

Date:	February 13, 2026	Subject:	Engineering Committee Meeting Minutes Thursday February 12, 2026
To:	Board of Directors	From:	Engineering Committee and Arthur G. Simonian, Executive Director

**Engineering Committee
Thursday, February 12, 2026
Meeting Minutes**

The Engineering Committee met Thursday, February 12, 2026, at the District Offices, 245 Main Street, Cromwell, Connecticut and remotely.

Chairman, Mr. John Dunham called the meeting to order at 5:09 p.m. Present were, Committee Members –Phil Pessina (remote), Bonnie Anderson, Don Naples, and Liam Mitchell. There was a quorum. Also, present from the Mattabassett District were Executive Director – Arthur Simonian, District Engineer – Michelle Ryan, and Maintenance Manager – Andy Purchia. Board Member Nick Stevens was absent.

The February 12, 2026 Engineering Committee Meeting was held to discuss:

1) Odor Control Assessment Update:

a. Rollup Door:

There was some repair work to the door which caused some programming issues. One of the brackets got damaged. Currently, we are waiting on parts to install and the door is functioning.

b. Middletown Pump Station Forced Main Chemical Dosing Evaluation:

CDM Smith is preparing a testing plan to evaluate hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) levels. Two (2) meters (vapor and liquid) will be installed at the Middletown inlet. Testing will measure the background levels impact to the Middletown Pumping Station from the District's detritors and headworks.

c. H₂S Monitoring and Peroxide Pilot Test at Headworks and Detritors:

Peroxide pilot is on schedule to begin in the spring. Peroxide will be injected at the headworks to reduce H₂S at the headworks and detritors. The goal is to reduce odors for the benefit of both the public and employees.

d. Dewatering Building Chemical Odor Treatment System Replacement:

The existing chemical odor unit is deteriorating, leaking, and operates under capacity. A replacement design proposal is pending from CDM Smith. The

District will pre-purchase the equipment due to long lead times. It is in the budget for FY2027.

2) Scentroid Odor Monitoring System - Review and approve proposal for odor modeling.

Art explained the system uses odor thresholds (not just H₂S) and weather data to model odor dispersion. It would provide continuous monitoring and predictive modeling which could help identify odor sources, determine the duration of odor events, and support transparency with residents.

Michelle will follow up and contact other references.

Item #2 has been tabled for the next Engineering Committee meeting. Mr. Pessina moved, Ms. Anderson seconded, and Mr. Naples opposed.

3) Incinerator Violations Consent Order - Update on response letter and meeting dates.

Art informed the committee he is awaiting for a response letter from CTDEEP. A meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

He also explained there are two (2) dezurik valves. There is a second valve that has significant fire-related charring that occurred during the GAC fire, and the second one will be replaced during shutdown. The replacement of each valve is estimated at \$8,000 to \$10,000. Dave Stille to provide a complete estimate of items incurred following the fire so the District could reopen an insurance claim with Travelers for that incident.

4) Odor Control and 2026 Projects List & Websites - Update

Art Simonian updated the committee on the website that has been updated to reflect the projects completed, projects scheduled to be completed, and odor complaints data.

5) NPDES Permit Renewal Status - Update on next meeting with CTDEEP.

A meeting has been scheduled with CTDEEP for March 17th. The District is requesting clarification on new regulations and as a follow-up to our prior legal correspondence (April 2023).

6) Final Clarifier No. 3 Center Column - Bid waiver for GMH Proposal in the amount of \$279,600.51. Review, discuss and recommend for approval.

Art explained the work under the proposal and elaborated on Michelle's memo regarding work completed on the final clarifiers and those proposed.

MOTION: The Engineering Committee recommends to the Board of Directors to approve a bid waiver to utilize G.M.H Associates of America, Inc., of Trenton, NJ, to furnish all materials and labor for a new center rotating column for Final Clarifier No. 3 in the amount of \$279,600.51.

Mr. Mitchell moved, Mr. Naples seconded, and the Committee approved unanimously.

7) Detritor No. 1 and Detritor No. 2 – Bid waiver for GMH proposals for:

- a. **Detritor No. 1 in the amount of \$289,496.06 - Review, discuss and recommend for approval.**

Art explained the work under the proposals and elaborated on Michelle's memo regarding work completed on the detritors and those proposed.

MOTION: The Engineering Committee recommends to the Board of Directors to approve a bid waiver to utilize G.M.H Associates of America, Inc., of Trenton, NJ, to furnish all materials and labor for total replacement of critical grit removal equipment for each detritor. The price for Detritor No. 1 in the amount of \$289,496.06.

Mr. Mitchell moved, Ms. Anderson seconded, and the Committee approved unanimously.

- b. **Detritor No. 2 in the amount of \$323,800.22 - Review, discuss and recommend for approval.**

MOTION: The Engineering Committee recommends to the Board of Directors to approve a bid waiver to utilize G.M.H Associates of America, Inc., of Trenton, NJ, to furnish all materials and labor for total replacement of critical grit removal equipment for each Detritor. The price for Detritor No. 2 in the amount of \$323,800.22.

Mr. Pessina moved, Ms. Anderson seconded, and the Committee approved unanimously.

8) Other related business and staff-updates

There is one operator position open. The position will be posted internally and will advertise externally if needed.

Adjournment

Mr. Naples moved, no second necessary; approved unanimously to adjourn at 5:52 pm.