

**Seeley Lake Sewer District**  
**PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA**

DATE: Wednesday June 26, 2024  
PLACE: The Barn, 2920 Highway 83, Seeley Lake & Virtual Meeting  
Computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86464976067?pwd=dFF0UU9yUVIvZjFZQmo4ZIRQR3VEQT09>  
Telephone: 1 669 900 6833  
Meeting ID: 864 6497 6067  
Password: 032580  
TIME: 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Tom Morris, President	○	05/2028
Pat Goodover, Vice President	○	05/2026
Cheri Thompson, Director	○	05/2026
Troy Spence, Director	○	05/2026
, Director	○	05/2028
Felicity Derry, Secretary	○	

1. OPENING: Scheduled for 5:30 PM at the Barn & Via Zoom
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
3. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:
4. PUBLIC COMMENT: On Items not on the Agenda of the Meeting and within the Jurisdiction of the Sewer District [MCA 2-3-103 (1)a]
5. NEW BUSINESS: a} Report of Written Protests received by June 24, 2024 Deadline - *Discussion*  
b} Resolution# 06262024 Setting Assessments – *Adopt/Amend/Reject*
6. ADJOURNMENT:

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

DATE: Wednesday June 26, 2024  
PLACE: The Barn, 2920 Highway 83 & Via Zoom (Meeting ID & Password are the same as above)  
TIME: Immediately following the Public Hearing

1. OPENING:
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
3. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:
4. PUBLIC COMMENT: On Items not on the Agenda of the Meeting and within the Jurisdiction of the Sewer District [MCA 2-3-103 (1)a]
5. CORRESPONDENCE:
6. MINUTES: May 15, 2024 - *Action*
7. FINANCIAL REPORTS: a} Invoices – *Action*  
b} April 2024
8. MANAGER'S REPORT: Status Report
9. OLD BUSINESS: a} Action Plan - Committee Reports  
i. Pathfinder Article - *Discussion/Action*  
b} Monitoring Well Sampling – *Discussion/Action*  
c} WET Proposal Next Step - *Discussion/Action*  
d} DNRC Grants – *Discussion/Action*  
e} FEMA Funding - *Discussion/Action*  
f} Board Election - *Discussion/Action*  
g} Congressman Zinke Grant Application - *Discussion*
10. NEW BUSINESS: a} Midwest Assistance Program (MAP) Introduction– *Discussion*  
b} CDBG Grant – *Discussion/Action*  
c} Response to Don Larson's Letter to the Editor – *Discussion/Action*
11. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: July 18, 2024
12. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:
13. ADJOURNMENT

**SEELEY LAKE SEWER DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION# 06262024  
SETTING ASSESSMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Seeley Lake Sewer District (the “Board”) adopted a fiscal year budget on May 15, 2024 for the purpose of setting assessments to fund the administrative costs of District operations, being offset by District reserves for Fiscal Year 2025, and

WHEREAS, the Board heard recommendations to establish equal assessments for setting annual assessments; and

WHEREAS, after giving notice as required, the Board held a public hearing on June 26, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. MDT for the purpose of accepting public comment on establishing the methodology for annual assessments; and

WHEREAS, upon taking public testimony, the Board considered all comments, both written and verbal; and

WHEREAS, the Board determined that the equal assessment method described in § 7-12-2151 (d) M.C.A. would provide sufficient revenues for fiscal year 2025, in the amount of approximately \$30,597.84;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that the Secretary is directed to coordinate the placement of assessment on the property tax bills for Fiscal Year 2025 as follows:

Equal Assessments: Each lot, tract or parcel of land in the District shall be assessed equally for the Administrative Fee. The amount of the Administrative Fee assessed against each lot, tract or parcel of land in the District shall be \$60.71.

