

**MINUTES OF A REGULA0R MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
TURKEY CREEK REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT**

The Board of Trustees of the Turkey Creek Regional Sewer District met in the Office of the said District, 4852 North 1200 West, Cromwell, Indiana, on the 16th day of July 2018. Such meeting pursuant to annual notice in accordance with the rules of the Board of Trustees and I.C. 5-14-1.5.

President Heil called for the roll of members of the Board shown to be present or absent is as follows:

PRESENT

Rex Heil
James Boone
Donald DeWitt
Keith Ort
Robert Dumford

ABSENT

James Young
Dan Mikolajczak

Also present were Brian Houghton and Jeff Hersha of Jones and Henry, Timothy Woodward-District Superintendent, Richrd Green of Beers, Mallers, Backs & Salin LLP, Chelsea Los of The Paper, Michael and Karen Williams of Microbyte, Jane Bauer, Billing Clerk and Pam Johns-Office Manager.

There were also approximately 50 people attending the meeting in order to get more information and state their feeling regarding the possible expansion of sewer service in the Northshore and Eastshore area.

President Heil verified that each Board Member had a copy of the minutes from the June 18, 2018 meeting. After review the motion was made by Trustee Boone to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Trustee Dumford and carried.

After a brief discussion Trustee Boone made the motion to pay claim #'s 8370-401 and 8405 as listed on Operation & Maintenance. The motion also approved claim #'s 8402-04 from the Water Fund plus prepaid check #'s 15451-79 from the Operation & Maintenance fund. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ort and carried.

President Heil introduced Brian Houghton and Jeff Hersha of Jones and Henry, engineers for the District. Jeff started by addressing some of the questions and statements regarding possible expansion by Turkey Creek Regional District. He stated that he had attended the "opposition meeting" so that the District would know what the concerns and issues the property owners have. He stressed that the District does not have a "project" planned but is doing a feasibility study which included the survey mailed out in February. Some of the things he felt needed to be clarified were that the District is not private or for profit, it was originally created by the order of the Indiana Stream Pollution Control Board (now IDEM) in 1977 therefore sewerage the area was decided by the State and not TCRSD's Board.

The effect on the aquifer was questioned. Jeff stated that sewers should have no quantifiable impact on it. He also clarified that some of the questions such as the number of failing septic systems in the area need to be addressed to the Kosciusko County Health Dept. Jeff has heard comments such as "it's a done deal" or "they are trying to sneak one by us". He again reiterated that sewerage this area has always been part of the long range plan and the District is now just gathering information for review. Since 1977 the responsibility for providing sewer service by the District was part of the state mandate.

Jeff verified that the survey was sent to the property tax record address. There were 197 surveys sent out and responses were-45 yes, 94 no, 2 abstain and 7 returned by the post office. Jeff was asked for a breakdown of the detailed response options and also by street. He will get this information together in the next week and make it available to anyone requesting it. Jeff introduced Brian Houghton who clarified that the District is currently planning and going out for bid on 2 projects-neither of which include sewerage Syracuse Lake. The bids are related to a flow reversal plan for part of what is now treated by Syracuse. This has always been part of the master plan and due to increased flow and charges from Syracuse the District felt it was time to make the plant and line improvements in order to allow more flow to be treated at the District Plant. The system is being sized that if in the future the Syracuse Lake area is sewerage the lines could handle it. Brain again stated that the request for bids on contacts 4 (rerouting flow) and 5 (plant improvements) that will be in the newspaper next week have nothing to do with the Syracuse Lake area.

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Brian was asked regarding the Southshore expansion recently completed. The individual stated that the west side of Highway 13 opted out of the plan for sewers. Brian clarified that due to cost of going under Highway 13 the west side was never part of the plan.

The Board was asked regarding cost and the availability of grants such as the ones that were received by Lakeland. Brian and Rex responded that they were not aware of any available that the District would qualify for.

Brian also responded to a homeowner who had just put a new system in. There are exemptions that can be applied for. This is done by the County Health Department for working systems less than 10 years old. The exemption would be until a system was 10 years old and two 5 year renewals could be applied for. It was recommended that anyone interested check out IC 36-9-23-30.1 on the State website. There was confusion regarding exemptions and monthly charges-there are no monthly charges during the period that the exemption applies.

As far as grant application Rex stated that the District does not have a grant writer but will check with HJ Umbaugh and Associates who does the Districts rate studies as they would be familiar with what may be available. Brian suggested that individuals could contact Rural Development at 260-248-8924. They have 1% 20 year loans available. These would be, as are most grants income based.

