

MEMORANDUM

To: All Councilmembers

From: CURO By: Jared Reese

CC: Paul Harang and Anita Curran

Date: November 17, 2023

RE: The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Meeting 11/17/2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (S&WBNO) Board of Directors (the Board) met on Tuesday, November 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

Pumping & Power Update

- 93 of 99 drainage pumps available
- T4 and T6 were available
- T5 was out of service due to auxiliary oil pump issues
- 3 of 5 EMDs were available. #1 was offline due to a radiator leak, and #2 was offline due to electrical issues.
- 8 of 10 Frequency Changers were available
- Progress continued on the Power of Complex

Saltwater Intrusion

SWBNO was confident that the Algiers and Carrolton plant intakes would maintain the same salinity levels. The company agreed to partner with local, regional, and federal agencies to find long-term solutions, including collaborating with FEMA and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to ensure that SWBNO found the necessary infrastructure investment funding.

Drainage Revenue

SWBNO generated \$68.2M in revenue for the 2023 fiscal year. The company allocated \$13.5M for capital improvements, \$54.7M for maintenance costs, and \$10M for SELA

commitments. SWBNO states that most of its drainage revenue went towards day-to-day maintenance and operations, which led to the deferment of capital improvement projects.

Water Quality Master Plan

SWBNO began an 18-month process to identify the next level of investment in our water treatment plans. The company selected CDM Smith to start work in the first quarter of 2024, but negotiations for the scope and fee finalization were still in progress. CDM Smith planned to analyze methodologies used for sampling and water purification processing and then provide recommendations.

Smart Metering

SWBNO began installation of all meter sizes and would include two additional crews by December. The company's IT department began testing the interface and troubleshooting any issues. The company started designing quality control procedures, producing sample billing data, and withholding a faster rollout until it was confident in its methods.

Outreach Efforts Neighborhood Associations Meetings

- SWBNO scheduled neighborhood association meetings to discuss the launch of smart meters.
- October: Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference
- October 26: Customer Advisory Committee Meeting
- October 30: TCA Energy and Weatherization Fair
- November 1: Ron Spooner interview with WBOK
- November 7: L9 Neighborhood Association
- November 7: City of New Orleans Industry Day
- November 13: Mid-City Association
- November 15: Urban Water at 10

Upcoming November Meetings

- November 18 Gentilly Improvement Association
- November 20: Faubourg Marigny Association

Pavement Progress

SWBNO reported a 23% decrease in open pavement work orders in of June 2023 and 22% more pavement repairs completed in the first 10 months of 2023 than in the previous year.