



AGENDA

MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD

May 15, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

**Note: Meeting Location – Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility
1930 US 41 South**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Members Absent:

Others in Attendance:

1. AGENDA APPROVAL - Additions/Deletions
2. PRIOR MEETING MINUTES (*April 2025*)
3. FINANCIAL REPORT (*April 2025*)
4. OPERATIONS REPORT (*April 2025*)
5. NEW BUSINESS
6. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Solids Handling Project
7. PUBLIC COMMENT (limited to three minutes)
8. BOARD COMMENT
9. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING

Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility
June 19, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.



DRAFT

MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES April 17, 2025

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:01 a.m., April 17, 2025, at the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Plant.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT Leonard Bodenus, Marquette Township
Greg Elliott, Chocolay Township
Jim Compton, City of Marquette
George Patrick, City of Marquette
Sean Hobbins, City of Marquette

ABSENT Brad Johnson, Chocolay Township (Chair)

OTHERS Mark O'Neill, City of Marquette
Melissa Erkkila, City of Marquette
Mary Schlicht, City of Marquette

AGENDA It was moved by J. Compton, supported by S. Hobbins, to approve the agenda. Approved 5-0.

MINUTES It was moved by G. Patrick, supported by J. Compton, to approve the March 20, 2025, meeting minutes as written. Approved 5-0.

FINANCIAL

• Financial Report

M. Schlicht, City of Marquette, presented the Financial Report. M. Schlicht stated the report is as of March 31, 2025. We are halfway through the fiscal year. Any of the budget that is over 50% shows where we are at for trending. Of course, expenditures don't always happen smoothly. At this point, there is nothing of concern except for chemicals and professional services. M. O'Neill will address these today. There has been one off expenditures that have caused these to bump up some. Staff is keeping up with these needs and discussing appropriately if we need to make changes to this budget or next year's budget. M. O'Neill stated the chemical budget is generally \$170,000 each year and we usually come in around \$130,000. This allows a little leeway in case we need extra chemicals. We knew this year we would be adding a new chemical due to the new project.



M. O'Neill stated he expected approximately \$20,000 a year and decided to keep the budget the same as last year. We are using more of the chemical than we thought we would and it is more expensive than projected. The other issue is, due to a valve failure, we lost our bug population that biologically removes phosphorus. That required us to use the chemical backup to remove the phosphorus so we would not violate our permit. Due to that, we just ordered our third load, which is generally what we use in a year. We will definitely need to order one more load. This will cause us to go over in our chemical budget and adjustments will be made next year. M. O'Neill stated he did know that starting up the new plant process would require more chemicals, and he should have raised the budget to \$190,000. L. Bodenus asked how long it takes for the bug population to come back up. M. O'Neill stated it took about a month and the bugs are back. M. O'Neill stated when these bugs stop working, our phosphorus shoots up and we are on a monthly average. We must have 1 part per million or less on a monthly average per our permit. If we get three or four bad days, we will violate our permit. Staff consistently adds a small amount of this chemical for maintenance purposes. If we had it completely off and the phosphorus raised due to a bug issue, it would take several days for the chemical to take effect causing a permit violation.

M. Schlicht stated there was a question last month regarding how much is in the replacement fund. Prior to the purchase of the pump, the replacement fund had \$582,000 and that was before we added the additional \$300,000 contributed annually. M. O'Neill stated the project budget came in higher than anticipated and we were using the replacement fund to pay for that as agreed by the board. Our contingency fund was around \$600,000 and we have used around \$200,000. Once the project is closed, that money will be returned to the replacement fund.

J. Compton asked about the operations labor in the budget. M. Schlicht stated there are one-time payments coming out of that fund and it does not flow appropriately with the fiscal year.

G. Patrick asked about the professional services in the budget. M. Schlicht stated that annual expenditures are paid out of that. It is high because we have our SRF engineering costs going through there. The notes should be corrected from \$7,300 to \$123,902. This will be capitalized at the end of the year, which will reduce it to within budget.

OPERATIONS REPORT

M. O'Neill, City of Marquette, presented the Operations Report

PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH(S):

- **PERMIT COMPLIANCE:** There were no permit violations for the month of March.