Brian then stated that based on previous studies and information going back to 2007 the aquifer would not be or only be minimally affected if the area in question was sewerred. Brian stated that there was also confusion regarding easements but in fact if the District did decide to install sewer, easements would not be necessary as the line and taps would be installed in road right of way and then the property owner would install their pump, panel and line to hook into the tap. The only property easement needed would be for one pump station but the location has not been determined.

Brian stated that if the District did decide to install sewer on Northshore and/or Eastshore it would take approximately 1 ½ -2 years to get it designed and permits approved.

Brian had been asked regarding cost – although it is too early to get figures on what actual cost would be – the SWAP area was estimated and came in at approximately \$20,000.00 per property. This included the \$5800.00 availability and capital charge, the pump, panel, filling in the existing tank and installation charges. Customers are charged the capital and availability as soon as the project is approved, bond interest when construction is started and the monthly rate when service is available.

When an area is sewerred the District does specify the pump that must be purchased.

The question was asked if the District sells Bonds-they do. This is done with HJ Umbaugh & Associates the rate consultant and the Bond Council (last bond sale used Ice Miller out of Indianapolis as council).

Brian was asked about the life span of the pumps used-the SWAP area pump has a one year complete warranty and the manufacture estimates the life span to be 15-20 years. Brian stated that the life span also depends on the system design and pressure needed to operate it.

Brian also reminded everyone that per IDEM the plant must be designed for the peak flow-in our case it is the flow over the 4th of July Holiday.

He was asked regarding backups that would damage homes. Brian stated that there would be 2 check valves installed (on the tap and grinder pump) to avoid home line backups.

It was pointed out that the survey stated that if the results stated that the owners did not want sewer it would not be done at this time. Trustee Boone and President Heil responded that the District does have a responsibility to look into expansion and keep up with the changes in state regulations.

It was asked if the system could be metered rather than flat rate. President Heil reported that metering has to be done on the water consumption (home owners are all on private wells) and not sewer service and it would be cost prohibitive.

It was asked that if the District had looked at having one contractor do all the pump installation.

The question was raised on whether or not the EPA recommends the system being discussed or not. Tim and Brian will review but they are not aware of any issues or reports.

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It was asked if the District had considered removing just the black water. Brian stated he does not recommend it and you would still need a tank that has to be maintained and pumped.

It was stated that the lake was tested weekly by Lakes & Streams in conjunction with Grace College and that the results show that the lake is healthy and in good shape.

A property owner pointed out that at some point sewer will happen, cost will only go up and in the meantime owners with small lots are limited in how they can make improvements.

President Heil thanked the individuals for attending the meeting and hoped many of their questions had been answered. He stated that the Board holds meetings the third week of the month and is open to the public. After a five minute recess the meeting resumed with President Heil asking for Tim's report. He reported that all went well over the holiday weekend even with a record flow. There were no problems reported with the grinder pumps.

The plant met all permits and had no call outs.

He reported that they replaced the site glasses at the water plant. They were able to do it in 30 minutes and keep pressure up to avoid a boil water advisory.

There was a pump at Leeland go down and it had to be replaced. Tim was able to have it rebuilt for half the cost of a new one.

Tim stated that the District had issued 3 new extension permits (Vawter Park, Goldilocks, and the Crow's Nest) from customers wanting service.

He reported that over the holiday the flow went to (for 5 days) 400,000 gallons per day (2X normal average) with peak flows of 890,000. This flow is with all grinder pumps and 28 lift stations running at the same time.

Tim was asked about testing for magnesium. He reported that he does test for it in the sludge (along with 9 other metals per EPA requirements) and it does not show up.

Brian stated that he would have the bid contracts 4 & 5 to Pam tonight so she can get them to the newspaper to run the next two weeks. The bids will be opened on August 16th at 9:00 am.

He stated that the District will not be able to get an easement thru the airport and he has redesigned the plan to go around it.

Brian recommended that the Board go ahead and purchase the equipment to start the flow reversal plan in order to save 3-4 months lead time. The motion was made by Trustee Dumford and seconded by Trustee Boone to purchase the equipment to shorten the lead time. The motion carried.

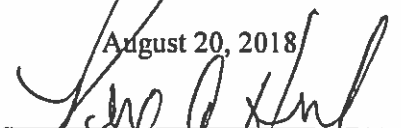
President Heil was asked regarding the increase in charges from Syracuse over the last 2 years-he stated that it was as high as 400%.

President Heil verified that the Board Meeting Minutes had been put on the website. Trustee Boone requested that it also include an email address.


Jeff suggested that a new email address be set up for questions coming in on the website. Michael will set up a new address.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, Trustee Boone made the motion to adjourn. Trustee Dewitt seconded the motion and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

August 20, 2018


Rex A. Heil, President

Respectfully, submitted by:


Pam Johns, Office Manager