



AGENDA

MARQUETTE AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD

August 21, 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 *(July 2025)*
3. FINANCIAL
 - a. Financial Report *(July 2025)*
4. OPERATIONS REPORT *(July 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
September 18, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.



DRAFT

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

A regular meeting of the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Facility Advisory Board was held at 10:00 a.m., July 17, 2025, at the Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Plant.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT Chris Lucas, Chocolay Township (Chair)
Leonard Bodenus, Marquette Township
Jim Compton, City of Marquette
George Patrick, City of Marquette

ABSENT Sean Hobbins, City of Marquette

OTHERS Mark O'Neill, City of Marquette
Dan Johnston, City of Marquette
Karla Kramer, City of Marquette
Margaret Brumm, Resident

AGENDA It was moved by L. Bodenus, supported by G. Patrick, to approve the agenda. Approved 4-0.

MINUTES It was moved by L. Bodenus, supported by G. Patrick, to approve the May 15, 2025, meeting minutes as written. Approved 4-0.

FINANCIAL

- **Financial Report**

M. O'Neill, City of Marquette, presented the Financial Report. M. O'Neill stated M. Schlicht submitted the June Financial Report. Everything looks to be status quo thus far. M. O'Neill asked if there were any questions and stated Mary is available if needed.

OPERATIONS REPORT

D. Johnston, City of Marquette, presented the Operations Report



PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH(S):

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

PLANT NOTES:

- Alfa Laval sent a rep to correct wiring issues I had found in the unit's control panel, and to perform some test runs of the BFP in an effort to reach their proposed total solids target of 16%. After three days of testing, they had one result that reached 15.7%. A summary of the results have been forwarded up the chain of command. J. Compton asked what the company is saying to explain themselves. D. Johnston said a lot of it has to do with the type of plant we have with the BioP section. M. O'Neill stated Donohue believes we can reach the goal of 16% and wanted it as a guarantee. They were able to take the polymer and replicate in the lab and reach 16% but they haven't been able to do that. M. O'Neill stated it the BioP makes it harder to dewater. The staff hoped by adding ferric we would see an increase but that has not happened. The current belt filter press generally provides 12% - 13% and 14% on a good day. We can see the difference on the new press after their visit. It is dryer and stacks better but still not 16%. They may try a different polymer, which is free testing for us. We are going to request a 60 day extension on the project to allow them to do that. D. Johnston stated our staff ran the press this week and took samples. Those results came back at 16.2% with no changes. The properties of the sludge can change quickly so we will be constantly testing results. While Alfa Laval was here, one of our staff shadowed him and we learned more about a belt press than we had ever known before. That was very helpful.
- The level transducer for the plant's Filtrate Well failed. Staff installed a new one.
- Swipe/access cards for the WRS' dump station have been set up and distributed to the septage haulers. This greatly simplifies tracking of the loads.
- One of the two sump pumps in the plant's RAS Room has failed. A new pump has been ordered.
- Repair parts have arrived for the washwater booster pump that serves our GBT. The pump is still operational, but it is starting to sound noisy. Having parts on hand will prevent excessive downtime when the repairs are needed.
- We are waiting on word from JCI regarding the failed camera server and one failed camera, as well as the completion of the setup for the entrance gate.
- Staff repaired a failed fitting between the bulk sodium hypochlorite tank and one of the metering pumps. They also manually pumped the hundreds of gallons of product that had leaked into the containment area back into the bulk tank.
- The plant's Metasys system that controls our HVAC equipment stopped communicating. Seth from JCI spent several hours tracking down an interface module that was causing issues with the network loop.



INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR JUNE 2025

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	4,000	\$560.00
LS&I	8,500	\$1,190.00
Wisconsin Electric	8,000	\$320.00
Grand Totals	20,500	\$2,070.00

SEPTAGE ACTIVITY FOR JUNE 2025

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Carey/Sodergren	43,795	\$7,883.10
North Country	80,256	\$14,446.08
Stenberg	25,011	\$4,501.98
Grand Totals	149,062	\$26,831.16

NEW BUSINESS

- FY26 Budget**

M. O'Neill stated at the last meeting we submitted the proposed FY26 budget so everyone could ask questions and discuss it with their Board. M. Schlicht would like an approval of the budget from the Board before it is proposed to the Commission. It was moved by L. Bodenus, supported by G. Patrick, to approve the FY26 Budget. Approved 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

- Solids Handling Project**

M. O'Neill stated we are down to issues with the belt press and the security system. We have a camera that failed, issues with the gate and now the server that records everything from our camera has died. All of these things are under warranty. JCI ran some diagnostics and ordered a new server. They will try a few other things on the camera and will order one if needed. The grass is slowly growing finally. The septage receiving station is working great.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Margaret Brumm at 404 E. Magnetic Street. M. Brumm stated she is here to provide observations and submit requests. She is part of the City's cigarette butt recycle



Charter Township of Chocolay

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program. While visiting the Municipal Service Center yesterday, the parking lot on the left side was thick with cigarette butts. This is generally where staff park. There is also a vehicle charging in the parking lot and a loose cord was strewn across the sidewalk which is a hazard. The cigarette butts are an ongoing issue. M. Brumm said she will be talking to the City that they emphasize to employees that cigarette butts do not belong on the ground. She basically filled half of a coffee can. M. Brumm also requested that we look for a type of netting on our storm sewers designed to take solids out of the storm sewers before it enters the Lake. While working with Superior Watershed on the beach last week, the beach was clean but the water line had about half of a coffee can of cigarette butts coming in from the Lake. This is a hazard to our drinking water because it could cause nicotine poisoning. M. Brumm stated that she read a recent report about our grease trap inspections and a restaurant that is still an issue. It is great that we are keeping tabs on this. She stated that being on this Board is a thankless job. She encourages the Board to do more Public Service Announcements regarding the grease trap inspections and the ability of the plant to take in septic tank sewage. This will notify the community of the work being done here. As an example, M. Brumm is on the BLP Board and they are putting up a second interconnection on M553. A postman stopped her and asked her what was going on. It would help if there was more positive Public Service Announcements to inform the public. For an example, she is sure that many people don't know that septage can be handled here. This is important because the number one cause of contaminated water in inland lakes is malfunctioning septic tanks. There is no law in Michigan that once a septic tank is installed it needs to be inspected. This plant contributes a huge amount of municipal funding and has had a huge productive expansion. When \$26,000 of income on a monthly bases for septage is coming in, this is substantial. M. Brumm asked if the plant is testing for PFAS. M. O'Neill stated once a year in biosolids and three times a year at the plant. M. Brumm thanked the Board for their service.

BOARD COMMENT

- None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 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 July 31, 2025

	Amended Budget FY'25	7/31/2025	% of budget collected / distributed	NOTES:
Operating Revenues				
Services for City of Marquette	\$ 4,464,280.00	\$ 2,047,693.56	45.87%	Preliminary billings through June 2025 activities, and monthly PILT amounts recorded through July 2025
Services for Marquette Township	469,040.00	232,556.20	49.58%	
Services for Chocolay Township	229,800.00	64,776.31	28.19%	
Services to other	100,000.00	109,394.74	109.39%	
Equipment rental and miscellaneous	-	49,225.51	#DIV/0!	
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	5,263,120.00	2,503,646.32		
Operating Expenses				
Operation labor	998,580.00	838,756.18	83.99%	
Operation supplies and expenses	129,500.00	92,102.90	71.12%	
Chemicals	170,000.00	164,782.01	96.93%	
Purchased power and utilities	252,000.00	160,569.71	63.72%	BLP thru 06/19/25; SEMCO thru 06/03/25; Water thru 06/28/25
Education	9,000.00	8,862.53	98.47%	
Professional services	480,000.00	208,259.07	43.39%	
Administrative:				
Salaries and wages	95,980.00	75,246.27	78.40%	
Salaries and wages - other [acc leave]	-	-	0.00%	
Fringe benefits	205,840.00	202,425.55	98.34%	Annual DB contribution [MERS] submitted 11/26/24
Office supplies	300.00	-	0.00%	
Professional and contractual	307,403.07	274,595.77	89.33%	FY'25 Admin / Technology / Gen & Protect Fee / SRF Engineering Svcs. [\$137,000.77]
Insurance and bonds	60,330.00	64,125.00	106.29%	This amt of insurance premium covers thru September 30, 2025
Rental	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.00%	
Miscellaneous	11,700.00	9,750.00	83.33%	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 (only posted through 3/31/25)
Payment in lieu of taxes	293,120.00	244,260.00	83.33%	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	278,444.33	85.78%	Pmts due March & September 2025; TELP pmt 6/15/25
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	6,904,688.78	4,545,144.66		
OPERATING GAIN (LOSS)	\$ (1,641,568.78)	\$ (2,041,498.34)		