DATED THIS 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

**SEELEY LAKE SEWER DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
May 15, 2024**

Tom Morris	President	ABSENT	Cheri Thompson	Director	PRESENT
Pat Goodover	Vice President	PRESENT*	Troy Spence	Director	PRESENT
Jason Gilpin	Director	PRESENT	Felicity Derry	Secretary	PRESENT
Bill Decker	Manager	PRESENT			

Public Attendance – Appendix A  
\*Joined the meeting at 6:26pm

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:09pm. The meeting was held at the Barn, 2920 Highway 83, Seeley Lake, MT and via Zoom.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Jason Gilpin moved to approve the agenda. Bill Decker requested that the Congressman Zinke item be moved to directly after Public Comment. Jason Gilpin moved to approve the amended agenda. Troy Spence seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Absent
Pat Goodover	Absent
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Troy Spence	Aye

**PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS:**

Cheri Thompson requested that everybody be respectful of each other’s time and to not deviate from the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mike Lindemer wanted to set the record straight, stating that the RV dump at Lindey’s was legally permitted through the Missoula County Health Department and presented the District with the permit for the RV dump. Secondly, when Mike Lindemer had been on the Sewer Board the monitoring wells had been numbered and after that they were not referred to by name. When Well # 1 was referred to as the Lindey’s well, people perceived that Lindey’s had nitrates in their water. Lindey’s water comes from the Water District. Discussion followed on the various rumors circulating regarding monitoring Well# 1 and the various articles that had been published.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

## **MINUTES:**

April 18, 2024

Jason Gilpin moved to accept the minutes for the regular meeting (April 18, 2024). Troy Spence seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Absent
Pat Goodover	Absent
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Troy Spence	Aye

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### Congressman Zinke Grant Application

Sonny Capece, Congressman Zinke's office, noted that they were trying to help Seeley Lake get a treatment plant built and would be submitting a Community Development Fund/earmark of close to \$18 million, based on the previous project. If awarded the funds could be used for the construction of a sewer plant. Congressman Zinke would do his best to carry it through committee to get the funds awarded. Approval would take 1-8 months and then 8-10 months to release the funds to the Sewer District. The project could be fully or partially funded. Bill Decker noted that the project could be tweaked to allow for the project to be fully funded. Bill Decker then reviewed a possible timeline.

Jeanna Miller, MCCHD, asked how the Health Department could be helpful. Bill Decker and Sonny Capece noted that letters of support would be very helpful.

6:26pm Pat Goodover joined the meeting.

Devin Beal, Midwest Assistance Program, (MAP) and Bill Decker discussed the how the Sewer District might handle receiving the earmarked funds and how that might affect the District's timeline, noting that a shovel ready project would be a plus. Sonny Capece added that this project was the number one project on their list, but could not guarantee that it would pass.

Brandon Grosvenor questioned if WET would be able to have a shovel ready project that fast. Bill Decker had consulted with WET on the application for a start date of spring 2025 and completion in 2026.

Sonny Capece clarified that the release of funds would take 16 to 18 months, which would be around November 2026, give or take 6 months.

Mike Lindemer questioned that if WET was using the old PER, was there an alternative location for the treatment plant? Cheri Thompson noted that the District was looking at several possibilities.

Mike Lindemer noted that the proposal from the RV Park would not cost the District anything for the engineering and the development of that bid and questioned why the District was paying WET to do the engineering for the project. Bill Decker replied that WET would design a complete system, the plant, location and collection system. The RV Park proposal was for a mechanical plant on that location. While that was an option, it was not the only one and ultimately it would go to bid. Mike Lindemer questioned that an option that cost the District nothing was in the best interest of the community and would put them further ahead. Cheri Thompson noted that that proposal was for a design build and discussion followed on how the District should move forward. Brandon Grosvenor suggested that the Board consider forming a committee to discuss the timeline with Emerine's engineers and what they were asking for. Cheri Thompson suggested that Emerine submit a proposal in writing.

Steve Anderson, WET, noted that they had spoken with Brandon Grosvenor and Gary Chilcott and were evaluating their proposal, along with the other technologies and would then rank them. Their proposal and location might end up being the best, it was too early to say. The collection system design would be complex. Having a full design when the funding was ready would not be an issue.

Brandon Grosvenor asked if a cost matrix would be available in 8 weeks. Steve Anderson replied that ranking would be finalized shortly. Part of the process was to identify the hotspots and ensure they were hooked up to the system.

