Members Present: Brenda L. Stumbo, Michael Bodary, Andrew Cameron, Larry J. Doe, and Keith P. Jason.

Members Absent: None.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Stumbo called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** Motion by Bodary to receive and file the minutes of the October 22, 2014 meeting as presented. Support by Doe. In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried.)

3. **NEW BUSINESS:**

   A. **Request to Approve – Purchase of Sand, Stone and Cold Patch in the Amount of $63,075 (O & M Expense Account No. 560-806)** – Bob Fry

      Mr. Fry reminded the Board that they approved this bid request at the September meeting. He directed their attention to a tabulation of the bids that were received on October 17th. Mr. Fry explained that Dani’s Transport was the low bidder for the sand and stone in the amount of $37,175 and Barrett Paving Materials was the low bidder for the cold patch in the amount of $27,900.

      Motion by Doe to provide Authorization to Purchase of Sand, Stone and Cold Patch in the Amount of $63,075 (O & M Expense Account No. 560-806). Support by Bodary. In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried)

   B. **Request to Approve – Authorization to Seek Bids re: Vehicle Purchase (Motor Pool Expense Account No. 901-597)** – Bob Fry

      Motion by Doe to provide Authorization to Seek Bids re: Vehicle Purchase (Motor Pool Expense Account No. 901-597). Support by Cameron.
Mr. Fry advised the Board that the fleet vehicles are evaluated yearly for age, mileage, type of service, reliability, estimated repair costs, and current condition. He indicated that this item will replace five vehicles: one truck with a plow and salter, three tool trucks with various storage beds, and one sedan. Mr. Fry explained that the cost will not exceed $145,000 and will paid out of the fleet expense motor pool account. He pointed out that no new vehicles have been added to the fleet since 2010.

Mr. Doe inquired as to whether YCUA ever goes through the state’s MiDeal governmental extended purchasing program. Mr. Castro responded that he has discussed this option with Jeff Allen and that this is something for the Authority to consider for vehicles like the sedan that do not require special carriages or equipment. He commented that using MiDeal could possibly eliminate the local dealers’ 3% variance per YCUA’s purchasing policy.

In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried)

C. Request for Consideration – Changes to YCUA Board of Commissioners’ 2015 Meeting Schedule re: Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays – Jeff Castro

Motion by Doe to approve the Changes to YCUA Board of Commissioners’ 2015 Meeting Schedule re: Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays. Support by Bodary.

Mr. Castro advised the Board that this request is made every year due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. He indicated that this year’s request is to move the November 25, 2015 to November 18, 2015 and the December 23, 2015 meeting to December 16, 2015.

In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried)

D. Request to Approve – Demolition Engineering Proposal from Tetra Tech re: Willow Run Wastewater Treatment Plant Demolition in the Not-To-Exceed Amount of $130,000 (Environmental Reserve Fund Account No. 902-392) – Scott D. Westover

Motion by Jason to approve the Demolition Engineering Proposal from Tetra Tech re: Willow Run Wastewater Treatment Plant Demolition in the Not-To-Exceed Amount of $130,000 (Environmental Reserve Fund Account No. 902-392). Support by Doe.

Mr. Westover advised the Board that engineering staff has reviewed the proposal and recommends approval.

Mr. Doe inquired as to the amount of the demolition cost. Mr. Westover responded that the demolition bid was in the amount of $653,000 with a 10% contingency. He indicated that the total project including upfront
Mr. Doe inquired as to whether the contractor will remove all of the waste material. Mr. Westover responded affirmatively.

Ms. Stumbo inquired as to whether this is near the demolition being done by RACER Trust. Mr. Westover responded that this project will take place right across Airport Road from the RACER Trust work.

In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried)

E. Request to Approve – Construction Engineering Proposal from Tetra Tech re: WWTP Incinerator SO2 Reduction in the Not-To-Exceed Amount of $71,000 (O & M Account No. 902-167) – Scott D. Westover

Motion by Jason to approve the Construction Engineering Proposal from Tetra Tech re: WWTP Incinerator SO2 Reduction in the Not-To-Exceed Amount of $71,000 (O & M Account No. 902-167). Support by Bodary.

