



Utility Commission – Divisional Updates

Utility Commission Meeting Date: May 13, 2019

TO: City of Lompoc Utility Commissions

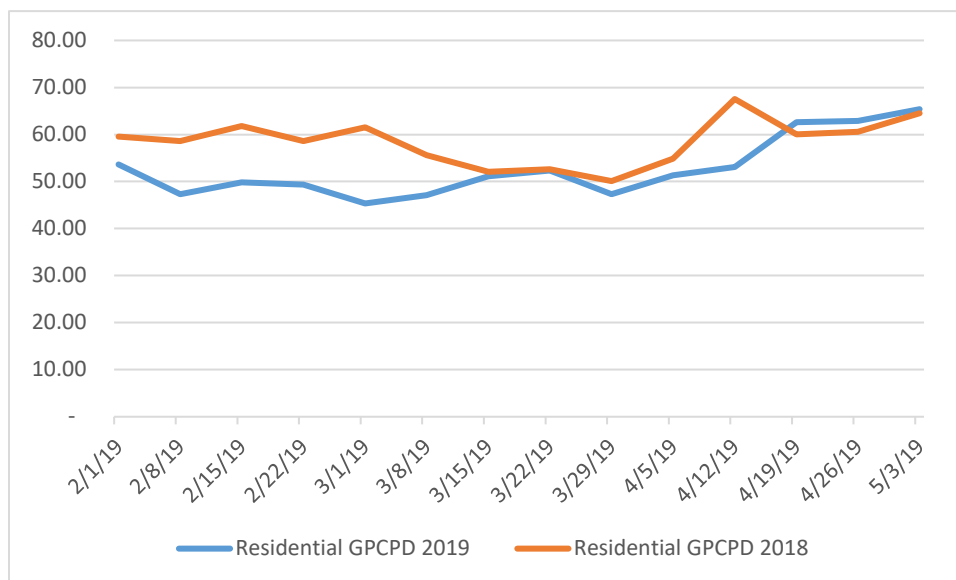
FROM: Brad Wilkie, Utility Director
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SUBJECT: Divisional Updates for the month of April 2019.

Following is the monthly summary of significant activities of the Divisions of the Utility Department for the month of April 2019.

Water

The Water Superintendent reported for the month of April 2019, the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) has treated 102.2 million gallons of fresh clean drinking water, which averages to 3.4 million gallons per day. The gallons per capita per day (GPCPD) for April was 83.0 serving a population of 41,059 customers. Based on residential use to total use of 72%, the residential GPCPD is 59.7. The average daily residential usage for 2019 is 52.8 GPCPD. The 2022 state mandated target for the City of Lompoc is an annual average of 55 GPCPD. The following graph shows residential GPCPD from February 1 to April 30 for 2018 and 2019:



The WTP's Laboratory collected and processed 96 routine bacteriological samples from the distribution system with zero positive bacteria samples reported. The WTP recorded 0.14" of rain for April.

The WTP's Meter Shop replaced and upgraded (35) 100W ERT's at customer locations, 4 new meters were installed, 12 meters were serviced, and 18 meter boxes were serviced.

The Water Division started the annual maintenance of the WTP Basin #2 in April. The maintenance included: drain, assess and repair any issues in the flocculation, sedimentation, and re-carbonation portions of the treatment process. During this maintenance cycle, the treatment plant utilized Basin #1 and the other half of the plant to continue to process our daily demand of water. The Water operations and maintenance staff are scheduled to start the annual acid washes of the Diatomaceous Earth filters in May. This process is done to remove buildup and plating on the filter septum's to allow for maximum flow with a reduced vacuum on the system. One of the plant's four dewatering centrifuges motors was removed and taken in for service and rehabilitation during April. It was reinstalled and placed back into service on May 2, 2019.

The Water Division has scheduled pump efficiency testing and related preventative maintenance services on (8) wells, (5) filters, and (4) booster pumps to be performed in May. As part of the testing, (8) well and the WTP's influent and effluent magnetic meters received verification testing. These services will allow us to prioritize future maintenance and well rehabilitations at our groundwater sites and give us more accurate reporting numbers for water production in our system.