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

PERIOD ENDING 07/31/2025

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

		YTD BALANCE 07/31/2024	2024-25	YTD BALANCE 07/31/2025	AVAILABLE BALANCE	% BDGT USED
GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	AMENDED BUDGET	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	
Fund 590 - MQT AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT						
Services for City of Marquette						
590-000-622.000	City of Marquette	1,735,077.84	4,464,280.00	2,047,693.56	2,416,586.44	45.87
Net Services for City of Marquette		1,735,077.84	4,464,280.00	2,047,693.56	2,416,586.44	45.87
Services for Marquette Township						
590-000-623.000	Marquette Township	204,559.07	469,040.00	232,556.20	236,483.80	49.58
Net Services for Marquette Township		204,559.07	469,040.00	232,556.20	236,483.80	49.58
Services for Chocolay Township						
590-000-624.000	Chocolay Township	52,920.48	229,800.00	64,776.31	165,023.69	28.19
Net Services for Chocolay Township		52,920.48	229,800.00	64,776.31	165,023.69	28.19
Services to other						
590-000-625.000	Other	38,467.00	100,000.00	109,394.74	(9,394.74)	109.39
Net Services to other		38,467.00	100,000.00	109,394.74	(9,394.74)	109.39
Equipment rental and miscellaneous						
590-000-665.000	Interest	85,421.36	0.00	36,502.56	(36,502.56)	100.00
590-000-667.000	Rent	8,242.08	0.00	9,574.06	(9,574.06)	100.00
590-000-676.000	Reimbursements	0.00	0.00	102.44	(102.44)	100.00
590-000-695.000	Other Financing Sources	1,530.72	0.00	446.45	(446.45)	100.00
590-000-695.000-50239	Other Financing Sources-COVID-19	4,000.00	0.00	2,600.00	(2,600.00)	100.00
Net Equipment rental and miscellaneous		99,194.16	0.00	49,225.51	(49,225.51)	100.00
Operation labor						
590-527-702.000	Wages	354,815.14	511,220.00	379,351.05	131,868.95	74.21
590-527-715.000	Longevity	1,600.00	1,630.00	2,090.00	(460.00)	128.22
590-527-716.000	Social Security	26,996.47	40,200.00	28,508.17	11,691.83	70.92
590-527-717.000	Health Insurance	140,354.33	185,870.00	146,697.62	39,172.38	78.92
590-527-718.000	Life Insurance	374.90	500.00	356.54	143.46	71.31
590-527-719.000	Unemployment Insurance	577.60	520.00	1,733.40	(1,213.40)	333.35
590-527-720.000	Disability Insurance	795.10	1,060.00	700.40	359.60	66.08
590-527-721.000	Workers Compensation	2,296.00	2,190.00	2,085.00	105.00	95.21
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		(763,997.42)	(998,580.00)	(838,756.18)	(159,823.82)	83.99
Operation supplies and expenses						
590-527-729.000	Fuel-Wastewater	2,894.07	3,500.00	2,867.34	632.66	81.92
590-527-740.000	Operating Supplies	14,909.89	28,000.00	14,241.09	13,758.91	50.86
590-527-775.000	Repair/Maintenance Supplies	63,487.09	104,371.00	70,685.17	33,685.83	67.72
590-527-945.000	Vehicle & Equipment Rental	4,521.28	18,000.00	4,309.29	13,690.71	23.94
Net Operation supplies and expenses		(85,812.33)	(153,871.00)	(92,102.89)	(61,768.11)	59.86
Chemicals						
590-527-731.000	Chemicals	113,341.20	170,000.00	164,782.01	5,217.99	96.93
Net Chemicals		(113,341.20)	(170,000.00)	(164,782.01)	(5,217.99)	96.93