Mr. Westover advised the Board that engineering staff has reviewed the proposal and recommends approval.

In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried)

F. Fund Balance Report – Dwayne Harrigan

Informational only; no motion from the Board required.


Informational only; no motion from the Board required.


Mr. Castro directed the Board’s attention to the Consumption Report. He then proceeded to give a detailed report of the information contained in the report and answered questions from the Board.

Informational only; no motion from the Board required.

I. Attorney’s Report – Thomas E. Daniels

There was no Attorney’s Report for the month.

Ms. Stumbo asked that the letter from Christina L. Pearse of BFI Waste Systems / Republic Services be discussed at this time. Mr. Daniels advised the Board that he reviewed the letter and discussed the same with Mr. Castro. He indicated that the letter was relative to the Arbor Hills landfill. Mr. Daniels explained that this is a landfill from which YCUA has always received 100% of the leachate produced. He pointed out that, a few years ago, some exceedances were received from one side of the landfill, which prompted the former Director of Wastewater / Compliance to suspend the discharge. Mr. Daniels also explained that Republic
Services has since done work on some pretreatment relative to that side. He further advised that there is no problem treating this leachate and that it would represent additional income for the Authority. Mr. Daniels stated that, if approved by the Board, it would simply require an addendum to the current contract that was approved by the Board in November of 2013.

Luther D. Blackburn advised the Board that this landfill was historically operated under one entity called Onyx but that it has since been split. He indicated that Advanced Disposal, formerly Veolia Environmental Services, now owns the active landfill on the west side of the property and that Republic Services owns the closed landfill on the east side. Mr. Blackburn explained that it is the closed portion to which the letter refers.

He pointed out that Republic discharged leachate to YCUA from both sides when it was one operation but that, after to some PCB noncompliance in 2003, investigation sampling identified the east side of the landfill as the source of the problem. Mr. Blackburn also explained that those discharge lines were severed and Republic has not discharged to the Authority from that portion of the landfill since that time. He further advised that Republic approached the Authority in 2008 after some modeling and bench scale testing for PCB treatment proved successful but that, due to a flow limitation agreement with Northville Township, a formal request did not come to YCUA at that time, only some informal meetings and data sharing.

Mr. Blackburn stated that he assumes that this most recent request will be followed up with a report on the pretreatment systems that have put into place to meet ordinance limits for PCBs.

Mr. Bodary inquired as to what kinds of guarantees the Authority would receive that these exceedances would not occur again if YCUA would agree to this request. Mr. Blackburn responded that he is of the opinion that the non-compliance issues in the past were administrative only. He added that the Authority’s industrial pretreatment program, which is established by the Clean Water Act, is heavily regulated and that the facility is permitted, sampled, and inspected to assure the limits are set so that any non-compliance would happen well before it would cause any issues with the incineration of YCUA’s biosolids. Mr. Blackburn indicated that the Authority has a lot of control under the Sewer Use Ordinance and the permitting system that allows YCUA to suspend or terminate the permit at any given time.

Mr. Bodary inquired as to who does the testing. Mr. Blackburn responded that the majority of the monitoring would be done by the landfill with YCUA periodically verifying their data.

Mr. Bodary commented that his opinion would be to not arbitrarily deny this request, especially with the assurance of the Authority’s experts. Ms.
Stumbo suggested that this be discussed further because this is a very sensitive subject with a lot of history.

Mr. Doe commented that his concern is that approving this request could set a precedence for other companies wanting to discharge leachate to YCUA. Mr. Castro clarified that Republic is the only customer with which the Authority has a prior relationship, therefore this would not affect new leachate requests. Mr. Blackburn interjected that Republic is a subsidiary of Browning Ferris Industries, which is the original owner of the leachate agreement. Mr. Daniels also clarified that he has mapped out the chain of ownership for both sides of the landfill and confirmed that the parent company has always been Browning Ferris Industries.

Mr. Jason asked for clarification on the differences between an active and a closed landfill. Mr. Blackburn outlined those differences in detail as well as the methods for managing liquid and gas discharges. He indicated that leachate is the liquid byproduct that is continuously being created by both active and closed landfills.