Tyler Smith asked if the Federal funds would require American iron and steel, as the domestic steel was slow to come. Sonny Capece would get an answer on that.

Bill Decker noted that WET would design a system around the hotspots. If the RV Park was not a hotspot and the most cost-effective system did not include Brandon Grosvenor's lot, where would that leave the District? The District had an engineer and was following a process to ensure that they could receive Federal money.

Mike Lindemer noted that there were two options and he was baffled that the Board would not give Brandon Grosvenor permission to move forward to give the District a bid. Discussion followed on the location options for the treatment plant.

Shannon Therriault, MCCHD, thanked Sonny Capece and Representative Zinke's office for recognizing this issue. Sonny Capece added that it was clearly a huge issue and they would do their best to help alleviate it.

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

### **Invoices**

**Pat Goodover moved to approve the invoices as presented.** Troy Spence seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Absent
Pat Goodover	Aye

Jason Gilpin           Aye  
Cheri Thompson       Aye  
Troy Spence           Aye

### **MANGER'S REPORT:**

Bill Decker noted that all the items in his report were in the agenda.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Action Plan for 2023-2024 - Committee Reports

Pathfinder Article & Email Newsletter

None.

### Monitoring Wells & Lake Sampling

Jeanna Miller noted that these one-inch monitoring wells had been harder to sample than a typical two-inch monitoring well. It was their intention to sample monthly, but if it continues to take 3 days to sample that might be difficult. Hopefully there would more water in the wells this time, and there would be results for the next meeting.

### WET Proposal Next Step

Steve Anderson noted that he had submitted the revised scope of work. He had met with Missoula County regarding the FEMA funding and there was potential to secure that funding. The best solution would be to get as much of the town as possible on the sewer system. RV parks and dumps should be included in the system. The \$18 million would be great, but a few more million would be better.

### Election

Cheri Thompson questioned if the applicant for the board position owned property in the District and if he was eligible. Felicity Derry noted that he did own property within the District, it was listed under an LLC. Discussion followed on which property that was.

Brandon Grosvenor noted that he had expressed an interest in the board position, but would step back at this time. Tyler Smith noted that he had been in the water and wastewater industry for 30 years and felt that his knowledge could be invaluable. Adding that with a design build the authority would pick an engineer and contractor, which DEQ does not allow. Steve Anderson concurred, adding that the project would require DEQ approved drawings.

### FY2025 Budget

Bill Decker reviewed the District's operating expenses totaling \$113,600 and offsetting the budget using the District's reserve funds. Felicity Derry noted that the Sewer District had always utilized the Water District's QuickBooks program. The Water District can no longer have two company files.

Therefore, the Sewer District could either continue to use the unsupported version or purchase the QuickBooks 2024 software at a cost of \$650. Discussion followed whether to purchase the software and how to pay for that additional cost.

**Pat Goodover moved to increase the office supplies (expense) to \$1,000 in order to purchase QuickBooks. Operating expenses would total \$114,200, the District Reserve would offset in the amount of \$83,600, leaving the total assessment of \$30,600. Troy Spence seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried.**

Tom Morris	Absent
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Troy Spence	Aye

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Fee Assessment Methodology & Notice of Hearing

Felicity Derry noted that the District had used the equal assessment methodology for the past several years and that the Board needed to approve a methodology tonight, reviewing the possible timeline for the notice of hearing and when the hearing needed to be set.

**Pat Goodover moved to approve the equal assessment methodology. Jason Gilpin seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was carried.**

Tom Morris	Absent
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Troy Spence	Aye

Set a Public Hearing

The Board discussed when to hold the June meeting.

**Pat Goodover moved to move the meeting from June 20<sup>th</sup> to June 26<sup>th</sup>, with a hearing set for 5:30pm and the meeting set to follow around 6:00pm. Jason Gilpin seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried.**

Tom Morris	Absent
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Troy Spence	Aye

Bill Decker requested that the Board approve the notice of hearing. Felicity Derry added that because the budget number had changed slightly the Notice of Hearing would reflect those changes, so the numbers in the final version would be a little different from those in the draft copy.