PLANT NOTES:

- S&T Electrical was on site to replace the step-down transformer that serves the laboratory. This unit had been making a loud buzzing noise for over two decades, and it finally got so bad that it needed to be replaced.
- We have begun to take loads of septage/FOG (fats, oil, grease). Currently, however, we are requiring the haulers to give us notice before they arrive until we are confident that the system is working the way we want it to work.
- We have been working closely with Donohue to eliminate problems and fine-tune operations with the Waste Receiving Station. I've compiled a list of controls-related issues, and Donohue's integrator/programmer, David Porter, was on site this week to resolve them.
- Matt Warner of JCI was on site to get our facility access system running. This included configuring the two cameras that are in our new belt press building (the last of our ten new cameras). G. Patrick asked what all the cameras are for. M. O'Neill stated cameras are around the plant to automate the system so staff can monitor the plant from a computer. Examples are at the belt press, in the cake storage area, yard, etc.
- Kraft was on site to perform regular maintenance on both CoGen units. There appears to be a definite reduction in the expected amount of wear on the engine components. This is most likely due to our having dialed down the output setpoints by 5 kW. S. Hobbins asked if we should have had a larger engine installed. M. O'Neill stated that we do not have enough gas. One engine is running on biogas and the other is mostly ran on natural gas. The engines are designed to give out max 100 kW. We backed them off 5 kW to reduce wear.
- Kraft is also helping us chase down some random ignition system and power output problems we've been experiencing with the performance of the #2 unit.
- Staff installed a new oil recirculation pump in CoGen #1.
- The City's IT Department aided us in establishing the connections we needed for the new systems to communicate properly. Without their help, vital portions of the solids handling project would have been greatly delayed.
- Staff completed fabrication and installation of hoses and fittings for the hose stations in the new buildings.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR MARCH 2025

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	8,000	\$1,120.00
UPS	5,500	\$770.00
LS&I	20,700	\$2,898.00
Wisconsin Electric	38,000	\$1,520.00
Grand Totals	72,200	\$6,308.00



Charter Township of Chocolay

5010 US 41 SOUTH • MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN 49855
PHONE (906) 249-1448 • FAX (906) 249-1313



NEW BUSINESS

- None

OLD BUSINESS

a. Solids Handling Project

M. O'Neill stated this was discussed during the Operations Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

BOARD COMMENT

- S. Hobbins welcomed Chocolay Township Supervisor, Greg Elliott.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

Reviewed by:
Mark O'Neill
Director of Municipal Utilities

Prepared by:
Melissa Erkkila

MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES
For the fiscal period ended April 30, 2025

	Amended Budget FY'25	4/30/2025	% of budget collected / distributed	NOTES:
Operating Revenues				
Services for City of Marquette	\$ 4,464,280.00	\$ 1,308,840.76	29.32%	Preliminary billings through March 2025 activities, and monthly PILT amounts recorded through April 2025
Services for Marquette Township	469,040.00	154,023.70	32.84%	
Services for Chocolay Township	229,800.00	44,691.59	19.45%	
Services to other	100,000.00	39,309.10	39.31%	
Equipment rental and miscellaneous	-	26,251.30	#DIV/0!	
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	5,263,120.00	1,573,116.45		
Operating Expenses				
Operation labor	998,580.00	693,049.03	69.40%	
Operation supplies and expenses	129,500.00	79,683.85	61.53%	
Chemicals	170,000.00	127,382.36	74.93%	
Purchased power and utilities	252,000.00	101,648.30	40.34%	BLP thru 03/20/25; SEMCO thru 03/07/25; Water thru 03/28/25
Education	9,000.00	3,042.97	33.81%	
Professional services	480,000.00	138,864.84	28.93%	
Administrative:				
Salaries and wages	95,980.00	53,301.00	55.53%	
Salaries and wages - other [acc leave]	-	-	0.00%	
Fringe benefits	205,840.00	200,644.39	97.48%	Annual DB contribution [MERS] submitted 11/26/24
Office supplies	300.00	-	0.00%	
Professional and contractual	307,403.07	219,099.52	71.27%	FY'25 Admin / Technology / Gen & Protect Fee / SRF Engineering Svcs. [\$7,849]
Insurance and bonds	60,330.00	47,694.00	79.06%	This amt of insurance premium covers thru June 30, 2025
Rental	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.00%	
Miscellaneous	11,700.00	6,825.00	58.33%	FY'25 Stormwater is \$975 per month
Capital outlay or transfer to reserves	1,797,755.71	1,545,771.58	85.98%	Will adjust to \$300,000 annual contribution to 'reserve' account by FYE'25
Depreciation	757,200.00	376,193.76	49.68%	Approx. \$62,700 per month
Payment in lieu of taxes	293,120.00	170,982.00	58.33%	FY'25 PILT is \$24,426 per month
Debt Service Payments:				
Principal	1,010,370.00	-	0.00%	Pmt due September 2025
Interest	324,610.00	84,413.33	26.00%	Pmts due March & September 2025; TELP pmt 6/15/25
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	6,904,688.78	3,849,595.93		
OPERATING GAIN (LOSS)	\$ (1,641,568.78)	\$ (2,276,479.48)		

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions about this report. I can be reached via email at mschlicht@marquettetmi.gov or via phone at (906) 225-8559

PERIOD ENDING 04/30/2025

*NOTE: Available Balance / Pct Budget Used does not reflect amounts encumbered.

