

SEELEY LAKE SEWER DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
June 4, 2020

Pat Goodover	President	PRESENT	Walt Hill	Vice President	PRESENT
Mike Boltz	Director	PRESENT*	Davy Good	Director	ABSENT
Beth Hutchinson	Director	PRESENT	Felicity Derry	Secretary	PRESENT
Jean Curtiss	Manager	PRESENT	Kim Myre	Missoula Co	PRESENT

*at 5:30pm

Public Attendance - Appendix A

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Pat Goodover at 5:22pm. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom, due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Beth Hutchinson questioned that Mike Boltz and Davy Good were still listed as Board members in June and the legality of the meeting.

The Board discussed moving the bid agenda item to a future meeting and agreed by consensus that it should be changed to a discussion item.

Pat Goodover moved to approve the agenda as modified. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried.

Pat Goodover	Aye
Walt Hill	Aye
Mike Boltz	Absent
Davy Good	Absent
Beth Hutchinson	Aye

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Colleen Krause agreed with Beth Hutchinson that the terms for Mike Boltz and Davy Good had expired in May.

OLD BUSINESS:

Adopt FY2021 Operating Budget

Jean Curtiss noted that the proposed draft 2021 budget had been posted online and reviewed the two budget options.

Mike Boltz joined the meeting at 5:30pm.

Jean Curtiss continued reviewing the two budget options. The Board discussed the grant match for the grant writing. The Board discussed what the District reserve funds had been expended on.

Pat Goodover requested comments from Tom Morris and Jason Gilpin. Tom Morris was concerned that the District had spent more money than had been budgeted for, and felt that the Board lacked fiscal responsibility.

The Board discussed where there could be flexibility within the budget and which of the assessment methodology options was the most equitable. The Board discussed the need to reimburse the reserve, what RD required the District to hold in the reserve and the current balance of the reserve. The O&M budget and the cash flow was discussed.

Discussion turned to the affordability of the budget to the people of Seeley Lake, especially during COVID-19, and whether to only partially reimburse the reserve. How the assessment would affect the mill properties and other businesses was discussed.

The cost of the required notice and protest for Phase II and the election expense were discussed. The Board discussed setting an appropriate amount for legal fees and how much money could be budgeted to pay into the reserve while facilitating a reduction of the total budget. The matching funds for grants were discussed.

The discussion returned to the notice and protest and the project moving forward being put to a vote utilizing a General Obligation Bond. Colleen Dowdall suggested that an approved petition could be placed on the ballot.

Kim Myre reviewed the timeline for the fee assessment public hearing and when the budget needed to be adopted.

The Board discussed reducing legal fees to \$15,000, whereby lowering the overall adopted budget to \$214,329.

Walt Hill moved to adopt the FY2021 budget of \$214,329. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried.

Pat Goodover	Aye
Walt Hill	Aye
Mike Boltz	Aye
Davy Good	Absent
Beth Hutchinson	Aye

Fee Assessment Methodology

Jean Curtiss reviewed the various assessment methodologies under consideration for the fee assessment.

Nathan Bourne questioned which MCA had been used for the fee assessment. Discussion followed on the statute that had been utilized previously based on advice from the County Attorney.

The Board discussed how the market value and the flat rate methods would affect different properties around the District. Discussion turned to the effect on the mill and other businesses if the flat rate was used as opposed to the market value.

Colleen Krause questioned how much she would have to pay if the mill's assessment was lowered. Jean Curtiss reviewed how the different options would affect Colleen Krause's assessment charge. The Board discussed the possibility of using an industrial rate for the mill.

Colleen Dowdall and Jean Curtiss discussed the Board's ability to adopt a budget and set an assessment methodology as allowed by statute, the documentation that was available to the public for review and how the public would be noticed. Discussion followed on how the public participated in setting the assessment methodology and the timeline to adopt the budget and set the assessment. Kim Myre reviewed the timeline for setting the fee assessment and scheduling the fee assessment hearing.

Tom Morris concluded that the Board was under a tight time constraint to adopt the budget, set the assessment methodology and hold the public hearing.

Jean Curtiss and Kim Myre reviewed the appropriate assessment methodology MCA for Colleen Dowdall. Discussion followed on the Board reviewing two assessment methodology options and setting the methodology at a meeting on June 15, 2020. Affording the public ample time to review the assessment methodology information.

Walt Hill moved to create a new spreadsheet with two columns, which would be posted on the website, sent to the Board, Nathan Bourne and Loren Rose. The spreadsheet would be discussed and voted at the June 15, 2020 Board meeting. Discussion followed on when the spreadsheet would be available. The motion was carried.

Pat Goodover	Aye
Walt Hill	Aye
Mike Boltz	Aye
Davy Good	Absent
Beth Hutchinson	Aye

Jean Curtiss noted that if the public had concerns, they should address them during public comment at the June 15, 2020 meeting.

Discussion followed on making the spreadsheet as readable as possible.

Set Fee Assessment Public Hearing

Kim Myre and Jean Curtiss reviewed the timeline for the public hearing and the required noticing. The Board agreed unanimously to set the public hearing date at the June 15, 2020 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Authorization to Notice the Approved Project for Bid as Lawsuit was Dismissed

Pat Goodover noted that the lawsuit had been resolved, which was key to moving the project forward. Rural Development had outlined items that needed to be completed, so putting the project out to bid would be premature.

Jean Curtiss clarified for Colleen Dowdall the paperwork that Rural Development needed prior to sending the project to bid and what the notice and protest had approved.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING: June 15, 2020

ADJOURNMENT OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING:

Pat Goodover adjourned the meeting at 7:35pm

Attest:

Pat Goodover, President

Felicity Derry, Secretary