**Pat Goodover moved to approve the notice of proposed levy of special assessments for the administrative fee.** Troy Spence seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Absent
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Troy Spence	Aye

Mike Lindemer requested that the Board use the numbers for the monitoring wells and not the place names. Cheri Thompson agreed that the Board would use numbers to identify the monitoring wells. Bill Decker added that using place names and not the numbers had not been done intentionally.

**NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING: June 26, 2024**

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:**

Cheri Thompson noted that the following items should be added to the June agenda: Action Plan – Committee Reports – Pathfinder Article, Monitoring Well & Lake Sampling, Public Hearing, WET Proposal, FEMA funding, DRNC Grants and Election.

**ADJOURNMENT OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING:**

Cheri Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm.

Attest:

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Tom Morris, President

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Felicity Derry, Secretary

05/15/2024  
Seeley Lake Sewer District  
Regular Board Meeting



APPENDIX A

SEELEY LAKE – MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT  
Regular Board Meeting  
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom  
May 15, 2024

NAME	ADDRESS/EMAIL	PHONE #
Jeanna Miller, MCCHD		
Shannon Therriault, MCCHD		
Dennis Clark		
Brandon Grosvenor, Lazy Acres		
Tom Beers		
Mike Lindemer		
Mike Williams		
Devin Beal		
Chris Lounsberry		
Tyler Smith		
Josh Vincent, WET		
Steve Anderson, WET		
Keely Larson, Pathfinder		

**Seeley Lake Sewer District  
Invoices for June 2024**

**District:**

Seeley Lake Water District - <i>Inv#233 May 2024</i>		\$263.00
Cincinnati Insurance - Policy Renewal		\$2,599.00
Bill Decker - <i>May/June 2024</i>		\$722.70
The Barn - April Meeting		\$50.00
USPS - Post Office Box Rental		\$84.00
Felicity Derry <i>May/June 2024</i>		\$180.00
		<b>\$3,898.70</b>

**Account Balances as of 4/30/2024**

Citizens Alliance Account	\$5,023.05		\$5,023.05
Reserve	\$28,000.00		\$28,000.00
Missoula County Account	\$216,670.85	(\$3,898.70)	\$212,772.15
	<b>\$249,693.90</b>		<b>\$245,795.20</b>

**Seeley Lake - Missoula County Water District**

PO Box 503  
Seeley Lake, MT 59868-0503

Phone # 406-677-2559

**Invoice**

DATE	INVOICE #
6/1/2024	233

BILL TO
Seeley Lake Sewer District PO Box 403 Seeley Lake, MT 59868-0403

SHIP TO

P.O. NUMBER	TERMS	REP	SHIP	VIA	
	Due on Receipt		6/1/2024	Vince	

QUANTITY	ITEM CODE	DESCRIPTION	PRICE EACH	AMOUNT
13	MiscI	Bookkeeping & Admin November 2020	15.00	195.00
276	MiscO	Copies - General	0.05	13.80
		Fee Assessment		
391	MiscO	Copies for Notice of Hearing & Labels	0.05	19.55
26	MiscO	Labels Sheets 100	0.35	9.10
365	MiscO	Envelopes	0.07	25.55

THANK YOU!	<b>Total</b>	\$263.00
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Statement – Premium Due

001624 128 1000422018 25024 04
SEELEY LAKE MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER
DISTRICT
PO BOX 403
SEELEY LAKE MT 59868-0403

Table with 2 columns: Field (Amount Due, Due Date) and Value (\$1,999.00, 07/01/2024)

Payment Method: Direct Invoice
Account Number: 1000422018
Policy Number(s) with Premium Due: 0494724

Statement Prepared On: 06/05/2024

Questions regarding your insurance coverage:
Cincinnati Customer Care Center
Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC (25024)
CustomerCare@cinfin.com
877-237-6421

Questions regarding your statement:
Cincinnati Corporate Billing
877-942-2455, CinciBill@cinfin.com
Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.- 6 p.m. Eastern Time
Saturday, 8 a.m.- noon Eastern Time

Table with 2 columns: Field (Pay Online, Payment Address, Overnight Payment Address) and Value (cinfin.com, 800-364-3400, The Cincinnati Insurance Company, etc.)

