

Executive Director

Noteworthy

- Availability of the State Fish and Wildlife Property – The Executive Director met with Olympia’s City Manager Steve Hall and Port of Olympia Executive Director Ed Galligan to discuss the potential availability of the State Fish and Wildlife property, which lies to the West of the Budd Inlet Treatment Plant. All of the agencies had been notified that the state may be moving to surplus the property in the near future. LOTT, the City, and the Port have agreed to approach the acquisition of this property as a team effort to maximize public benefit. The Washington State Department of General Administration (GA) has hired a consultant to develop information for GA and the Legislature in support of the surplus process. LOTT, the City, and the Port each met with GA officials and their consultant separately to provide an overview of the needs.
- Thurston County Commission Update – The Executive Director will be appearing before the Thurston County Commission on October 20 to discuss LOTT’s reclaimed water strategy and land acquisition process on property near the Deschutes River.
- Land Acquisition Adjacent to Martin Way Reclaimed Water Plant – The Executive Director and General Counsel met with Lacey’s City Manager Greg Cuoio and the Lacey Public Works Director Scott Eggar to discuss LOTT’s potential purchase of land behind the Martin Way Reclaimed Water Plant for future expansion of the plant. The City of Lacey owns the property directly behind the plant.



Budget / Revenue

Budget Performance					
	Operations	Debt Service	Capital/AMP	Reserve	Total
2009 Budget	\$11,327,257	\$6,337,460	\$26,749,295	N/A	\$44,414,011
September Status (75%)	\$7,513,523	\$5,175,284	\$11,559,577	N/A	\$24,248,384
Percentage	66%	82%	43%	N/A	55%
Cash on the Books	\$13,818,883	\$4,672,589	\$16,847,866	\$9,000,000	\$44,339,338

Revenue Through August	
WSC	\$11,863,135
CDC	\$2,264,288

Number of ERUs			
	Thru Aug 2008	Thru Aug 2009	% Change
Lacey	147,484	152,661	3.5%
Olympia	193,516	194,496	0.5%
Tumwater	66,329	70,467	6.2%
Total	407,329	417,624	2.5%

Number of CDC Payments Received						
	2006	2007	2008	Thru Aug 2008	Thru Aug 2009	% Change
Lacey	1888	1129	688	499	326	-35%
Olympia	439	219	201	100	184	85%
Tumwater	208	400	288	247	74	-70%
Total	2535	1748	1177	846	584	-31%

The table above shows the number of new ERUs for which CDC payments have been received.

Administration / Legal



Personnel Vacancy Rate

The vacancy rate for September was 1.6%.

Time Loss

No employees were on time loss in September.

Safety Incidents

There were no reported safety events in September.

Recognition

The following employees received Thanks A LOTT recognition at the September 23 All Staff Meeting: Ben McConkey, Clint McDaniels, Dale Ackley, Eric Hielema, Kristine Smiley, Mike Myers, Mike Rickert, Mike Seelig, Penny Meier, Ray Rodarte, and Rob Tinsley.

Noteworthy

- Negotiation Training – LOTT’s General Counsel and Engineering Director recently completed public works negotiation training sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers. The two-day workshop focused on strategies for negotiating engineering contracts for large projects. The workshop presenter was a Professional Engineer with almost 40 years of experience.
- Administrative Division Annual Training – This year the focus was on team building. Staff members of the Administrative Division participated in various exercises and learning sessions designed to continuously improve the quality of its service.
- Computer Use Policy – Over the next couple of weeks, all work groups will receive training in LOTT’s computer use policy.
- Cogeneration Maintenance Cost-Sharing – LOTT’s General Counsel recently met with Olympia’s City Attorney to begin a discussion that will lead to an agreement concerning maintenance cost-sharing for the LOTT cogeneration plant.
- Wetlands Enhancement Field Trip – Several LOTT staff members visited the Carnation satellite treatment plant and connected wetlands enhancement project in King County. The purpose of the visit was to gather information that might help LOTT develop a similar project in the distant future.
- Surplus Sales – LOTT received \$1,827 for the sale of a surplus Sterilmatic sterilizer from the Washington State Department of General Administration Surplus Program.
- Claims Process Improvements – Staff recently completed a claims process guideline and form for those wishing to make a claim against LOTT. Recent legislation requires state and local governmental agencies to have a claims process, and form, posted on their website.



Communications / Environmental

News Stories

In the September 13 Olympian, John Dodge’s Soundings column focused on the new D. Michael Sharar Water Education Fund.

An article about the October 8 spill at the Martin Way Reclaimed Water Plant appeared in the October 9 issue of the Olympian.

Presentations and Tours

On September 15, LOTT staff presented a session at the PNCWA Regional Conference, held in Boise. The presentation was titled “LOTT’s New Education Center: A Renewed Educational Focus for our Wastewater Utility.”

