

**Summary Report to the WRBP Advisory Board
September 2021**

Projects	Status & Schedule	Budget	Other info
Energy Efficiency Upgrades at WRBP Facilities	In order to qualify for a CWSRF loan and Eversource incentive requirements, the project is proposed to be substantially complete on or about Dec 31, 2020. A task order for engineering support was executed. The aeration blower and 2 RAS pumps were purchased and plans and specifications for WRBP installation have been approved. Blower delivered late December; custom pumps delivery delayed until June. Installation work by WRBP staff and contractor(s) is on-going with completion estimated in 12-14 weeks.	The estimated project budget is \$400K with 50% principal forgiveness from the CWSRF and a \$100K Eversource incentive making the overall budget \$100K and a <1-year simple payback based on estimated electricity savings.	This equipment upgrade was recommended by the energy audit of all WRBP facilities completed in early 2020. Project includes a smaller aeration blower, 2 RAS pumps and staff-installed facility lighting. The AB expressed support of the project at their August and Sept. 2020 meetings. Programming assistance for the new RAS pumps' flow pacing control is anticipated.
Solids Handling Process Upgrades	Phased projects included in the Solids Handling Master Plan developed for the Franklin WWTP are being identified for completion of the alternative analyses (10% design) to move forward to a 30% design. Kick-off meeting held virtually on 7/29/21. Alternative analyses underway for sludge thickening with site visits and 3D survey of WWTF solids area performed in September.	Phase I budget is currently estimated at \$3.875M and a CWSRF loan application is pending; with 10% principal forgiveness. This also allows the project to be eligible for potential Federal infrastructure funding distributed through the NH CWSRF program. Budgetary estimates will be refined during the design. The WRBP Capital Budget was approved and is sufficient to fund Phase I followed by CWSRF reimbursements to the WRBP.	The Solids Handling Process Upgrade Project has been forecast in the WRBP CIP since FY18. Phase I includes new primary digester mixers, gas management and heating systems, and an activated sludge thickening system.

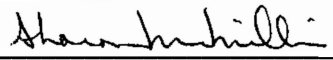
Program Initiatives	Status & Schedule	Budget	Other info
WRBP Infrastructure O&M Responsibilities - Memoranda of Agreement	Belmont, Northfield, DAS, Gilford Tilton, <i>and Franklin</i> Executed MOAs with DES. MOAs for Bay District, Sanbornton, Meredith and Laconia were re-sent in February 2020 and are under review by members.	The AG's office developed language for MOAs to clarify the O&M responsibilities of properties, facilities or components that are indeterminate.	Discussion continues with the <i>remaining 4</i> members.
Replacement Fund	Replacement fund valuation reset to include pipelines in FY20. The pipeline lining repair and plant water repair funded from the replacement fund were completed. Legislation is required to change the current Replacement Fund reimbursement methodology. DES forwarded the AG's opinion on these proposed statutory changes to the Advisory Board chairman on 1/4/2021. Draft legislation reviewed by the AG's office to be discussed at the August 2021 meeting. <i>LSR #2557 was submitted to the legislature sponsored by D. Johnson (Laconia).</i>	Legislation to modify the Replacement Fund statute was proposed by Gilford at the meeting in July 2020. Discussions continued regarding the current assessment methodology and proposed revisions.	Laconia and Gilford are reimbursing the Replacement Fund for the Pendleton Forcemain repairs. The changes to the replacement fund reimbursement methodology vote that failed on 5/21/2020 was revisited on July 16 to reflect a preference for 50% reimbursement by all members based on the current percent allocation and 50% collected from only those members using the fund for the expenses. Legislation to propose this change in the reimbursement formula is expected in the next session in late 2021.
Rate Assessment Formula – O&M	DES' preliminary analysis of the relative contribution of flow, strength and capacity (shared) costs on 5/5/2016. The Advisory Board resolved to have a draft formula by 1/1/2019; workgroup met on 7/25/18 and 8/16/18. Draft Phase I reports were provided to the workgroup and W-P revised the report based on comments. W-P presented Phase I information at the December 2019 meeting. The 4 southern member communities provided the requested information for the proposed hybrid rate	The full Advisory Board has expressed interest in participating in this discussion with DES regarding a draft rate formula. Updated flow and capacity information prepared by DES was presented to the rate assessment workgroup on 8/16/18. A Flow Metering Rate Allocation study task order was finalized on 1/22/19 for the four southern members where current measured flow data is not accurate enough for billing. DES provided a draft hybrid model in March 2020; that was discussed at the April 2020 meeting. Franklin and Northfield agreed with the model; Tilton was absent and Belmont is reviewing. At	DES presented preliminary flow and capacity findings from the 3 rd party flow metering evaluations in March 2017 and WRBP Franklin WWTP Capacity Status in July 2017. W-P gathered GIS and connection data from the southern 4 communities as part of the study. Members chose not to engage W-P in data collection for the hybrid analyses, but to use WRBP and member resources. At the May 2020 meeting, Belmont did not agree with the data or method used for their assessment or I/I contributions from the 4 southern

	assessment model. On 10/27/2019, Franklin’s consultant reviewed their draft efforts with WRBP and Franklin staff. Belmont’s I/I report under review and Franklin’s pending; with discussion at the March, April and the May 2021 meeting that was postponed until June 2 nd . The basis of the new rate assessment formula with a 3-year phase in period was approved by the Advisory Board on 7/15/21. <i>The recommended implementation plan was approved at the September 2021 Advisory Board meeting.</i>	the June 2020 meeting, Laconia presented an alternate model for assessing unmetered flows and allocating I/I to all members equally.	communities. Additional information from the 4 southern members is being evaluated by the WRBP and DES with the assistance of Franklin’s and Belmont’s consultant.
WRBP Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Update	The CIP Subcommittee met on 7/29/21 to discuss the update of the WRBP CIP. A draft version prepared by WRBP staff was discussed; with recommended changes to be incorporated for the next CIP subcommittee meeting scheduled for 8/19/21. <i>An updated CIP will be discussed on 10/21/21 after the Advisory Board meeting.</i>	Nine (9) CWSRF pre-applications and SAG applications were submitted for WRBP equipment and infrastructure projects. Priority projects will be selected to move forward based on CWSRF funding rankings, principal forgiveness percentage, potential, additional federal funding, and ability to execute within any completion time restrictions.	SAG applications were submitted for new projects but availability of this funding for either these new projects or previously submitted applications will require future legislative approval.

Changes from previous report are shown in bold italics.

Dates to Remember:

- 1. The October 21, 2021 Advisory Board meeting will be held in person at the Belmont Mill, 14 Mill St., 4th floor, Tioga meeting room with accommodation for virtual attendance once an in-person quorum is met.**

Prepared by: 
Sharon McMillin - DES, WRBP Administrator

Reviewed and in concurrence: 
Rene Pelletier - DES, Assistant Director, Water Division

Respectfully submitted on: 10/6/2021