Wastewater

Operations:

- Replaced Drying Bed portable pump with a new unit.
- Completed and Submitted Q1 2019 NPDES Report to the state and regional boards. Chronic Toxicity reported at 4.0 Toxicity Unit chronic (TUc) while the permit limit is 1.0 TUc.
- Prepared and submitted monthly March NPDES reports, due by April 30.
- Hosted the April regional Sanitation Agencies Managers Association (SAMA) meeting onsite.
- Researched the feasibility and procedures on getting the authorization to use reclaimed water on the drought tolerant garden outside the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP's) fence.
- Contacted Brown and Caldwell on procuring a digital editable copy of the WWTP's Original Plant Operation and Maintenance manual to begin updating the changes that have occurred over the last 10 years.
- As part of routine annual plant maintenance, staff took the #1 Secondary Clarifier offline for cleaning and inspection.
- Assisted Maintenance Division and Electric Division staff with the replacement of the main transformer for the effluent side of the WWTP.
- Staff was provided training on the Manual Genset Operation and Transfer.
- On Tuesday night, April 23, 2019, the WWTP experienced a failure due to a Feeder Breaker tripping on a Ground Fault, disabling the SCADA Service and Dialer. Staff quickly responded and diverted effluent to holding basins, which was done manually. Maintenance personnel were dispatched and the plant's electrical services were restarted and the plant was put back online that same evening.

- On Wednesday, April 24, 2019 and Thursday, April 25 an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) site inspection took place. Operations staff provided a WWTP tour to EPA staff on April 25, 2019.

Laboratory:

- Staff collected samples and conducted testing to prepare for quarterly, semi-annual, and annual testing during April.
- Pretreatment staff performed customer outreach during the month.
- Staff attended supervisory training and the Lab Manager attended training, April 9-12.
- Pretreatment staff participated with other agencies in outreach to local elementary and middle schools and schools.
- As part of the EPA site visit, pretreatment staff reviewed inspection reports with the EPA and SWRCB representatives.

Maintenance:

- The maintenance section continued to coordinate with other divisions for the replacement of one of the two transformers providing electric power to the plant. The replacement was done successfully on April 24, 2019.
- The Maintenance Supervisor returned from Jury Duty during April following approximately a month's service.
- The WWTP's SCADA tech resolved a communication issue with DAFT #1 unit.
- Maintenance crew reinstalled the Oxidation Ditch blower during April, which had been removed for warranty work.
- A Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator passed his Grade 2 mechanical certification exam on Tuesday, April 16, 2019.
- Maintenance staff received a callout on Tuesday night, April 23, 2019, related to the Operations callout related to the electric circuit breaker issue. Maintenance staff resolved the issue within a short time allowing for normal operations to resume.
- On April 24, 2019, the WWTP's east end transformer was replaced and the process went smoothly. The emergency backup generator held the load for a few hours while commercial power was offline.
- Maintenance staff performed preventative maintenance and repairs to the Emergency Holding Basin valve actuator in the event the WWTP ever need to divert flow.

Collections:

- No sanitary sewer overflows occurred during April.
- Routine cleaning of sanitary sewers continued in the areas of Maps 20, 23, 26, and 27.
- The collection camering unit experienced equipment failure in April. Replacement equipment was ordered and installed. The unit returned to service the week of April 12.
- Collections staff attended supervisory training and the Chamber of Commerce's State of the City program.

Electric

Electric Staff replaced a leaking transformer at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). While the WWTP was offline during the transformer replacement, Electric staff used the opportunity to install new metering and testing equipment.

Electric staff continued to work on its Federal and State Compliance Obligations. In the past month, two major reports were completed: 1) Energy Information Agency's 861 report, and 2) California Energy Commission's Energy Efficiency Report. Electric Staff also completed its internal Renewable Energy Credits Audit and determined it is on track to meet the CY2020 Goals.

On April 20, 2019, a major electrical outage occurred affecting 4,142 homes and businesses in the central and southern portion of the city. It was determined the electrical outage was caused by a Mylar balloon caught up in power lines near Maple Avenue and M Street. Electric Crews were able to restore power to homes and businesses within an hour of the electrical outage. The areas affected by the electrical outage was south of Pine Avenue between A Street and O Street. Following the electrical outage, City of Lompoc Staff issued a Press Release reminding our community to avoid releasing balloons, as they can become caught in power lines and are a hazard to the environment.

Broadband

During April, the City's wireless network connection to the Lompoc landfill has degraded to the point of necessitating the replacement of the AirFiber wireless equipment. The existing 5GHz equipment was removed and replaced with available 24GHz devices. The equipment was also relocated to give a better line-of-sight to the Wastewater plant, the connection point to the City's wireless network. GO94 specifications were followed and the system performance is outstanding. With the replacement of the network connections, the cashiering systems and equipment used by landfill staff has been restored to "real-time" operations; having been operated in a more manual batch-and-transfer mode while the network connection were inadequate to support real time operations.

