



MEMORANDUM

To: All Councilmembers
From: CURO
By: Shannon Blanks
CC: Paul Harang and Anita Curran
Date: May 31, 2023
RE: SWBNO Meeting 05.17.2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) Board of Directors (the Board) met Wednesday, May 17, 2023. In addition, the Board received updates on the general standing of the SWBNO. The complete packet for the meeting may be found [here](#).¹

Executive Director Report

- A. Pavement Repairs-** SWBNO has identified 3000 open paving jobs worth \$16 to \$18 million. In addition to a supplemental contract for \$8.6 issued by The Department of public works, two contractors are in place to address paving restorations. The jobs for the 2023 paving budget have been assigned; therefore, SWBNO is exploring additional funding sources. Presently repair time is approximately 100 days; the goal is 10 to 14 days.
- B. West Power Complex (WPC)-** Entergy transmission line work is underway, and the substation portion is scheduled to be completed in 2024. SWBNO continues pile driving for the utility rack foundation. The legislative session is in progress, and the schedule will be adjusted according to the capital outlay funding received. Neighborhood engagement is ongoing, and future meetings are planned to discuss progress.
- C. Drainage Pumps-** 92 of 99 Drainage Pumps are available for use. Director Korban expects to have 95 of the drainage pumps available at the end of June.

¹ <https://www.swbno.org/BoardMeetings/Past>

- DPS 6 at Metairie Road- I and H Pumps are out of service. H pump is scheduled to be back in service by June 1st. 11 drainage pumps, and two constant-duty pumps are available.
- DPS 10 in New Orleans East- No. 1 pump is out of service. Three pumps are available.
- DPS 13 at Tall Timbers Algiers- No. 4 Pump on standby for Emergency Use Only. Five drainage pumps and one constant-duty pump are available.
- DPS 16 in New Orleans East- No. 2 Pump is out of service. Three drainage pumps are available.
- DPS 17 in Gentilly- Pumps A & D are out of service. No additional drainage pumps are at this station.

D. Power Assets- The operations team is adjusting equipment in advance of storm season.

- Turbine 4 "T4"- Unavailable; the inspection is 75% complete, and repairs are forthcoming.
- Turbine 5 "T5"- Online and available for use.
- Turbine 6 "T6"- Online and available for use.
- EMDs- Four of five units are online and available for use.
- Frequency Changers- 9 of 10 are available for use. Significant maintenance of the frequency changers has been completed and are being used instead of T5 when possible.

E. Smart Meter Program² Seven of the twelve tower sites have been installed on schedule and under budget. Information technology integration and operating procedures meetings are underway. Additionally, a public relations firm has been selected to introduce lead and copper rule compliance initiatives to customers when installing smart meters. Lead awareness information may be found [here](#).³

F. Financial Systems Software- Oracle Enterprise Resource Planning Cloud software has been selected. Negotiations and implantation planning are forthcoming

G. Work Force Development- SWBNO selected a consultant to assist in developing a plan (the people plan) to update policies and procedures regarding organizational performance, compensation, and recruitment. The assessment phase is underway. Additionally, SWBNO is hosting a job fair at the Morial Convention Center on June 9th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

H. Stakeholder Engagement- SWBNO recently attended National Water Policy Week in Washington, D.C., and attended a New Orleans delegation luncheon to lobby for Capital Outlay funding. SWBNO is participating in local infrastructure open houses and hosting a tour of the power complex for the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, the

² <https://www.swbno.org/BoardMeetings/Past>

³ <https://www.swbno.org/DrinkingWater/LeadAwareness>

American Society of Civil Engineers dedicated drainage pumping station 6 near Metairie Road as a National Historic Landmark.