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE 04/30/2024		2024-25 AMENDED BUDGET	YTD BALANCE 04/30/2025		AVAILABLE BALANCE		% BDGT USED
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	
Fund 590 - MQT AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT									
Services for City of Marquette									
590-000-622.000	City of Marquette	1,148,068.24		4,464,280.00	1,308,840.76		3,155,439.24	29.32	
Net Services for City of Marquette		1,148,068.24		4,464,280.00	1,308,840.76		3,155,439.24	29.32	
Services for Marquette Township									
590-000-623.000	Marquette Township	139,196.63		469,040.00	154,023.70		315,016.30	32.84	
Net Services for Marquette Township		139,196.63		469,040.00	154,023.70		315,016.30	32.84	
Services for Chocolay Township									
590-000-624.000	Chocolay Township	36,260.82		229,800.00	44,691.59		185,108.41	19.45	
Net Services for Chocolay Township		36,260.82		229,800.00	44,691.59		185,108.41	19.45	
Services to other									
590-000-625.000	Other	25,490.00		100,000.00	36,309.10		63,690.90	36.31	
Net Services to other		25,490.00		100,000.00	36,309.10		63,690.90	36.31	
Equipment rental and miscellaneous									
590-000-665.000	Interest	56,800.05		0.00	16,659.20		(16,659.20)	100.00	
590-000-667.000	Rent	5,678.16		0.00	6,618.21		(6,618.21)	100.00	
590-000-676.000	Reimbursements	0.00		0.00	102.44		(102.44)	100.00	
590-000-695.000	Other Financing Sources	467.98		0.00	271.45		(271.45)	100.00	
590-000-695.000-50239	Other Financing Sources-COVID-19	2,700.00		0.00	2,600.00		(2,600.00)	100.00	
Net Equipment rental and miscellaneous		65,646.19		0.00	26,251.30		(26,251.30)	100.00	
Operation labor									
590-527-702.000	Wages	254,400.91		511,220.00	284,159.69		227,060.31	55.58	
590-527-715.000	Longevity	1,600.00		1,630.00	2,090.00		(460.00)	128.22	
590-527-716.000	Social Security	19,478.07		40,200.00	21,476.02		18,723.98	53.42	
590-527-717.000	Health Insurance	103,546.19		185,870.00	103,911.55		81,958.45	55.91	
590-527-718.000	Life Insurance	299.92		500.00	262.43		237.57	52.49	
590-527-719.000	Unemployment Insurance	577.60		520.00	1,697.77		(1,177.77)	326.49	
590-527-720.000	Disability Insurance	636.08		1,060.00	556.57		503.43	52.51	
590-527-721.000	Workers Compensation	2,296.00		2,190.00	1,661.00		529.00	75.84	
590-527-722.000	Retirement-MERS	232,936.00		255,390.00	258,254.00		(2,864.00)	101.12	
590-527-725.000	OPEB Contribution	3,251.88		0.00	18,980.00		(18,980.00)	100.00	
Net Operation labor		(619,022.65)		(998,580.00)	(693,049.03)		(305,530.97)	69.40	
Operation supplies and expenses									
590-527-729.000	Fuel-Wastewater	1,705.92		3,500.00	1,871.61		1,628.39	53.47	
590-527-740.000	Operating Supplies	11,811.87		28,000.00	12,585.75		15,414.25	44.95	
590-527-775.000	Repair/Maintenance Supplies	40,417.67		104,371.00	61,582.16		42,788.84	59.00	
590-527-945.000	Vehicle & Equipment Rental	2,583.80		18,000.00	3,644.33		14,355.67	20.25	
Net Operation supplies and expenses		(56,519.26)		(153,871.00)	(79,683.85)		(74,187.15)	51.79	
Chemicals									
590-527-731.000	Chemicals	75,480.99		170,000.00	127,382.36		42,617.64	74.93	
Net Chemicals		(75,480.99)		(170,000.00)	(127,382.36)		(42,617.64)	74.93	

