RIB MOUNTAIN
METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT
151401 ASTER ROAD
WAUSAU, WI 54401
715-359-7852
Rmmsd@ribmountainmetro.com

"Doing our part for the Wisconsin River"

DIRECTOR:
ERIC DONALDSON
SUPERINTENDENT:
ANDY HEISE

To the Attendees of the 10 January 2023 RMMSD Commissioner Board meeting

Subject: record of the comments made during the public hearing for Facility Planning – Phase #2 - To evaluate and recommend upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Facility to meet its needs over the next 20 years including comments, questions, and discussion on the plan.

1. Tim Vergara from the Village of Rothschild spoke via Zoom as follows: when COVID hit all communities experienced a lower volume of wastewater discharge to RMMSD for about 2 years. In 2022, Rothschild's flow went up while all the other communities flow remained at 2021 levels, why?
2. RMMSD's response: RMMSD monitors flow of wastewater at each of the community sample stations, at wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) influent and effluent then checks to see if the numbers agree. While RMMSD cannot explain why flows have returned to pre-COVID levels, except for Rothschild, the measured flows on either side of the River agree. When RMMSD sees a disagreement between measured flows, an investigation occurs and necessary changes are made to any flow measurement device(s). Therefor RMMSD believes the measured flows for all communities is accurate. RMMSD also asked Rothschild for Rothschild's water supply pumpage reports to compare to calculated wastewater flow for Rothschild.
3. Jared Grande from Town of Rib Mountain asked if the Facility Plan included project items in regard to PFAS/PFOA regulations.
4. RMMSD's response: RMMSD's permit is due to be reissued early 2024 and is expected to include PFAS/PFOA monitoring on the effluent only, i.e. not the sludge. Therefor the Facility Plan did not include any major plan changes to sludge processing or handling during Phase 2, perhaps Phase 4, which is probably 10 to 20 years away.
5. On 11 January 2023, Jared Grande sent an email to eric.rmmsd@ribmountain metro.com indicating that costs for solar projects have come down due to tax benefits previously unavailable to municipal entities.
6. RMMSD response: see email attached.
7. An email was sent to RMMSD via the www.ribmountainmetro.com website on 16 January 2023. That email and RMMSD's response is attached.
8. Ryan VanDeWalle from the Village of Rothschild sent an email commenting on Rothschilds flows and PFAS plans. The email and RMMSD's response is attached.

Eric Donaldson

From: Eric Donaldson
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 3:51 PM
To: Jared Grande
Subject: RE: RMMSD Phase 2 facility plan document

Jared-

Thanks for the input, much appreciated.

We have looked at solar, Northwind in particular, and it had a minimum of 25 year payback. As you indicated, the rules have changed so I'll look at this again. If it is worth our time, we could do it outside the construction project.

We have also had numerous solar companies contact us about setting up a solar array on our vacant land, we have a 40 to the North and South of the WWTP. When I indicate we are interested, they check the property and find out it has too much land in the flood plain/wetland.

Later-

Eric.

From: Jared Grande <jgrande@ribmountainwi.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 3:37 PM
To: Eric Donaldson <eric.rmmsd@ribmountainmetro.com>
Subject: RE: RMMSD Phase 2 facility plan document

Eric,

I know it may be an 11th hour situation, but I suggested it to Andy to maybe investigate solar panels; the Town of Rib Mountain will be installing solar panels on the south facing roofs of the building. With the new IRA bill passed by current administration, there is a 30% tax incentive for everyone, including governments, to install alternative energy. I have attached quotes we got from Northwind Solar and Olson Solar; Olson Solar was substantially less with similar hardware, so our board approved Olson Solar. It's estimated by year 10 we will have paid off the cost of them and start making money back. This was just a thought to incorporate into the facilities plan to help reduce operation costs over the next 20+years. We went with the larger system.

Any questions or if you have interest in possibly doing this, please let me know.

Thanks,

Jared Grande
Community Development Director
Town of Rib Mountain
Office: 715-842-0983
Direct: 715-679-8332

From: Eric Donaldson <eric.rmmsd@ribmountainmetro.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2023 1:48 PM

To: Jared Grande <jgrande@ribmountainwi.gov>
Subject: RMMSD Phase 2 facility plan document

Jared-

Thanks for coming to the meeting today.

Attached is the facility plan that was discussed.

Let me know if you have any questions or comments. The comment period closes on 18 January 2023.

Later-

Eric.