Please detach and return the remittance stub below with your payment.

Make check payable to: THE CININNATI INSURANCE COMPANY. \*Please include your account number on the check. Do not send cash. If paying multiple accounts include the remittance stub for each.

Table with 3 columns: Account Number, Due Date, Amount Due

Late Payments: A fee of up to \$25 and/or account cancellation may result if the total amount due is not received and posted by the due date.

SEELEY LAKE MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER
DISTRICT
PO BOX 403
SEELEY LAKE MT 59868-0403

Please mark for change of address and complete the reverse side.

THE CININNATI INSURANCE COMPANY
PO BOX 145620
CINNINNATI OH 45250 -5620

11 1 1000422018 07012024 000000199900 1



Statement - Premium Due

001623 128 1000421991 25024 04
SEELEY LAKE MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER
DISTRICT
PO BOX 403
SEELEY LAKE MT 59868-8040

Table with 2 columns: Amount Due (\$600.00), Due Date (07/01/2024)

Payment Method: Direct Invoice
Account Number: 1000421991
Policy Number(s) with Premium Due: 0494747

Statement Prepared On: 06/05/2024

Questions regarding your insurance coverage:
Cincinnati Customer Care Center
Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC (25024)
CustomerCare@cinfin.com
877-237-6421

Questions regarding your statement:
Cincinnati Corporate Billing
877-942-2455, CinciBill@cinfin.com
Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.- 6 p.m. Eastern Time
Saturday, 8 a.m.- noon Eastern Time

Table with 2 columns: Payment information (Pay Online, Payment Address, Overnight Payment Address) and details (cinfin.com, 800-364-3400, etc.)

Please detach and return the remittance stub below with your payment.

Make check payable to: THE CINCINNATI INSURANCE COMPANY. \*Please include your account number on the check. Do not send cash. If paying multiple accounts include the remittance stub for each.

Table with 3 columns: Account Number (1000421991), Due Date (07/01/2024), Amount Due (\$600.00)

Late Payments: A fee of up to \$25 and/or account cancellation may result if the total amount due is not received and posted by the due date.

SEELEY LAKE MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER
DISTRICT
PO BOX 403
SEELEY LAKE MT 59868-8040

Please mark for change of address and complete the reverse side.

THE CINCINNATI INSURANCE COMPANY
PO BOX 145620
CINCINNATI OH 45250 -5620

11 1 1000421991 07012024 000000060000 7

## MANAGER'S REPORT

MAY/JUNE 2024

5/16 Sewer Board meeting	1.50hrs
5/21 Assessment mailing	6.50hrs
5/30 Letter to the Editor	2.00hrs
6/11 Zoom meeting on Thesis	1.50hrs
6/19 Missoulian	0.50hrs
6/20 MAP Meeting	1.50hrs
7 Email conversations	1.75hrs
12 phone conversations	3.00hrs

Total hrs 18.25@\$26/hr= \$474.50

The first order of business the past month was the preparation and mailing of the new assessments to District residents. The mailings went out on time and were posted at the designated sites. I received no calls either thanking the board or criticizing the board.

The process highlighted an issue that should be addressed by the board. That is the issue of the District Manager and Secretary using personal funds to do District business. I think as the project progresses there will be many instances requiring the Manager or Secretary to purchase equipment, office supplies and postage stamps. If the District were to have a debit card to use in those purchases it would streamline the procedure. In the past I have seen Manager Accounts with a predetermined limit and expenditures requiring approval by the Board president or vice president work very well. The District will be required to have audits performed in the near future and generally the mixing of personal funds and District funds is frowned upon.