Broadband staff has been working with facilities personnel at the Corporate Yard to put the DVR's and cameras at the Corporation Yard on the City's primary network. There was also a request to move an existing DVR to a different location at the Corporation Yard. The moves, including network reconfigurations, have been completed and camera images are available for monitoring on the City's internal network.

The Customer Service group received delivery of a vehicle replacing a 21 year old vehicle. The vehicle that was removed from service was a 1998 Ford Ranger while the replacement is a 2019 Chevrolet Colorado.

Customer Service Field Technician recruiting has continued with the issuance of a written test, used for ranking purposes. All applicants had passing scores. Interviews are being planned for next week.

Verizon Wireless has scheduled their 3G cellular network for obsolesce in 2019. Accordingly, the City will need to update the metering collection system's fixed-network collection units (CCU's). As the cellular connectivity devices are integrated into the CCU's, the procedure the City will use to upgrade the CCU's will be to send the device, one unit at a time, to the manufacturer, Itron. Itron will replace the 3G modem with a 4G modem and return the CCU to the City for redeployment. Due to redundancy in the fixed-network, the City's metering collection system can sustain the temporary removal of a single CCU during the replacement process without affecting successful read percentages.

During April, staff has continued the updating process for AMR repeater firmware to the current version. The process involves a site visit to each device and connecting wirelessly to upload the current version.

The three annual Itron contracts necessary to operate and maintain the City's fixed-network metering systems are coming up for renewal. Staff has been working with Itron to make sure all equipment is properly listed and accounted. The process also involves purchasing to create new CPO's and validating budget amounts are adequate to provide for the contracted service costs.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) requested a submission of broadband availability and service provision for their broadband mapping initiative. As a provider subject to the CPUC request, staff worked with GIS personnel to compile and submit the requested data.

Customer Service personnel participated in CPR and First Aid training. Certification is valid for a two-year period and is offered through our Safety Officer at City facilities.

Solid Waste

Solid Waste has a meeting scheduled in May with Waste Management-Health Sanitation Services to discuss increased costs in the processing of the City's single stream recyclable materials. Some of the factors affecting California's recycling markets are changes in international policies restricting imports of recyclable materials (China's National Sword), contamination levels in recyclables, and a declining global market value for recyclables.

During February, the Landfill received 3,520 tons of trash, recycling and green waste for the month. 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.

During March, the Landfill received 4,725 tons of trash, recycling, and green waste for the month. 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.

Solid Waste staff held a conference call with The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to discuss the City's efforts in implementation of the Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling (Food Waste diversion), Mandatory Commercial Recycling (Business and Multi-Family Dwelling recycling), and Construction and Demolition Recycling programs. CalRecycle will be performing a site visit in early May 2019 to discuss and see the aforementioned program efforts.

Solid Waste has received an additional regulatory requirement from the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) regarding the Air Toxics Hot Spots Program. The California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment updated their Air Toxics Hot Spots Program: Risk Assessment Guidelines in 2015 to ensure infants and children are explicitly addressed in assessing health risk, as required by Senate Bill 25. In response, APCD is reevaluating facilities under the state's Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Information and Assessment Act (AB 2588). The Lompoc Sanitary Landfill stationary source has been identified by APCD as a high priority based on APCD's Board-approved prioritization procedure. As a high priority stationary source, the Lompoc Landfill is required to submit an Air Toxics Emission Inventory Plan, an Air Toxics Emission Inventory Report, and then conduct a Health Risk Assessment for Inventory Year 2018.

Solid Waste has received an Order (issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267) from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and requires that the City of Lompoc Landfill submit information to the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. Lompoc Landfill is identified as a facility that has accepted, stored, or used materials that may contain per-and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS). The Order (WQ 2019-0006-DWQ) requires the Landfill to submit technical reports to investigate PFAS impacts to the site.

Solid Waste has received an initial order of food waste recycling containers for establishing of the food waste recycling route to comply with the CalRecycle Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling Law.

Solid Waste has submitted the Quarterly Integrated Waste Management Fee and Disposal Reporting Systems reports to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration and CalRecycle. The total tons disposed in the first quarter of 2019 were 9,965 tons, averaging 115 trash tons per day for the 87 operating days in the quarter.

The Landfill diverted 566 mattresses for recycling in the month of March. Solid Waste is preparing the annual report to CalRecycle on Mattress diversion for 2018. The Landfill diverted 5,447 mattresses from disposal for calendar year 2018, since the program inception in late September 2019; the Landfill has diverted 13,857 mattresses.

CalRecycle performed their annual site visit to Lompoc in April, assessing the City's diversion program efforts including the Mandatory Commercial Recycling, Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling (Food Waste Recycling), and Construction and Demolition (C & D) recycling programs.