



**Wastewater Hearing Authority Minutes  
Meeting: September 24, 2020**

**Attendees:** Dr. Edward Thackston, Chairperson, (WWHA), Dr. Robert Wingfield, (WWHA), Mr. Jay Tant, (WWHA), Mr. David Gilles, (WWHA), Tara Ladd, (Metro Legal Attorney-Conference Call), Jim Snyder, (MWS), Marty Mast (MWS), Ted Taylor, (MWS), Andy Welch, (MWS), Chase Block, (MWS), Al Pogue, (MWS), John Honeysucker, (MWS), Teresa Lyons-Oten, (MWS), Susan Murillo (Court Reporter)

**I. Meeting Called to Order at 1:35 p.m. – Presenter - Dr. Edward Thackston, Chairperson, MWS Wastewater Hearing Authority.**

**Review and Approval of MWS Wastewater Hearing Authority Minutes – December 12, 2019. Presenter - Dr. Edward Thackston, MWS WWHA**

Members of the Authority stated due to length of time since the last meeting of the Authority, a motion was adopted to accept the minutes as presented. Dr. Thackston asked members of Authority for a motion. Dr. Wingfield so moved for a motion, and members unanimously accepted minutes for December 19, 2019.

**II. Tradebe Administration Order Appeal – Presenter - Andy Welch, MWS**

The first item of business was the Tradebe Administration Order, but the department (MWS) entered negotiations with this company and proposed a modification, which is under consideration. Therefore, we have not heard back from them, and this item will be deferred until the meeting which is scheduled for December 10, 2020.

**III. Semi-Annual Reports Overview – Presenter – Marty Mast, MWS, Wastewater Hearing Authority**

Marty Mast, MWS, presented an overview of the Semi-Annual Report #68. Reflected in Report #68 reflected a mercury violation, that will be the plant protection criteria influent for Dry Creek Wastewater Plant. Mr. Mast stated for the most part, MWS is not seeing a whole lot of repeat offenses for the same thing other than on site. Continuing on-off issue with the p-Cresol. The biggest problem with this being a violation of the EPA. When they set the standard for p-Cresol and for centralized waste treaters, which gave the same limit for a direct discharger if you were to discharge through a creek, that they did for a company that is discharging to the sewer system for those organics. We were not successful, and MWS had a consultant that actually talked to the person from EPA that promulgated that limit, and they could not give us a good justification why the numbers were not increased for something going to the sanitary sewer to be treated, as opposed to

being discharged in the creek. Dry Creek Wastewater Plant have done a good job since the last one upgrading their equipment in preparation for the move, that they have not seen anything in their discharge.

Mr. Mast continued and addressed the next Semi-Annual Report, #69. He stated as opposed to the previous report, MSW probably did a lot less sampling than we typically do. The last six months, because of the pandemic issues, we did our sampling of our significant industrial users, those that were required by the state, and those that were surcharged, so we could keep the billing even rather than relying on data that was from a year ago. We are just now returning to some of the ones that are not necessarily significant that cannot impact us to let them know that we are still out there.

**Presenter - Marty Mast, MWS**

#### **IV. 2019 Semi-Annual FOG Report**

Andy Welch, MWS, provided highlights of the 2019 Semi-Annual FOG report, and some of the ongoing enforcements of individual food service establishments that we have been following the last few years. It was noted that in the last three (3) years has been the highest three (3) years in the number of new FSE's since going back to 2005. Also, this last year we have the second highest number of food service establishments going out of business.

The effectiveness of the programs in a nutshell, in 2003, 56% of grease interceptors, big tanks typically outside, and 33% of grease traps, smaller tank, typically a point of use were maintained. As of 2019, we have gotten that number up to 95% and 88% respectively.

An overview of the noncompliant notifications issued to food service establishments, escalated slightly last year. The FOG related to sanitary sewer overflows started at 233 annually. We have gotten down to where we wanted to be in 2010, at five (5) and continuing along at a level of (5) to twenty-five (25) in the last few years. The breakdown for last year we had (11) eleven overflows. Five were from residential multi-family (apartment complexed and condos, and six were from residential or single-family neighborhoods, and no commercial. **Presenter - Andy Welch, MWS**

#### **V. FOG Enforcement Update – Presenter, Andy Welch, MWS and Chase Block, MWS**

- Sperry's Restaurant – Three correspondence written to them and today is comply is today. Compliance letter issued: connect mop sink to trap within 45 days. They have been given an option to request an extension of that deadline, and that option to request will be 30 days late as of October 10, 2020, so they will be serviced with an Administrative order on or about October 10, 2020.
- Marco Polo – The floor drains are installed, and the remaining item they must complete is to take the old grease interceptor out of service.
- Midtown Café – Installed a new 1,000-gallon grease interceptor in April 2020. MWS ask everyone when installing a new grease interceptor to cover the rubber gasket with hydraulic cement, and they have failed to do so. The grease interceptor is fully functional, so this item remains open until rubber gasket are covered.

- Athens Family Restaurant – Installed something on their own without MWS input. It was too small, and we agreed to monitor them to see if that would work. It looks like it is not sufficient, and we have new ownership or new management. The expectation is that the building will be going away within (3) three years, so we are going to have to revisit what is the best band aide because it may not be practical to ask them to make the investment on a larger grease interceptor when the business is going away in (3) three years.
- Calypso Café – Video indicates the need for a grease trap. One of few remaining establishments that has no grease trap. Establishment disagrees with video shown, and it only showed the sewer downstream, which is true. Management argued that video showed both them and neighboring establishment, Firehouse Subs. MWS had trouble obtaining access to other establishment which has now been done, and the problem still exists, and Calypso still has a problem. MWS is at the point to invited them in to see additional video footage, and that by the next time meeting time of MWS WWA an update can be provided.
- Union Station – Lost contact with Union Station after they installed less than what we felt they needed. Being a historic building, the Historic Commission had concerns about us asking Union Station to put in what they need. Restaurant sort of dropped out of sight for awhile and no contact from them. MWS was told property is being sold, and the believes it is Metro property. So, at present, we are letting them look at the problem and propose a new solution and hopefully it will not cause any concern for the Historic Commission. **Presenter – Andy Welch, MWS**

## **VI. Other Business**

Upcoming scheduled meeting set for December 10, 2020, a determination will be made if meeting will be held in the MWS Administration Building or at BioSolids Treatment Facility. **Presenter: Jim Snyder, MWS and Teresa Lyons-Oten, MWS**

## **VII. Adjourn at 2:30 p.m.**