I attended a Zoom meeting on a Thesis prepared by a candidate for a Masters Degree. This individual had contacted the District previously and requested information. Felicity was able to provide the requested information. The thesis was on the Seeley Lake groundwater issue and the failure of the District residents to vote to approve a wastewater and collection system. As the board members are aware there was a letter writing campaign both in favor of and against the project. There was a lot of information in these letters that may or may not have been based in fact. One individual wrote over 20 letters opposed to the project; this person's name was not given. I found that very interesting as just a couple weeks prior to attending this zoom meeting there was a Letter to the Editor in the Pathfinder that was titled " No nitrate problem in Seeley". I responded to this letter the day that I read it and my response was in the following week's Pathfinder. In doing some research I believe the same individual was responsible for the other letters. After all the work the District has done in installing new monitoring wells and sampling it was almost inconceivable to me that this person was totally unaware of what the District has been doing the past two years. This type of public misinformation must be addressed and corrected wherever it appears, or it might once again negatively affect the proposed project.

A requirement of our grant application was that we provide Letters of Support for a wastewater treatment and collection system from area residents. We received some excellent letters but I was disappointed in the number of letters we received. Those letters have been submitted and received by the Congressman's office. They have been entered into the Congressional Record. There is a chance we will be allowed to submit more letters at a later date, so we will still encourage and accept Letters of Support.

In a conversation with Congressman Zinke's office I learned that three individuals had contacted the Congressman's office to encourage the use of a MBR and site location that had been discussed previously with the Board, many times. These individuals should realize by now that they are not helping the District, they are just getting in the way. The decision of what treatment system and the location of the treatment system is up to the Board, the residents of the District and the recommendations of our Engineering consultants. Congressman Zinke's office will not make decisions for the Board.

I sent an email to all the Board members suggesting that they make a statement that they are all in support of this project and this grant. I have not heard from any board member thinking this was a bad idea or a good idea. I think at this time it is imperative that the board show unanimity for this project and this grant. So, I am again suggesting the board at this meeting draft and approve a statement in support of the project and grant.

# UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.

SEELEY LAKE  
3172 MT HIGHWAY 83 N  
SEELEY LAKE, MT 59868-9998  
(800)275-8777

24

10:17 AM

	Qty	Unit Price	Price
Mag Coil	3	\$68.00	\$204.00
Mag Kit/20	3	\$13.60	\$40.80
Mag	5	\$0.68	\$3.40

Total: \$248.20

Card Remit \$248.20

Card Name: VISA  
Account #: XXXXXXXXXXXXX2250

Approval #: 111658

Transaction #: 416

Receipt #: 011102

Card Purchase: \$248.20

IBAN: A00000000980840

US DEBIT

Verified

Chip



**P.O. Box Service Fee Notice  
SEELEY LAKE**

3172 MT HIGHWAY 83 N, SEELEY LAKE, MT 59868

(406) 677-2474

WEBBATS BAT710B1

SEELEY LAKE-MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER  
DISTRICT  
PO BOX 403  
SEELEY LAKE, MT 59868

**Date of Notice:** 05/31/2024  
**Box#** 403  
**6 Months:** \$42.00  
**12 Months:** \$84.00  
**Due Date:** 06/30/2024

Dear SEELEY LAKE-MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT:

This is a friendly reminder that your Post Office Box or Caller Service renewal fee is due. If you have already paid this fee, please disregard this notice and thank you for your continued business with the United States Postal Service. If you have not yet submitted your payment, please do so now.

For your convenience, you can sign up at [www.usps.com/poboxes](http://www.usps.com/poboxes) and renew or manage your PO Box online. You can use your credit card to make a one-time payment or sign up for automatic payments so you never miss a due date. You can also renew your PO Box at any one of our Self-Service Kiosks located at select Post Offices nationwide. Go to [www.usps.com/locator/welcome.htm](http://www.usps.com/locator/welcome.htm) and look for Self-Service Kiosks to find a location near you.

As always, payments can be made at the Post Office or mailed to the attention of the Postmaster at the address indicated above. Please make checks or money orders payable to the US Postal Service and include your PO Box number and ZIP Code. If paying by mail, a receipt will be delivered to your PO Box.

**Note:** Caller Service may only be paid in Enterprise PO Box Online (EPOBOL). (Enroll at <https://postalpro.usps.com/EPS> under the "Quick Links" section). Please be sure to include this notice with your remittance. Caller Service receipts will be provided through the EPOBOL Application.