Eric Donaldson, PE
Director, RMMSD
715-359-7852

Eric Donaldson

From: Eric Donaldson
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 8:53 AM
To: choerter@charter.net
Subject: FW: New contact form message for Rib Mountain Metro via Contact Us
Attachments: Phase 2 schedule and list.pdf

Hello-

Thanks for the email.

Rib Mountain Metropolitan Sewerage District (RMMSD) is not getting a new wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The original WWTP went online 1986, so there is now equipment that is at or beyond its useful life. Plans are to replace some equipment and upgrade some equipment.

If you want more information, the Facility Plan document is located at: https://ribmountainmetro.com/manuals-%26-forms

I've attached a PDF file that is a summary of the project items, building by building, along with a tentative schedule for the project.

You can also call 715-359-7852 and ask for Eric if you want to discuss.

Later-

Eric.

From: Sandra Balz <rmmsd@ribmountainmetro.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 8:35 AM
To: Eric Donaldson <eric.rmmsd@ribmountainmetro.com>
Subject: FW: New contact form message for Rib Mountain Metro via Contact Us

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From: notifications@mail.conversations.godaddy.com <notifications@mail.conversations.godaddy.com>
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2023 9:53 AM
To: Sandra Balz <rmmsd@ribmountainmetro.com>
Subject: New contact form message for Rib Mountain Metro via Contact Us

Rib Mountain Metro
has received a new message.

Reply to Conversation

Email
choerter@charter.net

Message
So... Rib Mountain is getting a new water treatment plant? When approx. is this proposed to happen?

Device
desktop

Language
en-US

Submitted_from
Homepage

This message came from your contact form, Rib Mountain Metro

Download the Conversations mobile app for iOS or Android, to access and respond to messages on the go

Sent via GoDaddy Websites + Marketing | Manage Emails

Table 8.02-1 Summary of Recommended Improvement Costs

	Item	Opinion of Capital Cost		
		Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
Alternatives	Alternative P1			
	Add a second chemical storage tank.	$124,000		
	Enclose existing chemical storage tank and new storage tank in new room within existing solids processing building.	$815,000		
	Replace chemical yard piping.	$360,000		
	Add an orthophosphate analyzer.	$29,000		
	Add energy dissipating inlets to the final clarifiers.		$72,000	
	Replace the chemical pumps.	$29,000		
	Alternative TN1			
	MLE process with primary clarification and anaerobic digestion.			$16,710,000
	Alternative B3			
	Heat drying.			$16,341,000
Common Alternatives	Influent Pump Station			
	Replace the wet well floats and transducers.	$53,000		
	Add a second force main from the influent pumping station to the preliminary treatment building.	$588,000		
	Replace MCC-A and SCC-A.	$726,000		
	Replace existing VFDs for influent pumps with new VFDs for each pump.	$264,000		
	Replace the standby generator. The new generator will be located outside near the digester complex.	$924,000		
	Replace dry well HVAC to comply with NFPA 820 standards and WAC NR 110.	$264,000		
	Preliminary Treatment			
	Add a new mechanical screen and wash press in the second influent channel.	$1,223,000		
	Replace the existing slide gate with a motorized slide gate.	$124,000		
	Add a new MCC-D.	$637,000		
	Build a room addition to the building to house the new MCC and the relocated SCC-E.	$443,000		
	Relocate SCC-E to an unclassified area.	$271,000		
	Replace HVAC to comply with NFPA 820 standards.	$191,000		
	Repair spalling concrete in channels following the aerated grit removal tank.	$32,000		
	Primary Sedimentation			
	Replace the primary clarifier drives.	$297,000		
	Repower the primary clarifier equipment from the new MCC-D in the preliminary treatment building.	$225,000		
	Replace the primary sludge pumps.	$276,000		
	Activated Sludge			
	Replace the diffuser and tank internal air piping in Tanks 1, 2, and 3.	$935,000		
	Final Clarification			
	Replace clarifier mechanisms.		$696,000	
	Sludge Thickening and Solids Processing			
	Replace the unsubmerged DAFT equipment.	$178,000		
	Replace MCC-B.	$1,331,000		
	Replace HVAC in the building.	$437,000		
	Demolish and seal the doorway between the DAFT room and the blower room to comply with NFPA 820 standards.	$218,000		
	Replace the DAFT pumps.	$268,000		
	Replace the biosolids holding tank mixer.	$213,000		
	Anaerobic Digestion			
	Replace the primary digester cover.	$1,569,000		
	Replace the secondary digester cover.	$1,822,000		
	Replace the primary digester mixing pump and nozzles.	$368,000		
	Add phase loss/phase imbalance protection on the ATS controller.	$31,000		
	Construct a room adjacent to the digester complex basement to house the gas safety and handling equipment in accordance with NFPA 820 standards.	$2,233,000		
	Replace gas safety and handling equipment.	$848,000		
	Replace boiler/heat exchanger for the digesters.		$1,015,000	
	Replace recirculation pumps.		$452,000	
	Replace and relocate waste gas burner.	$309,000		
	Replace HVAC boiler.		$507,000	
	Demolish and remove biogas engine generators.	$155,000		
	Replace MCC-C and SCC-C.	$1,006,000		
	Replace HVAC in building complex.	$464,000		
	Miscellaneous			
	Replace tunnel HVAC.	$137,000		
	Replace non-potable water system.	$396,000		
	Total	**$20,813,000**	**$2,742,000**	**$33,051,000**

