

SEELEY LAKE MISSOULA COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting

January 21, 2010

Attendance:

Glen Morin	President	PRESENT	Mike Lindemer	Director	PRESENT
Scott Smith	Vice-President	ABSENT	Randy Gordon	Consultant	PRESENT
Bob Skiles	Director	PRESENT	Felicity Derry	Secretary	PRESENT
Tom Morris	Director	PRESENT	Vince Chappell	Advisor	PRESENT
			Walt Hill	Advisor	PRESENT

OPENING

The meeting was called to order at 5:34pm by President, Glen Morin at the Barn, located on Highway 83 N.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER MEETINGS

The minutes of the December 17, 2009 meeting were presented to the Board.

Tom Morris moved to accept the minutes for the December 17, 2009 meeting as presented, Bob Skiles seconded. The motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Bills

Glen Morin presented the bills to the Board.

1.	RTK & Associates	Inv#86	\$	550.00
2.	Secretary Felicity Derry		\$	75.00
3.	Seeley Lake Water District – Bookkeeping	Inv#48	\$	90.00
4.	Rock-N-Horse Ranch LLC		\$	2312.48
5.	Vince Chappell		\$	105.00
6.	Missoula County Election		\$	250.28
7.	ME Lab		\$	292.50

Total \$3,675.26

Randy Gordon outlined the bills. He noted that approximately \$7,500 of the 2009 fee assessment has not been collected and he has been working with Missoula County about sending out a reminder. There is still \$17,000 that will come in this spring for 2010 operating year.

Tom Morris moved to pay the bills, Mike Lindemer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Statements

Randy Gordon explained that there would be more fee assessment coming in. He is meeting with the County about sending out reminders. If the fee from the County is reasonable, they can do it. The fee still has to be collected by Missoula County and then given to the District. He reviewed the status of the grants for the Board.

Randy Gordon noted that there has to be 18 months of sampling before the DEQ will give the District a discharge permit. Six wells will need to be dug and then tested quarterly for 18 months. Walt Hill said that a year ago the engineer had said it did not matter if the District did not have a site the plant could still be designed. Now we find out that it cannot be designed until after 18 months of testing has been performed. Randy Gordon said that the environmental report has to be upgraded so that the US Forest Service can move on the land use permit. He is meeting with Tim Love and Karen Linford next week.

Glen Morin was shocked because Dave Aune had told the Board that not having a site was not a big deal. Walter Hill questioned why the engineer did not tell the District a year ago that a site needed to be chosen because 18 months of testing would have to be done.

Mike Lindemer asked what the priorities are. Randy Gordon replied that the ground testing that has already been done suggests that the site should be fine. All indications are that there should not be a problem with the environmental checklist. The District will have to go down this road for 18 months. Glen Morin asked when the test wells could be dug. Randy Gordon replied hopefully they would be dug in the spring; it is included in the engineer's scope of work. The logistics of this were discussed. Randy Gordon said that the US Forest Service gave the District the permit to drill the holes. WRDA money can be used to pay for this. Mike Lindemer said that the well driller might be able to dig in the winter. Randy Gordon said that he would ask Karen Linford about that.

Tom Morris moved to accept the financial statements for December 2009, Bob Skiles seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Randy Gordon received an invitation to attend a workshop in Bozeman on February 19, 2010. It is with the Governor to bring business to Montana. He will be attending the Montana Rural Water conference in Great Falls at that time.

MANAGER'S CONTRACT

Randy Gordon told the Board that it was up to them how they wanted to proceed with the manager's contract. The position has been advertised in the paper and he was the only applicant. It is up to the Board if they want to extend his contract or handle it a different way. The District has complied with the rules so Federal grant money can be used to reimburse the District for part of the manager's fees. The Board discussed this. Glen Morin recommended that the contract should continue as before. Mike Lindemer said that he was fine with that. Randy Gordon said that he would type up the same contract as before, but with no termination date and have Glen Morin sign it.

Mike Lindemer moved to continue with the same contract that Randy Gordon has currently; however with no termination date, Tom Morris seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Randy Gordon noted that he worked 85.5 hours.

1. The old records have been archived and are stored at the Fire Hall/Plum Creek. All of the minutes that he could find from previous meetings are in a folder. Some are missing. The resolutions were included in the minutes. The 2010 files are made and are at the Water District.
2. Received the application for STAG/WRDA from Senator Tester and Senator Baucus. Talked to Senator Tester regarding giving the District an earmark for the project so it did not have to be matched. The next best thing would be money through WRDA because they only require a 25% match.
3. Doing a 2010 uniform application, which could be used for Rural Development or Economic Development. Copying the old one referencing the new budget and site.
4. The final draft of the income survey is almost done. This can be used for Rural Develop, TSEP and CDBG. The income survey would be taken for the entire District. If the average income were under \$25,550 per year the District would qualify for 75% grant funding for the entire project through Rural Development. They have sufficient money available to do this.
5. Proposed new boundaries for the District and showed the Board a map. The new boundary can be used for the income survey.

