

DRAFT- 6-24-09

APPROVED 9-22-09

Meeting: Sewer Advisory Committee

June 16, 2009

6:00 PM

Grattan Township Hall

Minutes

- I. Call to Order – Frank called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM
- II. Roll Call Present: SAC members Frank Force, Alan Rumbaugh, Tom Manikowski, Jennifer Medema. Excused Terry Conley. Also in attendance Kent Trierweiler and John Rydbeck from Infrastructure Alternatives as well as several township residents and sewer customers.
- III. Approval of Agenda – No changes, non-quorum.
- IV. Approval of Minutes. Minutes from March 26, 2009 submitted for approval. Motion by Manikowski to accept minutes AS PRESENTED, support by Rumbaugh.
- V. Public Comment – none
- VI. Tour of system irrigation sites – Two groups car pooled to tour both the Grattan and Grattan/Vergennes sites. Looked at the lagoons and outbuildings.
- VII. Unfinished Business - back at township hall.
 - A. Grattan/Vergennes irrigation upgrade
 1. Option #2 – This pertains to the Grattan/Vergennes discharge site. Option 2 is what was discussed with the DEQ May 29th, the plan to use one large center pivot unit on the site of the northern irrigation area.

2. MDEQ Field trip review – Frank provided a summarization of the meeting and tour he conducted with DEQ on May 29th to the sites of both Grattan and G/V systems. Discussed were plans for Option 2, the northern discharge site near Crooked Lake for G/V. Also discussed were items pertaining to expansion of the old orchard site at Grattan, including requests to expand the irrigation schedule.
3. Timing of the irrigation upgrade – Allowing time to build up capital fund, Frank expects work to start in 2010 and finish in 2011.
4. Engineering quotes – Quotes will be sought from vendors for the Discharge Management plan
5. Bidding Process – Franks asked our thoughts on the bidding process. Tom suggested seeking quotes rather than subjecting everyone to the bid process.

B. Grattan irrigation upgrade

1. Determining criteria for irrigation expansion – By Spring of 2010, there should be enough baseline data (flow, storage capacity and discharge) collected for the O&M provider (IA) to determine what needs to be done with the lagoons and discharge area.
2. Recent application for discharge amendment – This included three specific requests to the DEQ that will help the Grattan lagoons and irrigation area achieve compliance and increased efficiency.
 1. An expansion of the irrigation into the old orchard using sprinkler guns in the corridors that were created last year.
 2. A one month extension to the end of the irrigation season, ending November instead of October.

3. An increase of weekly discharge from 2.00” to 2.35”

3. Freeboard marker scales – options were discussed that would allow easy visual monitoring of lagoon levels. John mentioned that ice can skew the markers but if mounted to a structure they may hold up.

C. Mission Dialers

1. Additional dialers would be desirable, yet have option of the sensaphone unit at the discharge site.

VIII. New Business

A. Status of DMP for summer 2010 – Discharge management plan, resubmitted only when major changes are made. Discharge permits are for 3-5 years.

B. Inflation increases on sewer user rates- the board was in conflict over whether incremental increases to sewer rates are better than special assessments.

C. Capacity Studies – Refers back to establishing the baseline data.

D. Inflow and Infiltration Analysis – There are several methods to troubleshoot for possible weak links in the system. Smoke tests reveal direct connections, also sewer joints can be tested. Using troubleshooting and available records and trends one can conduct these I and I analyses.

E. Updates posted to Grattan website – The committee is looking for monthly posting of sewer reports, additional summaries or synopsis of meetings etc., would also be helpful

F. Pump station lawn mowing – Frank secured a quote for mowing at all pump stations at \$125 per trip (as needed?)

G. Operation manuals – Frank lent Tom his two volumes of O&M procedures, hopefully Tom can summarize for us at the next meeting.

IX. Meeting Adjourned 8:12 pm

Submitted by
Jennifer D. Medema