

SEELEY LAKE SEWER DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 15, 2021

Tom Morris	President	PRESENT	Jason Gilpin	Director	PRESENT
Pat Goodover	Vice President	PRESENT*	Cheri Thompson	Director	PRESENT
	Director	VACANT	Felicity Derry	Secretary	PRESENT
	Manager	VACANT			

* Appointed at this meeting
Public Attendance - Appendix A

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Tom Morris at 6:07pm. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The dissolution of the District being placed on the agenda was discussed.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

Tom Morris noted that some of the items on the agenda had been submitted very close to the meeting, which meant that they had not been included in the Board packet.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Colleen Krause was very concerned that Lindey's RV dump site was still being allowed to operate and felt that it should be tested. Colleen Krause also questioned why the dump site at the cow was not currently operational. Jim Erven requested that Colleen Krause call him to discuss the matter.

CORRESPONDENCE:

DEQ (Appendix B)

Tom Morris read this correspondence, which confirmed the termination of the District's discharge permit.

Department of Commerce (Appendix C)

Tom Morris read this correspondence, which confirmed the release of the TSEP PER grant funds.

Beth Hutchinson (Appendix D)

Tom Morris read Beth Hutchinson's email of resignation.

MINUTES:

June 28, 2021 Public Hearing & Regular Meeting

Pat Goodover moved to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2021 Public Hearing and Board Meeting as presented. Cheri Thompson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Director	Vacant

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Invoices – June 2021

Tom Morris noted that some of the invoices and information for the financials had been received late, and therefore had been circulated late.

Tom Morris was troubled by the Flathead Bio Lab invoices that spanned several years, exceeding the budgeted amount for FY2021, noting that they had been submitted after the high school had indicated that the program had concluded. Tom Morris reviewed the lab invoices and suggested creating a new agreement, which would enable the District to be fiscally responsible. Discussion followed with Caryn Miske, CRC, regarding the testing and the agreement with the high school.

Pat Goodover moved to approve all of the invoices for payment, except the Bio Lab invoices. Cheri Thompson seconded the motion. Felicity Derry updated the Board on the status of the Cincinnati Insurance payment and how to best to ensure that the premium would be paid on time. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Director	Vacant

Tom Morris moved to authorize the President and Jason Gilpin to sign a check from Citizens Alliance Bank, if the one from the county account does not go through for the Cincinnati Insurance. Pat Goodover seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Director	Vacant

Financial Reports – June 2021

Felicity Derry reviewed the financial reports for June 2021, noting that the check detail reflected the final payment to Great West Engineering and Dorsey & Whitney. Also, that the bank balances on the invoice sheet had not been updated using the figures from the financial reports, which had been received just prior to the meeting. Discussion followed regarding scheduling a session to review the financial reports with the Board.

MANGERS REPORT:

Currently there is no manager to present a report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Interim General Manager

Cheri Thompson reviewed her outline, noting that it was a combination of Beth Hutchinson's and Jean Curtiss' documents. The Board reviewed the document and made some typographical changes.

Pat Goodover moved to approve the interim district manager explanation, changing “amended” to “annotated”, removing the second district and including the Montana Code Annotated as attachments. Tom Morris seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Director	Vacant

The Board discussed how to advertise the position, agreeing put it on the website and add this item to the next agenda.

Proposed Action Plan for 2021-2022

Tom Morris thanked Cheri Thompson for her work on the action plan; however, he felt that the monitoring wells should be the first item of the action plan. Discussion followed with Caryn Miske and Jim Erven on their combined grant application for surface and groundwater monitoring. Both Jim Erven and Caryn Miske recommended that the District delay digging new monitoring wells until after they learned if their grant application had been successful. The discussion turned to applying for other possible grants and how that might fit into the District's well/lake monitoring budget item.

The Board reviewed the action plan item by item.

The Board agreed that securing email addresses for property owners would be advantageous.

Reevaluating the website and making it easier to search for documents on the website was discussed.

Creating a digital newsletter was discussed. The Board agreed that the newsletter should be as needed and not on specific dates.

Placing links to the local and state agencies on the District's website was discussed and agreed to.

Creating an electronic brochure for the District and being a resource for new residents was discussed. The Board agreed this should be reviewed further at the next meeting.

Presenting information at the Community Council meeting was discussed. The Board agreed that a mission update should be placed on the agenda, so that the Board could agree on points that Cheri Thompson would address at the following Community Council meeting.

After discussion the Board agreed that a digital library of articles should be added to the website.

After discussion the Board agreed that the District should find ways to reach and educate people about septic systems.

After discussion the Board agreed that the District should respond to communications from District members.

The Board discussed using the state cadastral map to help with data gathering and developing an inventory. The Board agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting. The Board discussed what data it would be possible to collect.

A library of wastewater systems and options would be developed further for discussion at the next meeting.

The Board discussed the need for collecting financial information, the benefits it could bring and if it would be feasible. This item would be researched further and would be discussed at the next meeting.

The Board discussed the District's levels of responsibility and testing results.

The Board discussed the remaining items and agreed that #8 should be removed and that the last items should be developed further for discussion at the next meeting.

The Board agreed that the revised action plan should be reviewed at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Watershed Plan

Caryn Miske noted that the document she had sent was in response to a question from a previous meeting and was for the Board's information. Caryn Miske reviewed the high school testing costs and why they might have increased.

Caryn Miske added that the watershed planning process continued and it would be used to capture funding.

Discussion followed on how a nutrient budget for the lake (Seeley) could help define the lake's issues and if one had already been completed. The nutrient load of the lake and the number of geese on the lake were discussed. The Board discussed researching the possibility of performing a nutrient budget for Seeley Lake and agreed that Nutrient Budget Analysis should be added to the agenda for next month.

Kim Myre outlined the memorandum of understanding that that she had located electronically from 2015 & 2016.

Dissolution of the District

Tom Morris noted that this was on the agenda for discussion pertaining to the Montana code. The Board agreed to move this item to the September agenda.

Elect Board Vice President

Tom Morris noted that Pat Goodover had submitted his name for Vice President. Cheri Thompson seconded Pat Goodover's nomination for Vice President. There were no other nominations.

The vote for Pat Goodover being Vice President was as follows:

Tom Morris	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Director	Vacant

Pat Goodover was elected Vice President.

Tom Morris thanked Beth Hutchinson for her contributions to the Sewer District over the years and her intention to continue contributing in the future. Also, that she was appreciated. Pat Goodover seconded that she was appreciated.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING: August 19, 2021

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

Tom Morris noted that the following items should be added to the August agenda: Agreement with the high school, amend the budget, nutrient budget analysis, confirm and adopt the proposed action plan, interim general manager interviews & advertising and interview & advertising for the Board vacancy.

ADJOURNMENT OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING:

Tom Morris moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:41pm.

Attest:

Tom Morris, President

Felicity Derry, Secretary