LOTT staff hosted an orientation meeting on September 30 with the Puget Sound Partnership’s new South Puget Sound Eco-Coordinator, Roma Call. LOTT, Thurston County, and WSU Extension staff provided background presentations about the Budd Inlet Restoration Partnership, Deschutes-Capitol Lake-Budd Inlet TMDL, and LOTT’s nutrient removal systems and reclaimed water program.

Inquiries

Staff responded to 74 requests for information received during September from citizens, partner jurisdictions, other communities, consultants, contractors, and organizations

Reclaimed Water Highlights

Staff attended two meetings as part of the State Reclaimed Water Use Rule process:

- Trace Organics Subcommittee, September 22
- Reclaimed Water Use Rule Advisory Committee, September 23

Water Conservation



Two WaterSmart rebates were awarded in September. The Tumwater School District installed new, better-than-code toilets, urinals, and faucets in a new office building for an estimated flow reduction of 200 gallons per day (gpd). This project is one of the first under LOTT's "new construction" guidelines, which allows for rebates up to 75% of the cost difference between better-than-code and standard code fixtures. The rebate totaled \$1816, with a cost-effectiveness of \$9.11 per gallon. The second WaterSmart rebate was awarded to Guest House Inn, in Tumwater, for replacing an existing commercial high-capacity washer with a water-efficient model for a flow reduction of 630 gpd. The rebate was \$6,432, with a cost-effectiveness of \$10.21 per gallon.

The Residential High-Efficiency Toilet Voucher Program is going strong, with 229 toilets distributed so far. WashWise rebates are also popular, with over 850 rebates awarded this year.

Noteworthy

- National WateReuse Symposium – LOTT was the subject of a pre-conference tour as part of the national WateReuse Symposium, held in Seattle. On September 13, twenty-four people attended a day-long tour of LOTT facilities, including the Budd Inlet Reclaimed Water Plant, the Martin Way Reclaimed Water Plant, and the Hawks Prairie Reclaimed Water Ponds.

Engineering

Construction Change Orders

The Administration Building Project is approximately 35% complete. The project is within budget and change order package number five was approved this month. The original contract amount was \$12,968,701. Change order package five, with a cost of \$70,163 (combination of 15 different elements), results in a total contract amount of \$13,073,003 or a change of plus 0.8%.

Project Updates

Mottman Road Interceptor Replacement – This project's construction contract was awarded by the Board September 23 to Donovan Excavating, Inc. Contract documents including bonds and insurance have just been received.



Deschutes to Tumwater Reclaimed Water Pipeline – This is a four-phase project. The first phase, Deschutes Parkway Reclaimed Water Modifications, has been complete. Progress on the remaining three phases includes:

- Lakeridge Drive Reclaimed Water Pipeline – The City of Olympia has nearly completed this phase as part of its water line upgrade project with Rodarte Construction. Lakeridge Drive has been paved and is now reopen to traffic.
- Heritage and Marathon Park Reclaimed Water Modification – The bids were opened on September 28, and the award of the construction contract to Donovan Excavating is on tonight’s agenda.
- Tumwater Reclaimed Water Pipeline – Bids were opened September 28. Award of the construction contract to Tucci, Inc. is also on tonight’s agenda.



Primaries and Process Improvement Projects – LOTT staff have been meeting with consultants HDR and Brown and Caldwell to further refine our approach to Process Improvements.

East Bay Public Plaza – The design contract with Bob Droll is just beginning.

Lacey Lift Station Project – LOTT has been assisting with the new forcemain installation, which is located below our 14-inch reclaimed water pipeline at Britton Parkway. The project required a shut-down and removal and replacement of a section of LOTT pipe.

Budd Inlet Plant Fire Alarm System – This project is currently in final design and scheduled to go out to bid in December.

Noteworthy

- Governor’s Annual Safety and Health Conference – LOTT Engineering staff attended this annual conference, held October 7 and 8 in Tacoma.
- Locates – LOTT staff completed 49 utility locates in September to mark LOTT pipeline utilities for various construction projects throughout Olympia, Lacey, and Tumwater.

Facilities

Permit Compliance

Permit compliance was 100% at the Budd Inlet Treatment Plant and 100% at the Martin Way Reclaimed Water Plant for the month of September.

Reclaimed Water Production

- Production at the Budd Inlet Reclaimed Water Plant averaged 0.38 million gallons per day (mgd) in September 2009; 4.6% of treatment plant flow was used to produce Class A Reclaimed Water.
- Production at the Martin Way Reclaimed Water Plant averaged 1.15 mgd; 7.7% of the reclaimed water was reused (all by LOTT).