Purchased power and utilities

PERIOD ENDING 04/30/2025

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GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE 04/30/2024		2024-25 AMENDED BUDGET	YTD BALANCE 04/30/2025		AVAILABLE BALANCE		% BDGT USED
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	
Fund 590 - MQT AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT									
590-527-920.000	Purchased Power		94,706.11	160,000.00		63,963.08		96,036.92	39.98
590-527-921.000	Purchased Natural Gas		28,369.79	90,000.00		35,368.53		54,631.47	39.30
590-527-922.000	Purchased Water		866.88	2,000.00		2,316.69		(316.69)	115.83
Net Purchased power and utilities			(123,942.78)	(252,000.00)		(101,648.30)		(150,351.70)	40.34
Education									
590-527-865.000	Conference/Seminars		3,720.94	9,000.00		3,042.97		5,957.03	33.81
Net Education			(3,720.94)	(9,000.00)		(3,042.97)		(5,957.03)	33.81
Professional services									
590-527-801.000	Professional/Contractual		88,976.97	280,000.00		109,764.14		170,235.86	39.20
590-527-801.000-50219	Prof/Contr-JCI Maint Costs		115,948.48	200,000.00		29,100.70		170,899.30	14.55
Net Professional services			(204,925.45)	(480,000.00)		(138,864.84)		(341,135.16)	28.93
[Admin] Salaries and wages									
590-561-702.000	Wages		46,356.04	89,310.00		49,560.63		39,749.37	55.49
590-561-716.000	Social Security		3,640.87	6,670.00		3,740.37		2,929.63	56.08
Net [Admin] Salaries and wages			(49,996.91)	(95,980.00)		(53,301.00)		(42,679.00)	55.53
[Admin] Fringe benefits									
590-561-715.000	Longevity		322.48	430.00		322.49		107.51	75.00
590-561-717.000	Health Insurance		24,298.55	24,960.00		18,100.90		6,859.10	72.52
590-561-718.000	Life Insurance		83.76	150.00		71.75		78.25	47.83
590-561-719.000	Unemployment Insurance		79.42	90.00		211.86		(121.86)	235.40
590-561-720.000	Disability Insurance		129.05	270.00		117.39		152.61	43.48
590-561-721.000	Workers Compensation		693.00	690.00		560.00		130.00	81.16
590-561-722.000	Retirement-MERS		169,295.00	179,250.00		181,260.00		(2,010.00)	101.12
Net [Admin] Fringe benefits			(194,901.26)	(205,840.00)		(200,644.39)		(5,195.61)	97.48
[Admin] Office supplies									
590-561-727.000	Office Supplies		106.17	300.00		0.00		300.00	0.00
Net [Admin] Office supplies			(106.17)	(300.00)		0.00		(300.00)	0.00
[Admin] Professional and contractual									
590-561-801.000	Professional/Contractual		911.40	6,220.00		952.00		5,268.00	15.31
590-561-801.000-50300	Prof/Contr-SRF 2022		118,963.52	143,813.07		126,349.52		17,463.55	87.86
590-561-806.000	Administration Charges		44,002.00	74,800.00		43,631.00		31,169.00	58.33
590-561-809.000	General & Protective		6,454.00	10,920.00		6,370.00		4,550.00	58.33
590-561-812.000	Technology Svcs Fund Fee		40,327.00	71,650.00		41,797.00		29,853.00	58.33
Net [Admin] Professional and contractual			(210,657.92)	(307,403.07)		(219,099.52)		(88,303.55)	71.27
[Admin] Insurance and bonds									
590-561-910.000	Insurance		36,452.00	60,330.00		47,694.00		12,636.00	79.06
Net [Admin] Insurance and bonds			(36,452.00)	(60,330.00)		(47,694.00)		(12,636.00)	79.06
[Admin] Rental									
590-561-943.000	Bldg/Office Rent		1,000.00	1,000.00		1,000.00		0.00	100.00
Net [Admin] Rental			(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)		(1,000.00)		0.00	100.00

