



Utility Commission – Divisional Updates

Utility Commission Meeting Date: April 8, 2019

TO: City of Lompoc Utility Commissions

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SUBJECT: Divisional Updates for the month of March 2019.

Following is a summary of significant activities of Utilities during the Month of March 2019.

Administration

Vacancies in various administrative positions are actively being addressed. A permanent appointment for the Water Superintendent position was made during March. The Wastewater Superintendent position's recruitment closed during March. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for the week of April 15. Water's Water Administrative Analysis position recruitment closed in March and testing for the position was accomplished during the month. The Utility Conservation Representative position's recruitment will close during April. Several operational vacancies and promotions are being addressed at the division levels.

Electric rebate programs, water rebate programs, high use audits, leak detection, and other conservation support services continue; however, without Utility Conservation staff, those customer support services are significantly curtailed. Until the Utility Conservation recruitment process concludes, the support services will continue to be significantly curtailed.

All divisions submitted requested budget information to Finance by the March 27, 2019 deadline. It is unlikely summary information will be available to utility divisions until the draft budget is presented to the City Council for consideration. Additional budget workshops are scheduled during April with the next meeting scheduled for April 17, 2019.

Water

The Water Superintendent reported for the month of March 2019, the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) treated 88.3 million gallons of fresh clean drinking water, which is 2.8 million gallons per day. The WTP's gallons per capita per day (GPCPD) for March was 68.2 GPCPD serving a population of 41,059 customers, resulting in a residential GPCPD of 49.1 based on an estimated residential ratio of use of 72%. The WTP's daily residential usage has been consistently below 50 GPCPD for all of 2019. The WTP's target set by the State of California for 2022 is 55 GPCPD.

The WTP's laboratory collected and processed 96 routine bacteriological samples from the City's distribution system with zero positive bacteria samples reported.

The WTP recorded 2.59" of rain during the month of March 2019. Santa Barbara County reported 2.61" of rain during the month of March through March 28, 2019 at the City of Lompoc's City Hall. Santa Barbara County water year rainfall totals at City Hall is 19.09" or 132% of normal for the year ending August 31, 2019, as of March 28, 2019. The Landfill recorded 3.85" of rain during the month of March 2019.

The City's Water Meter Shop replaced and upgraded (50) 100W ERT units during the month. The majority of the upgrades were due to 60W ERT's not reporting consistently for billing purposes. Preventative maintenance was also performed in various meter boxes to minimize the risk to replaced ERTs including a few complete meter replacements, meter box replacements, mortaring of bottom of the meter box or wire replacement.

Plant staff completed the annual maintenance of the WTP during March for Basin #1. The condition of the equipment was better than expected and mostly due to a small change in the WTP's Standard Operating Procedures of not running the flocculation paddles, and rake arms continuously when the basins are out of service. Staff also finalized a long-standing project to switch the WTP's Flocculation and rake arm motors with a food based oil from a 90W petroleum oil. Basin #2 maintenance is slated to begin the third week of April 2019. Maintenance tasks will include: drain the basin, assess and repair any issues in the flocculation, sedimentation, and re-carbonation portions of the treatment process. During this time staff will be utilizing the other half of the plant to stay in service and continue to process the WTP's daily demand of water.

Wastewater

The Operations division coordinated tours of the plant for various groups and individuals. Operations completed and filed required regulatory reports for the month of February and completed draft regulatory NPDES reports for the first quarter of 2019. The Laboratory division met with Vandenberg Village Community Services District (VVCSD) in March. Laboratory staff prepared for quarterly, annual and semi-annual regulatory testing requirements. The Maintenance staff supervisor was called for jury duty for most of the month of March. The Supervisor maintained contact with staff who continued to provide preventative and reactive services to the plant. Collections staff continues with routine cleaning of lines, coordinated with the Purchasing Division to secure replacement equipment for the camera vehicle due to an equipment failure. Collections coordinated with other City divisions along with VVCSD regarding the ongoing Floradale Bridge Replacement Project.

Electric

Electric Staff continued working on the compliance obligation and reporting this month. Electric filed its mandatory Santa Barbara Air Pollution Control District Annual Report, encroachment permits with Caltrans, and Santa Barbara County. Staff also revised AB 802 Building Energy Benchmarking forms to comply with the updated and now adopted law. A resolution of the City was approved at the March 19, 2019 City Council meeting attesting to the 2017 Power Source Disclosure Report. Staff also assisted with the City's internal departments in the development of the City's Small Cell Wireless Facilities Policy.

Broadband

As part of the City's finance system upgrade, network access was upgraded at the City's Purchasing Yard on V Street to provide for inventory control services available in the Munis system. As part of providing internal network connectivity for City facilities, existing obsolete access points are being replaced throughout the City at City facilities. As part of the replacement of access points and to provide additional network security, switch equipment at the Wastewater Plant and in the Water Plant/Electric Substation/Fire Station #2/Library complex were replaced. The Lompoc Airport has requested a higher level of broadband service to provide additional services for airport hosted events, greater security requirements, and expansion of broadband services to the Airport's new workshop and to provide connectivity for the Airport's on-site fueling systems. A total of 10.9 terabytes of data passed across the City's broadband system during March.

Billing support provided by Utilities through Broadband include meter reading services. Monthly reading success rates for March was 96.5% for water meters, despite significant rain events during the month that hamper signal propagation from flooded meter boxes. Monthly reading success rates for electric meters was 99.6% for the month of March.

Solid Waste

The Solid Waste Superintendent and Solid Waste Recycling Coordinator met with Lompoc Unified School District staff to discuss the Mandatory Commercial Organics recycling and establishing a program with the Central Kitchen to divert their food waste from disposal into composting. Containers for the program have been ordered with an anticipated delivery date of mid-April and start-up date of the Food Waste Recycling Program and routes starting around May 1, 2019.

Solid Waste has removed Public Used Oil Collection and Used Oil Filter Collection locations at the City's Recycling Drop-Off Facility at 1585 N V Street, the Corporate Yard location, the City Airport location, Napa Auto Center location and the location at Perry's Auto Parts. The City still has Used Oil and Used Oil Filter Collection options available at the City Landfill (700 Avalon Street), during normal operating hours and at the City's Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Facility located at 1585 North V Street (between the hours of 7 a.m. and 2 p.m.) The public can also recycle their used oil at AutoZone and O'Reilly Auto Parts.

Solid Waste Collections diverted or recycled 2,524 tons of recycle (blue lid container), 2,602 tons of greenwaste, and 809 tons of cardboard from Lompoc residents and businesses, for calendar year 2018.

The Landfill received 3,520 tons of trash, recycling and greenwaste for the month of February 2019. The total tons recycled were 561 tons and the total tons disposed were 2,869 tons. The Landfill saw a 3% increase in trash tonnages for February 2019 over February 2018 tonnages.

The Landfill received 4,725 tons of trash, recycling, and greenwaste for the month of March 2019. The total tons recycled were 947 tons and the total tons disposed were 3,778 tons. The Landfill saw a 16% increase in trash tonnages for March 2019 over March 2018 tonnages.