Purchased power and utilities

PERIOD ENDING 07/31/2025

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

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE 07/31/2024		2024-25 AMENDED BUDGET	YTD BALANCE 07/31/2025		AVAILABLE BALANCE		% BDGT USED
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	
Fund 590 - MQT AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT									
590-527-920.000	Purchased Power		124,651.89	160,000.00		107,200.77		52,799.23	67.00
590-527-921.000	Purchased Natural Gas		49,883.66	90,000.00		50,142.88		39,857.12	55.71
590-527-922.000	Purchased Water		1,376.59	2,000.00		3,226.06		(1,226.06)	161.30
Net Purchased power and utilities			(175,912.14)	(252,000.00)		(160,569.71)		(91,430.29)	63.72
Education									
590-527-865.000	Conference/Seminars		6,392.90	9,000.00		8,862.53		137.47	98.47
Net Education			(6,392.90)	(9,000.00)		(8,862.53)		(137.47)	98.47
Professional services									
590-527-801.000	Professional/Contractual		147,226.91	280,000.00		176,078.37		103,921.63	62.89
590-527-801.000-50219	Prof/Contr-JCI Maint Costs		133,620.41	200,000.00		32,180.70		167,819.30	16.09
Net Professional services			(280,847.32)	(480,000.00)		(208,259.07)		(271,740.93)	43.39
[Admin] Salaries and wages									
590-561-702.000	Wages		66,398.50	89,310.00		69,965.33		19,344.67	78.34
590-561-716.000	Social Security		5,183.36	6,670.00		5,280.94		1,389.06	79.17
Net [Admin] Salaries and wages			(71,581.86)	(95,980.00)		(75,246.27)		(20,733.73)	78.40
[Admin] Fringe benefits									
590-561-715.000	Longevity		322.48	430.00		322.49		107.51	75.00
590-561-717.000	Health Insurance		32,680.28	24,960.00		19,659.00		5,301.00	78.76
590-561-718.000	Life Insurance		104.26	150.00		102.50		47.50	68.33
590-561-719.000	Unemployment Insurance		79.42	90.00		211.86		(121.86)	235.40
590-561-720.000	Disability Insurance		162.59	270.00		167.70		102.30	62.11
590-561-721.000	Workers Compensation		693.00	690.00		702.00		(12.00)	101.74
590-561-722.000	Retirement-MERS		169,295.00	179,250.00		181,260.00		(2,010.00)	101.12
Net [Admin] Fringe benefits			(203,337.03)	(205,840.00)		(202,425.55)		(3,414.45)	98.34
[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		5,702.00	6,220.00		6,210.00		10.00	99.84
590-561-801.000-50300	Prof/Contr-SRF 2022		224,618.57	143,813.07		137,245.77		6,567.30	95.43
590-561-806.000	Administration Charges		62,860.00	74,800.00		62,330.00		12,470.00	83.33
590-561-809.000	General & Protective		9,220.00	10,920.00		9,100.00		1,820.00	83.33
590-561-812.000	Technology Svcs Fund Fee		57,610.00	71,650.00		59,710.00		11,940.00	83.34
Net [Admin] Professional and contractual			(360,010.57)	(307,403.07)		(274,595.77)		(32,807.30)	89.33
[Admin] Insurance and bonds									
590-561-910.000	Insurance		51,421.00	60,330.00		64,125.00		(3,795.00)	106.29
Net [Admin] Insurance and bonds			(51,421.00)	(60,330.00)		(64,125.00)		3,795.00	106.29
[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 07/31/2025