If your payment is not received by the due date, access to your PO Box will be blocked and caller services will be limited. If we have not received your payment by the 10th day after the due date, your PO Box service will be terminated, incoming mail will be returned to the sender, and, in addition to any unpaid monthly PO Box fees, you will be charged a handling fee to reopen your box. To avoid this inconvenience, we encourage you to renew on time.

**As a reminder, your account information must be current. If your physical address or other pertinent information has changed since you applied for your PO Box, please ask a Sales and Service Associate at your Post Office to update the filed copy of your PS Form 1093, *Application for Post Office Box Service*.**

**To update your information for Caller Service, you can ask a Sales and Service Associate to update the PS 1093-C, *Application for Caller Service*.**

You are a valued customer and we appreciate your business. Thank you,

POSTMASTER, SEELEY LAKE



Felicity Derry  
May/June

Date	Time	Subject	Hours
5/15/2024	5:40-7:55p	Board Meeting	2.25
6/11/2024	5:15-8:00p	Minutes	2.75
6/12/2024	5:30-8:45p	Minutes & Admin	3.25
6/13/2024	6:15-8:30p	Admin	1.75
			<hr/>
			10.00
	10 x \$18 = \$180.00		

\$180.00  
\$180.00

## MANAGER'S REPORT

MAY/JUNE 2024

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The first order of business the past month was the preparation and mailing of the new assessments to District residents. The mailings went out on time and were posted at the designated sites. I received no calls either thanking the board or criticizing the board.

The process highlighted an issue that should be addressed by the board. That is the issue of the District Manager and Secretary using personal funds to do District business. I think as the project progresses there will be many instances requiring the Manager or Secretary to purchase equipment, office supplies and postage stamps. If the District were to have a debit card to use in those purchases it would streamline the procedure. In the past I have seen Manager Accounts with a predetermined limit and expenditures requiring approval by the Board president or vice president work very well. The District will be required to have audits performed in the near future and generally the mixing of personal funds and District funds is frowned upon.

I attended a Zoom meeting on a Thesis prepared by a candidate for a Masters Degree. This individual had contacted the District previously and requested information. Felicity was able to provide the requested information. The thesis was on the Seeley Lake groundwater issue and the failure of the District residents to vote to approve a wastewater and collection system. As the board members are aware there was a letter writing campaign both in favor of and against the project. There was a lot of information in these letters that may or may not have been based in fact. One individual wrote over 20 letters opposed to the project; this person's name was not given. I found that very interesting as just a couple weeks prior to attending this zoom meeting there was a Letter to the Editor in the Pathfinder that was titled " No nitrate problem in Seeley". I responded to this letter the day that I read it and my response was in the following week's Pathfinder. In doing some research I believe the same individual was responsible for the other letters. After all the work the District has done in installing new monitoring wells and sampling it was almost inconceivable to me that this person was totally unaware of what the District has been doing the past two years. This type of public misinformation must be addressed and corrected wherever it appears, or it might once again negatively affect the proposed project.

A requirement of our grant application was that we provide Letters of Support for a wastewater treatment and collection system from area residents. We received some excellent letters but I was disappointed in the number of letters we received. Those letters have been submitted and received by the Congressman's office. They have been entered into the Congressional Record. There is a chance we will be allowed to submit more letters at a later date, so we will still encourage and accept Letters of Support.

In a conversation with Congressman Zinke's office I learned that three individuals had contacted the Congressman's office to encourage the use of a MBR and site location that had been discussed previously with the Board, many times. These individuals should realize by now that they are not helping the District, they are just getting in the way. The decision of what treatment system and the location of the treatment system is up to the Board, the residents of the District and the recommendations of our Engineering consultants. Congressman Zinke's office will not make decisions for the Board.

I sent an email to all the Board members suggesting that they make a statement that they are all in support of this project and this grant. I have not heard from any board member thinking this was a bad idea or a good idea. I think at this time it is imperative that the board show unanimity for this project and this grant. So, I am again suggesting the board at this meeting draft and approve a statement in support of the project and grant.