[1]All costs in fourth quarter 2022 dollars.

8.04 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The preliminary project implementation schedule for the Phase II improvements is presented in Table 8.04-1. This schedule was developed to allow the project to be bid in early 2024. The schedule assumes the project is funded through the fiscal year 2024 CWF program.

Task	Schedule Date
Public Hearing on Facilities Plan	January 2023
Submit Final Facilities Plan and FCAP to WDNR	January 2023
Begin Design	February 2023
Site Survey	March 2023
Soil Borings	March 2023
Pass Reimbursement Resolution	March 2023
Submit Drawings and Specifications to WDNR[1]	November 2023
Submit CWF Program Loan Application[1]	November 2023
WDNR Plan and Specification Approval	February 2024
Publish Advertisement to Bid	March 2024
Bid Opening	April 2024
Begin Construction	June 2024
Complete Phosphorus Alternative Construction	December 2025
Complete Construction	June 2027

[1]CWF Program Deadline for fiscal year 2024 Funding is September 30, 2023.
ITA=Intent to Apply, PERF=Priority Evaluation and Ranking Formula

Table 8.04-1 Project Implementation Schedule

Eric Donaldson

From: Eric Donaldson
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 3:54 PM
To: Ryan VanDeWalle
Cc: Sandra Balz; George Peterson; Tim Vergara; Andy Heise
Subject: RE: RMMSD Facilities plan public comment - Village of Rothschild

Ryan-

Thanks for the comments and I hope all is well with you.

I will include this email in the Public Participation section of the Facility Plan.

For comparison to RMMSD's calculated Rothschild flow, can you send me Rothschild's monthly water supply pumpage reports for 2020, 2021 and 2022?

Later-

Eric.

From: Ryan VanDeWalle <rvandewalle@rothschildwi.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 3:21 PM
To: Eric Donaldson <eric.rmmsd@ribmountainmetro.com>
Cc: Sandra Balz <rmmsd@ribmountainmetro.com>; George Peterson <gpeterson@rothschildwi.com>; Tim Vergara <tvergara@rothschildwi.com>
Subject: RMMSD Facilities plan public comment - Village of Rothschild

Hello Eric,

I hope all is well. I wanted to reach out regarding last weeks meeting about the Facilities plan and the open public comment until January 18th, 2023. For starters, I am requesting to go on record to question the levels of flow rates coming from the Village of Rothschild. On page 4-2 of the RMMSD Facilities plan, it mentions some information under 4.03 PROJECTED FLOWS. Under 4.03 (A). Dry Weather Base Flow and Per Capita Flows, the initial sentences read "Since January 2018, the annual average daily flow treated at the RMMSD WWTP has ranged from a low of approximately 2.58 MGD in 2021 to a high of 3.13 MGD in 2019. This decrease in flow coincides with the COVID-19 pandemic effects that were perceived at the WWTP and the drought in 2021". However, as Tim V. and the Village of Rothschild have questioned in recent weeks, the flow amount for the Village of Rothschild has trended in an upward usage direction, to the tune of roughly 50 million gallons annually. This unfortunately does not coincide with the trends and findings that are located within the facilities plan and the Village of Rothschild is looking to find some answers as to why this has changed so drastically.

Secondly, the Village of Rothschild has moved to work with Becher-Hoppe Associates, Inc. of Wausau, Wisconsin to initiate the process of removal of PFAs through a water treatment facility. We are aiming at a zero (0) ppt standard for PFAs.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out and we would be happy to help.

Thank you!

Ryan VanDeWalle, MPA

Village Administrator
Village of Rothschild
211 Grand Avenue
Rothschild, WI 54474
rvandewalle@rothschildwi.com
(715) 359-3660

VILLAGE OF
Rothschild