The Board discussed the boundaries. Randy Gordon said that if the Board agrees on the new boundaries the next step is to do a petition. Everybody in the proposed areas wants to be annexed in, except DNRC who want their lots to be petitioned in to the District. We would have to get petitions and put it on the vote for May 2010. He would recommend that the Board accept the new boundaries and start the petition process. The more people that are in the District, the lower the monthly rate will be. If the District could sewer the properties that pollute the river we could qualify for EPA money. Senator Tester said if he took the map of the District to Congress they would want to know why the people along the river are not in the sewer district.

Bob Skiles motioned to include the DNRC land along the river, up Daisy Lane, east of Tamarack Drive, Sequoia Court and Cedar Drive/SOS, and to begin the petition process. This motion will supersede any other previous resolutions, Tom Morris seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

WATER SAMPLE REPORT

Vince Chappell said that he included the reports for several years. The well depths over the last 2 years have fluctuated seasonally, but run about the same. The last test at Lindey's upper well showed low pH, meaning that the water was acidic. The nitrates and chlorides were elevated. Coliform was lower on this well; however some other wells it was higher. A lot of these results are dependent on the water that is being flushed through the ground water. If there is not a good flush there will be higher results from the septic influence. The well at the Baptist Church is running about average depth and the pH is lower by 1 full point. Nitrates were at 5 and the chlorides were high. For drinking water DEQ sets the maximum level for nitrates at 10 parts per million (ppm). For well #1 the nitrates are almost at the maximum level for drinking water, and for well #2 it is half the maximum level. This is very high for drinking water or ground water. The depth for the well at Kurt's Polaris is low. He has never measured it that low before. The pH is low and nitrates are fairly high. The chlorides are higher than he has ever seen them on that well. The coliform is off the charts. All of this is not good. He would expect that the lake would have fewer changes due to the volume of water in the lake. At Lindey's dock on the lake, the pH was normal, no detect on nitrates,

chlorides are higher than he has ever seen, and it maxed out for coliform. At Riverview Bridge the pH dropped, it is not unusual for it to drop a little in the winter; however it is getting pretty acidic water at a 5. Nitrates were elevated and chlorides were normal. It tested positive for coliform. The flow through the ground water is different. This is showed by the results and it could effect what is being flushed out.

Chappell said that he would soon need some more testing cylinders; he has not bought any for two years. They are about \$100 for a dozen. Glen Morin said that Vince Chappell should buy them and then bill the Sewer District.

Tom Morris moved to approve Vince Chappell buy the testing cylinders and then be reimbursed by the Sewer District, Mike Lindemer seconded. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Stubs to Homes

Randy Gordon said that this would all wash out with the funding agencies telling us how they need us to do it. The District will need proper easements through private property. The District should be responsible for the sewer line to the edge of the right of way and not responsible for service lines. Vince Chappell said that once the line is put in the ground the District will be responsible to the shut off valve and the property owner is responsible for everything beyond that point. Randy Gordon said that the District would responsible to the stub at the property line.

Amendment to Great West Contract.

The addendum to the Great West contract will need to be signed once the bids are in for the well drilling, or the District handles the well drilling. Once that is done Randy Gordon will get it out to the Board for review and approval. The contract cannot be signed until the District gets permission to use the money from WRDA for that.

New District Boundaries

Previously covered.

Tom Morris said that he understood the liability issue on the stubs. Years ago the Water District brought the water to a frost free hydrant and left it there. Bob Skiles said that the reason that we were going to take it to the house was because of the cost. The Board did not want to tell people that they would have to pay \$35 per month and then pay \$7,000 to have the sewer hooked up. It will probably end up being \$10-15,000 for the hook up. Randy Gordon said that we would do the best we can, either doing using the proper easements and have hold harmless agreements in place; or get the programs where people can get it paid for. Tom Morris said that there are people that can barely afford to pay their lot rent now, and we will force them to hook up? They do no have the money. Glen Morin said that the District should do some of the footwork for them. Tom Morris said that he would like them to be able to sign the paper and they can get the hook up. Randy Gordon said that we would do that through the County and other grants. There would

be lots of programs available for them. We will not leave it so people will lose their homes because they hook up to the sewer.

Tom Morris noted that the PER said that at some point there would be grinder pumps. He would like to see a lift station. Randy Gordon said that a lot of the homes already have grinder pumps to pump out to the septic tank. Randy Gordon reviewed different designs for this with the Board. Tom Morris would like to see a neighborhood collection system that goes to a lift station. You do not want to have the individual pumps and when something fails they have a basement full of raw sewage. Randy Gordon says that it does happen, but not that often.

Mike Lindemer requested that Randy Gordon develop a list showing priorities. Randy Gordon said that he would send it to the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Scheduled for February 18, 2010

ADJOURMENT:

The meeting was adjourned by Tom Morris at 6:55pm

Attest:

Glen Morin, President

Felicity Derry, Secretary