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To: Chair and Members
Lambton Area Water Supply System Joint Board of Management

From: Clinton Harper
General Manager

Subject: Information Reports (July 30, 2020)

Recommendation

That the LAWSS Joint Board of Management receive the following as information.

Items:

New LAWSS Communication System

On September 26, 2019, the LAWSS Board approved the implementation of a cloud-based, software defined, wide area network to replace the failing radio communication system at LAWSS. This direction was given to Experteers and on December 6, 2019. LAWSS, OCWA and WSP staff attended a proof of concept at Experteers shop in Mississauga, ON which was accepted by LAWSS staff.

The week of June 1, 2020, all of the major equipment were installed at the eight LAWSS facilities in preparation for future commissioning. As an initial step, during this week the Forest SP and Watford SP were connected in parallel to the existing communication network. This was done to allow monitoring of the new the communication network in tandem with existing. The new communication system was then left to run in the background where it was monitored by staff. On Monday July 13, 2020, after 5-weeks of monitoring, the decision was made to begin commissioning of the new communication system. Over the next five days the existing communication systems was slowly and systematically abandoned as control was transferred to the new system following an established commissioning plan. At this time, commissioning of the new communication network is complete. The radio communication network and equipment, while disconnected, will remain online until staff are satisfied with the performance of the new network.

WSP is currently working to cleanup coding found in the Radio PLC that was unrelated to the radio communication network.

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COVID-19 Update

No major changes to report. The Contractor screening tool remains in place which requires that contractors wear masks and maintain physical distancing while at LAWSS. More recently, OCWA has implemented an additional screening tool that requires all OCWA staff to report on a number of items on a daily basis prior to entering OCWA operated facilities.

The LAWSS GM continues to be in continual communication with the OCWA Operational Manager on all matters related to the ongoing emergency situation and will advise the Board immediately if a situation arises that will affect the continual operation of LAWSS.

Watermain Connection Agreements

In 2020, the City of Sarnia will install a metered connection between it and St. Clair Township at the intersections of LaSalle Road and Virgil Avenue and at LaSalle Road and Vidal Street South. The connections are needed to improve pressures within the City of Sarnia distribution network. The chamber and associated watermain and appendages will be owned, operated and maintained St. Clair Township and the City of Sarnia. The meters will be read by LAWSS and incorporated into the LAWSS billing system. The new meters will be calibrated by LAWSS annually.

This report was prepared by Clinton Harper, LAWSS General Manager

Attachment(s):

Agreement #1- Watermain Connection Agreement - Sarnia-St. Clair Township - LaSalle Road and Vidal Street South

Agreement #2 -Watermain Connection Agreement - Sarnia-St. Clair Township - LaSalle Road and Virgil Ave