

Date: May 4, 2023 Subject: Public Relations Committee
May 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes
To: Board of Directors From: Public Relations Committee, and
Arthur G. Simonian, Executive Director AGS

**Public Relations Committee
May 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

The Public Relations Committee met Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at The District Offices at 245 Main Street, Cromwell, Connecticut.

Public Relations Committee Chair, Joe Samolis called the Committee meeting to order at 5:31 PM. In addition to the Chair, present were Committee Members – David Bauer, Daniel Salerno, Joe Corlis and John Dunham. There was a quorum. Also present were Board Member - Liam Mitchell, Executive Director – Arthur G. Simonian and Operations Manager – Ty Wagner.

Following is a summary of the May 2nd Public Relations Meeting:

1) Odor/Public Complaints – Art drafted a letter to the Cromwell Town Manager in response to the request made at the April Town Council meeting. Art advised later that he needed to meet with the Public Relations Committee Members before he could respond. Around the same time Art received a letter from Senator Blumenthal’s office. Art called the Senator’s office and explained what we have done so far on odor control and the documents we put together. Senator Blumenthal’s office requested the documents get included in our response to the letter. Mr. Samolis stated there was more done after July 1998 that needs to be added to the draft financial summary of the odor improvements. Art stated he will get more information and update the summary spreadsheet. Art discussed the letter and interested facts section which will be revised. Mr. Samolis recommended the title be changed to Additional Notes.

Mr. Samolis recommended changing the first 3 bullets on the Additional Notes document consolidate the first 3 bullets to say, over the past 5 years of sporadic complaints that we have received, 84% of these complaints appear to be isolated to one location. He also suggested Art incorporate the additional notes into the letter.

The committee discussed sending letter and attachments to local State Representatives. Art will update the letter with the suggested changes and copy to include State Representative Christie Carpino and State Senator Matt

THE MATTABASSETT DISTRICT

Memorandum

Public Relations Committee

May 2, 2023

Page 2 of 2

Lesser. The Committee suggested stating in the letter that we take all odor complaints seriously and each one is investigated.

- 2) **PFAS** – Art received a copy of an email from CT DEEP about a complaint they received on PFAS destruction through incineration. Art had a discussion with CT DEEP. They stated CT Waste Water Treatment plants are not regulated for PFAS. They are more concerned with ground water contamination. CT DEEP collected data from the waste water plants in CT to determine if there is a higher concentration in waste water plants located in commercial, industrial or residential areas. Art will share the report once it has been completed.
- 3) **OSHA** – Art discussed recognizing employees for the 605 days the plant has gone with no reportable accident. Suggestion for T-Shirts, plaque and photo for Facebook and our website were made.
- 4) **Proposal from JK Muir** – The Committee members reviewed the proposal from JK Muir and think it's a good idea but stated they would like to delay this until after the On-Call Engineering RFQ is complete.
- 5) **Related Business and Staff Updates** – None.

Adjournment: Mr. Bauer moved and the committee approved unanimously to adjourn at 6:45 PM.