- LOTT Class A Reclaimed Water production averaged a total of 1.53 mgd. Total reuse was 30.6%; total infiltration 59.5%. The majority of the 9.9% difference is accounted for as excess reclaimed water from the Budd Inlet Treatment Plant returned to the process, evaporation at the ponds, line loss, and/or meter accuracy.

Biosolids Production

During September 2009, 24 loads (723.31 wet tons total) of LOTT's biosolids were hauled by Groat Brothers, Inc. of Woodland, Washington (23 loads) and Recycle Services of Centralia, Washington (1 load) to Fire Mountain Farms, Inc. in Onalaska, Washington, for Class B land application, averaging 30.14 tons per load.

Methane Production

Of the 3,812,531 cubic feet of digester gas that was generated, about 46% was reused in the boilers and 54% was flared. (Note – Digester gas is approximately 70% methane.)



Odor Complaints / ORCAA

There was one odor complaint reported to treatment plant staff during the month of September. Upon investigation it was determined the odor source was the Martin Way Pump Station during the time the roll-up door is open for Pacific Disposal to pick up the screenings dumpster. To minimize odor impacts a remote access is being installed so that the driver can open and close the roll-up door, rather than leaving it open and waiting for the dump truck's arrival.

Noteworthy

- Spills Reported – There were two spills reported to treatment plant staff in September. Both spills were the result of lift station malfunctions in Lacey, which have been corrected.
- Treatment Plant Operations – A five-hour plant shutdown was done on September 14 to allow maintenance to be performed on Substations C and D within the plant. Additionally, operations were coordinated on September 15 and 16 to complete the breaker maintenance within substations C and D.

During September recycle ratio in the nutrient removal portion of the process was lowered from 3.5 to 2.0 times the influent flow rate to validate computer modeling performed by the Process Control section. While we used more supplemental carbon during the month we had no problems meeting permit and used considerably less power to achieve nitrogen removal.

- Near the Hawks Prairie Ponds Site – In mid-August, LeMay noted water surfacing in their trailer storage yard across from the infiltration basins, on Hogum Bay Road. LeMay and City of Lacey staff investigated to see if a water line had been broken. No broken water lines were found, and they contacted LOTT asking if it was possibly infiltrated water. The investigation by LOTT staff and Brown and Caldwell was not able to confirm the source of the water (it had since dried up), but staff are now trying to determine if the source is one or more of the infiltration basins; staff have cleared infiltration basin 4 from the suspect list and will continue working with the most likely basins during October.



- Environmental Compliance Training – LOTT staff attended the Pacific Northwest Source Control Workshop September 15-17, in Vancouver, Washington, and the Northwest Biosolids Management Association Annual Conference September 20-22, in Blaine, Washington.
- Demonstration Composting Pilot Project – A joint biosolids/ food waste composting pilot project with the Cedar Creek Corrections Center began on September 10, when LOTT delivered a 4-yard (3 tons) load of biosolids to the Corrections Center wastewater treatment plant site. Different blends and aeration times are being tried to achieve the most efficient result of Class A biosolids compost.



Administrative Building / Education Center / Lab

Construction Milestones

Work on the building is moving very quickly. Roofing is nearing completion and glazing (glass) is scheduled to begin in the next two weeks. All floors are framed out, weatherization curtain walls have been installed, and metal siding installation will begin soon. Installation of new screen walls will start on Wednesday.

Cogeneration Project

The generator and gas conditioning equipment have been installed. Mechanical piping and electrical connections are being made. Start-up will begin next week. The permit from the Olympic Region Clean Air Agency (ORCAA) has been received. The completion date remains November 30.

Education Center

The bid for Exhibit Fabrication and Installation was opened September 28, 2009. Proposals for the RFP regarding production of the audio-visual elements of the exhibits were also due September 28. The Board will consider award of a contract for this work at tonight's Business meeting.

East Bay Redevelopment

Tarragon Development – Tarragon, the development company selected by the Port to redevelop East Bay, attended the October 8 East Bay Consortium Executives meeting. They introduced some of their development concepts and listened to each of the partners discuss their plans. Following the meeting the Executive Director met with the Tarragon representative at LOTT's offices to discuss, in more detail, LOTT's current plans and future needs.

Plaza Property Closure – Based on delays in construction occurring on the East Bay infrastructure development, LOTT will most likely delay the closure on the Plaza property to allow the Port of Olympia to continue to use the property during construction. This move is being coordinated with the City of Olympia, who will likely delay the closure on the Hands On Children's Museum property adjacent to the Plaza property. LOTT does not anticipate delay in closing on Lot 8, the property adjacent to the east of the treatment plant. This property is also being purchased from the Port for expansion of plant infrastructure planned for construction in 2012.





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