PERIOD ENDING 04/30/2025

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		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	
Fund 590 - MQT AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT									
[Admin] Miscellaneous									
590-561-923.000	Stormwater Fee		5,915.00	11,700.00		6,825.00		4,875.00	58.33
Net [Admin] Miscellaneous			(5,915.00)	(11,700.00)		(6,825.00)		(4,875.00)	58.33
[Admin] Capital outlay and transfer to reserves									
590-000-697.000	Use of Replacement Reserve		0.00	1,641,568.78		0.00		1,641,568.78	0.00
590-598-976.000-50300	C/O-Biosolids Storage CWSRF'23	4,615,867.97		1,476,810.71		1,524,663.33		(47,852.62)	103.24
590-598-977.000	Capital Outlay-Equipment		0.00	20,945.00		21,108.25		(163.25)	100.78
590-598-977.000-50294	C/O-Equipment-Fire Alarm System	44,093.35		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00
590-599-997.000	Reserves		0.00	275,629.00		0.00		275,629.00	0.00
Net [Admin] Capital outlay and transfer to reserves			(4,659,961.32)	(131,815.93)		(1,545,771.58)		1,413,955.65	1,172.67
[Admin] Depreciation									
590-561-968.000	Depreciation		434,874.83	757,200.00		376,193.76		381,006.24	49.68
Net [Admin] Depreciation			(434,874.83)	(757,200.00)		(376,193.76)		(381,006.24)	49.68
[Admin] Payment in lieu of taxes									
590-561-954.000	Payment In Lieu of Taxes		172,921.00	293,120.00		170,982.00		122,138.00	58.33
Net [Admin] Payment in lieu of taxes			(172,921.00)	(293,120.00)		(170,982.00)		(122,138.00)	58.33
[Debt Service] Principal									
590-561-991.000	Debt Service-Principal		0.00	1,010,370.00		0.00		1,010,370.00	0.00
Net [Debt Service] Principal			0.00	(1,010,370.00)		0.00		(1,010,370.00)	0.00
[Debt Service] Interest									
590-561-990.000	TELP Lease Payment		0.00	194,040.00		0.00		194,040.00	0.00
590-561-995.000	Debt Service-Interest		35,442.95	130,570.00		84,413.33		46,156.67	64.65
Net [Debt Service] Interest			(35,442.95)	(324,610.00)		(84,413.33)		(240,196.67)	26.00
Fund 590 - MQT AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT:									
TOTAL REVENUES			1,414,661.88	6,904,688.78		1,570,116.45		5,334,572.33	22.74
TOTAL EXPENDITURES			6,885,841.43	6,904,688.78		3,849,595.93		3,055,092.85	55.75
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES			(5,471,179.55)	0.00		(2,279,479.48)		2,279,479.48	100.00

May 15, 2025

Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Plant

Advisory Board Meeting Operations Report for April 2025



PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH(S):

- PERMIT COMPLIANCE: There were no permit violations for the month of April.

PLANT NOTES:

- We have begun to take loads of septage/FOG. We are asking the haulers to give us notice before they arrive until we are confident that the system is working the way we want it to work, as there are a few bugs that have yet to be squashed.
- Except for one day where things looked pretty dicey, spring thaw was relatively mild this year. We did not have to enlist any preventative measures to compensate for the higher Carp River level.
- All of our site security cameras are now operational. One of the power supplies on the camera server had failed; JCI sent us two replacements, both of which I installed. The original ones have been sent back to JCI for their warranty claim.
- We are waiting for the correct security key cards to be delivered. Once set up, our site access system will be fully functional.
- Alfa Laval was on site to perform final repairs. They also performed a 5 hour proving session during which they fine-tuned the machine and gathered samples at routine intervals, all of which were tested by Jarrod for total solids content. The results have been forwarded up the chain of command.
- We tried running the new BFP the day before Alfa Laval planned to perform their tests, but we ran into an issue where the sludge feed pump would not turn on. The problem turned out to be a programming issue; some test bits were left in place that should have been removed after the last tests were performed. Once I finally found them, the system worked well.
- The plant experienced a digester foaming incident similar to the ones we experienced several years ago. For an unknown reason, Digester #1's level spiked in the middle of the night, causing foam to get into our gas collection lines. Marc, the operator who responded to the call, was able to prevent the situation from escalating to the point where the foam entered the gas conditioning system that serves the CoGen units. We spent the following day purging and cleaning all of the gas collection piping. We have been closely monitoring the situation and so far there have been no further issues.
- I replaced the overload controller for the TAS Mixing Pump. This process is very involved, due to the replacement units not having exactly the same PLC input/output mapping as the original units, which are no longer available.
- Staff replaced one of the air pressure regulator for the #4 Primary ADP.
- Staff completed annual maintenance procedures on the mixers in our Bio-P system.
- Staff replaced the actuator that controls the throttling valves on our large dual-fuel boiler.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR APRIL 2025

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	4,000	\$560.00
UPS	10,000	\$1,400.00
LS&I	40,700	\$5,698.00
WRS	33,644	\$6,055.92
Grand Totals	88,344	\$13,713.92