Ms. Stumbo indicated that her main concern is whether the Authority is legally bound to accept this request since it is coming from a previous customer. She stated that she is of the opinion is that the violations must have been pretty bad for their discharge permit to have terminated previously. Mr. Blackburn responded that the permit suspensions are done in accordance with state requirements. Mr. Daniels interjected that, from a legal standpoint, this is a unique situation and that the cease and desist order issued to the customer represents not a termination but rather a suspension that can be rescinded at any time without suffering a claim from a third party requesting to enter into a new agreement. He added that a provision was added to the Sewer Ordinances in Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township that specifically states that leachate will not accepted until approved by the YCUA Board of Commissioners under a signed, written contract on a case-by-case basis.

Ms. Stumbo inquired as to the potential revenue from this request. Mr. Castro responded that it would be in the area of $40,000 to $50,000 annually.

Mr. Jason inquired as to whether the Authority has any leachate flow volume limits in place. Mr. Blackburn responded this landfill has a volume limit of 110,000 gallons per day in place with Northville Township and possibly WTUA. He indicated that, because this is a closed facility, an increase in flow would not be expected.

Ms. Stumbo asked whether more historical data as well as a layout of the organization can be gathered for the Board’s further consideration at a later date. Mr. Castro responded affirmatively.
J. **Environmental Report** – Luther D. Blackburn

Mr. Blackburn advised the Board that YCUA continues to maintain compliance with its NPDES and air permits. He indicated that MDEQ granted the Authority’s request to reduce the hourly feed rate limitation in the air permit. Mr. Blackburn explained that YCUA has completed the sampling portion of the re-evaluation of the local limits for PBCs and other pollutants. He pointed out that, once this data has been fully evaluated and summarized, it will be submitted to the state as well as the YCUA Board for potential changes.

Ms. Stumbo inquired as to whether there have been any recent odor complaints. Mr. Blackburn responded that he has received none. Several Board members commented about bad odors outside the wastewater treatment plant fence line during the Saturday before last. Mr. Blackburn responded that there are issues with the odor control facility freezing up, which requires it to be shut down temporarily. He added, however, that solids are not processed on weekends, so there should be no reason for odors on a Saturday.

K. **Director’s Report** - Jeff Castro

Mr. Castro reminded the Board that, as they previously approved, he has been asked by the Rothstein Group, which was appointed by Judge Sean Cox, to participate in the new Great Lakes Water Authority operation committee, assisting with the new structure and personnel organization. He added that he has since been advised that Dwayne Harrigan will participate on the accounting and contracts committee and that Scott Robinson will participate in the personnel and safety committee. Mr. Castro indicated that, for now, all information is confidential but that he will convey what he can to the Board going forward. He thanked the Board for their support.

Ms. Stumbo indicated that this is a great honor.

Mr. Bodary inquired as to whether a press release can be prepared to announce these appointments. Mr. Castro responded affirmatively.

4. **OLD BUSINESS:** There was no Old Business for the month.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

L. **Director’s Salary Market Study** – Brenda L. Stumbo

Ms. Stumbo commented that she is proud of the great job that Mr. Castro has done since taking over as YCUA’s Director and that being chosen for the GLWA position is indicative of a great deal of confidence in the Authority and its director. She asked that a market study be brought before the Board at the next meeting regarding the director’s salary relative to similarly sized organizations to determine whether Mr. Castro
is being adequately compensated or if a market adjustment is in order. Ms. Robinson responded that she will oversee the study.

6. **STATEMENTS AND CHECKS:** Motion by Cameron to pay the bills in the amount of $3,966,149.91. Support by Bodary. In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried)

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Dr. Joh Kang of Tetra Tech congratulated YCUA on MDEQ’s approval of its request for a change in its air permit. He indicated that this is rare and gave a detailed reporting of the request.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Doe to adjourn the meeting at 4:39 p.m. Support by Jason. In favor: All. Opposed: None. (Motion carried)

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL BODARY, Vice-Chair