air release valve (ARV) assembly near Hazel Dell Parkway and 96th Street. The location necessitates a line stop to shut off flow and allow the repair to be completed safely. Our staff will

replace a second deteriorated ARV near Lift Station 1 (Keystone Parkway/99th Street).

- Late July or August a contractor will replace variable frequency drives (VFDs) and control panels for three RAS and WAS pumps serving Clarifiers 4 and 5 at the WRRF. Our staff will replace two of the three pumps. This equipment is 20 years old and past the end of its service life. New controls will match those installed in the recently completed plant expansion project.
- The upper drive unit on Clarifier 4 was rebuilt however balancing issues remain. We are determining what to do next. Clarifier 4 remains out of service but we currently have plenty of capacity with the five other clarifiers running.
- Punch list work remains on the Lift Station 26 Parallel Force Main project along Spring Mill Road. Litigation continues as a result of the gravity sewer repair. Carmel is reportedly pursuing construction contractor TPI separately for lacking repair and restoration under their right of way permit.
- Later this year staff plans to replace surge valves at Lift Station 1 (Keystone Parkway/99th Street) and Lift Station 2 (Spring Mill Road/106th Street). Separately a crew will remove the engine driven standby pump at Lift Station 2, which needs substantial repairs and can no longer handle wet weather flows at this location.
- Staff is working with legal counsel on preparing easement offers for the Little Eagle Interceptor Extension project.
- Later this year staff anticipates beginning design for capacity upgrades to Lift Station 17 (US421/Greenfield-Templin Road) and Lift Station 23 (West Clay Elementary on 126th Street). Pumps and controls at Lift Station 24 (Parkwood West) are at the end of their service life and due for replacement.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Wes Merkle
Engineering Manager