



MEMORANDUM

To: All Councilmembers
From: CURO
By: Shannon Blanks
CC: Paul Harang and Anita Curran
Date: June 26, 2023
RE: The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Meeting 06.21.2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) Board of Directors (the Board) met Wednesday, June 21, 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. Hurricane Preparedness

June 1st marked the first day of Hurricane season. SWBNO monitors every storm system and communicates and coordinates with various intergovernmental agencies and utility providers to ensure storm responses are aligned accordingly.

B. Drainage Pumps- 93 of 99 Drainage Pumps are available for use.

C. Power Assets- Executive Director Korban reports that sufficient power resources are available to meet peak demand.

- Turbine 4 "T4"- Unavailable; a repair is ongoing. The unit is expected to be online and available for use in mid-July.
- Turbine 5 "T5"- Online and available for use. The unit is used as needed due to ongoing issues.
- Turbine 6 "T6"- Online and available for use.
- EMDs- Three of five units are online and available for use.

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

- *Frequency Changers*- Five major frequency changers and various smaller ones are available for use. The frequency changers are being used instead of T5 when possible.

D. West Power Complex (WPC)- Entergy transmission line work is underway, and the substation portion is scheduled to be completed in 2024. SWBNO remains on schedule as pile driving for the utility rack. Presently three frequency changers and the turbine are being prepared for storage and transport.

SWBNO was granted \$15 million of the requested \$39 million in Capital Outlay funding. The funding will be used for a single frequency changer and Turbine 7. On June 28th, the City Council Public Works Committee met and announced a plan to advance \$5 million in Fairshare funds to keep the project on track.

E. Water Transmission Main- SWBNO is replacing a 42-inch water main that travels down South Claiborne Ave. between Tulane Stadium and Upperline St. This is a \$26 million Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funded project. Motorists are to expect traffic delays through September.

F. Smart Meter Program⁻² Nine of the twelve base stations and two of the nine information technology (IT) integrations are complete. Over 700 new meters, including twelve large ones, are installed. These meters will be fully functional smart meters upon completion of the IT integration. The installation is funded by SWBNO Operations & Maintenance and a \$5 million State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan. The SRF loan will also support compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's lead and copper regulatory updates.

G. Infrastructure Maintenance Fund (IMF)- On June 8, 2023, the Infrastructure Advisory Board (IAB) met to discuss progress on IMF projects. The Fairshare funding proforma schedule for 2023 through 2024 may be found in **Attachment 1**, and the meeting may be found [here](#).³ SWBNO's major expenditures include:

- \$1.5 million for Sycamore Filter Gallery Rehabilitation
- \$1.7 million for Turbine 7 design
- \$1.9 million for the Smart Meter Program
- \$3.5 million for South East Louisiana (SELA) drainage projects
- \$2.1 million for the WPC

² <https://www.swbno.org/Projects/SmartMetering>

³ <https://roadwork.nola.gov/fair-share/meeting-minutes-and-agenda/>

- H. Pavement Repairs-** SWBNO purchased new equipment and retained two contractors to address paving restorations. The Department of Public Works issued a supplemental contract for \$8.6 million, and the IAB approved \$4 million additional dollars to support the effort. Additionally, SWBNO has agreed to prioritize public safety concerns surrounding first responder stations.
- I. Sycamore Filter Gallery-** A project to improve 13 of the 18 raw water filters is scheduled to be completed by August 2023. This is a project fully funded by the IMF
- J. Customer Service-** SWBNO has been reading approximately 95% of all scheduled meters since implementing the new meter reading strategy. Additionally, software upgrades that collect time and photo documentation of actual meter readings along with city council-mandated door hangers will be made in tandem until the implementation of the smart meters is complete. SWBNO will begin distributing door hangers by mid-July.
- K. Work Force Development-** SWBNO hosted a job fair at the Morial Convention Center on June 9th. Over 900 job seekers attended, and more than 180 applications were received. The job fair was equipped for job seekers to interview, have background checks, do drug tests, and be hired on the spot.
- L. Stakeholder Engagement-** SWBNO continues to meet with partners, stakeholders, and the community to provide information and answer questions.

ATTACHMENT 1

SWBNO - Fair Share Funding Proforma
Jan 23 - Dec 24 - (Next 8 Qtrs.)

Line	2023										2024				Beginning Fund Balance	29,227,499		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4										
1																		
2	Total Estimated Revenue to SWBNO				Sources:	4,808,918	5,306,530	5,175,000	5,175,000	5,175,000	5,175,000	5,175,000	5,175,000	5,175,000	Total Projected Revenues	41,165,447		
3	Proposed revenue allocation:																	
4	Ongoing Infrastructure Improvements (A)					360,000	540,000	540,000	540,000	540,000	540,000	540,000	540,000	540,000		4,140,000		
5	Infrastructure Modernization and Technological Improvements (B)					3,358,918	3,131,530	3,131,530	3,131,530	3,131,530	3,131,530	3,131,530	3,131,530	3,131,530		25,279,625		
6	Infrastructure Power Complex (C)					1,090,000	1,635,000	1,503,470	1,503,470	1,503,470	1,503,470	1,503,470	1,503,470	1,503,470		11,745,822		
7																		
8					Uses:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
9																		
10	Project List:				Type	Project status	IAB Status	Project Amount	Expended inception to date									
11	Water Treatment Plan Improvements: Sycamore Filter Gallery				(A)	ongoing	approved	3,000,000	-	(1,000,000)	(450,000)	(1,050,000)				(2,500,000)		
12	Smart Metering -- Jacobs				(B)	ongoing	approved	4,000,000	(1,461,673)	(101,572)	(283,663)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(3,646,908)		
13	Master Plan/Strategic Plan				(B)	ongoing	approved	500,000	(348,795)		(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(488,795)		
14	T7 Solution				(C)	ongoing	approved	4,000,000	(1,246,195)	(218,947)	(180,326)	(200,000)	(200,000)	(500,000)	(500,000)	(400,000)	(300,000)	(3,745,468)
15	Construction of a new Bulk Chemical Feed and Storage Facility				(A)	final design	approved	4,000,000	-				(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)		(3,000,000)	
16	Stormwater Fee Study				(B)	ongoing	approved	250,000	-		(49,148)	(50,000)					(99,148)	
17	Asset management software system				(B)	initial planning	approved	1,650,000	(48,060)		-	(500,000)	(500,000)	(500,000)	(100,000)		(1,648,060)	
18	Power Complex integration and auxiliary components ¹				(C)	ongoing	approved	20,000,000		(2,100,000)	(3,020,000)	(1,000,000)	(2,230,000)	(3,200,000)	(2,600,000)	(3,000,000)	(2,800,000)	(19,950,000)
19	Smart Metering Implementation ¹				(B)	ongoing	approved	15,000,000						(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)		(15,000,000)
20	Total Currently approved IAB project list							52,400,000										
21	Request to IAB - June 2023																	
22	Acceleration of Paving Contract				(A)	ongoing	pending approval	2,000,000				(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)				(2,000,000)	
23																		
24	Other Potential Future Projects:																	
25	Lead Service Line Task Force Unit				(B)			TBD										
26	Total							54,400,000										
													Projected Fund Balance	<u>18,314,568</u>				

¹ Portion of estimated costs to supplement overall Project funding needs (Fair Share funding to be utilized after other funding sources required to be spent first are exhausted)