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

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE 07/31/2024		2024-25 AMENDED BUDGET	YTD BALANCE 07/31/2025		AVAILABLE BALANCE		% BDGT USED
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	
Fund 590 - MQT AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT									
[Admin] Miscellaneous									
590-561-923.000	Stormwater Fee		8,450.00	11,700.00		9,750.00		1,950.00	83.33
Net [Admin] Miscellaneous			(8,450.00)	(11,700.00)		(9,750.00)		(1,950.00)	83.33
[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		5,606,523.21	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		57,903.35	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			(5,664,426.56)	(131,815.93)		(1,545,771.58)		1,413,955.65	1,172.67
[Admin] Depreciation									
590-561-968.000	Depreciation		620,853.80	757,200.00		376,193.76		381,006.24	49.68
Net [Admin] Depreciation			(620,853.80)	(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		247,030.00	293,120.00		244,260.00		48,860.00	83.33
Net [Admin] Payment in lieu of taxes			(247,030.00)	(293,120.00)		(244,260.00)		(48,860.00)	83.33
[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		186,634.00	194,040.00		194,031.00		9.00	100.00
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			(222,076.95)	(324,610.00)		(278,444.33)		(46,165.67)	85.78
Fund 590 - MQT AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT:									
TOTAL REVENUES			2,130,218.55	6,904,688.78		2,503,646.32		4,401,042.46	36.26
TOTAL EXPENDITURES			8,876,597.25	6,904,688.78		4,545,144.65		2,359,544.13	65.83
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES			(6,746,378.70)	0.00		(2,041,498.33)		2,041,498.33	100.00

August 21, 2025

Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Plant

Advisory Board Meeting
Operations Report for
July 2025



PERMIT COMPLIANCE FOR THE MONTH(S):

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

PLANT NOTES:

- The Waste Receiving Station continues to function smoothly. We've picked up two more haulers, for a total of five so far.
- Staff replaced the bearings and mechanical seal in the water booster pump for our GBT. We encountered many problems during this process, but we came together and managed to complete the repairs. The GBT cannot be run without this pump, so we definitely felt the pressure to succeed.
- I replaced the actuator for the metering valve that controls the temperature of our digesters.
- Staff discovered the #2 bunker sump pump was plugged. Thanks to the improvements we suggested during the installation of these pumps as part of the solids handling project, we were able to flush it out and get it back into service with relative ease.
- Staff discovered and repaired two cracks in the high pressure FEW lines in the plant. We were able to perform the repairs without having to shut the system down entirely.
- Staff replaced a broken shear pin for the #3 & #4 primary clarifier drive. There was nothing wrong with the drive itself, the pin had become weak due to corrosion.
- The small dual fuel boiler would not come on when commanded. I traced the problem to a faulty output from the PLC. I was able to re-land the wires to the boiler on a different output of the PLC, and I re-programmed the PLC to correctly route the call-to-run signal to the boiler.
- Staff discovered the #2 filtrate pump would not run and was having frequent "pump fail" alarms. I found the E777 overload unit was faulty. I replaced the unit, but these replacement units require programming changes to make them compatible with our control system. These changes take several hours to complete, and if the changes are not made, the equipment will not operate. I have a box full of these units that have failed over the years, and depending on where we get them they cost between \$700 and \$900+ each...it would be nice to find an alternative.

INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITY FOR JULY 2025

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Fabick/CAT	2,000	\$280.00
LS&I	8,700	\$1,218.00
Wisconsin Electric	37,000	\$1,480.00
Grand Totals	47,700	\$2,978.00

SEPTAGE ACTIVITY FOR JULY 2025

Source	Volume (gallons)	Total
Carey/Sodergren	26,859	\$4,834.62
North Country	56,374	\$10,147.32
Stenberg	18,394	\$3,310.92
Grand Totals	101,627	\$18,292.86