

**DRAFT: 09/20/2011**

**APPROVED: 11-22-11**

**Sewer Advisory Committee  
September 20, 2011  
6 P M  
Grattan Township Hall**

Meeting Minutes

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting of the Sewer Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:04pm. Followed by field visit to Grattan Vergennes to view center pivot irrigation systems.

**Roll Call**

Roll call: Frank Force, Tom Manikowski, Jen Medema, present. Terry Conley will meet up at G/V site. Excused: Alan Rumbaugh. Also in attendance at treatment site: Steve Williams - W&W, John and Chris from Infrastructure Alternatives, Greg Smith, Suzie Manikowski,

GV WWTF - Field demonstration of center pivot Irrigation - Met in the field underneath the sprinklers.

Discussed various alarm scenarios, auto shut-off and telemetry stuff. Other topics included

Flat tires, muck, security, crops, and the very big rock. Before we left Chris put the wheels

in motion for a demonstration.

Reconvened meeting at Township Hall 7:08 pm.

**III. Approval of the Agenda**

Committee reviewed the agenda. T. Manikowski motioned to approve agenda, Frank Force support, motion accepted.

**IV. Approval of the Minutes**

Committee reviewed minutes from last meeting, August 16 , 2011. Jen Medema motioned to approved minutes, with Terry Conley support, minutes approved.

**V. Public Comment - none**

## **VI. Unfinished Business**

### **A. Grattan/Vergennes Irrigation Upgrade**

- a. Progress** - Project is very near completion, as discussed in the field. Center pivots are operational and irrigating the wheat crop. Discussed other upgrades would include gravel to access the service road, and gates and fences for security.
- b. Farm leases** - Frank reviewed the lease they approved with Gregg Smith. He's leasing the Irrigated lands, and clearing and prepping the reserve zones in exchange for its use as crop land (nonirrigated).
- c. Reserve Zones** - These are the non irrigated lands that have been cleared, prepped and converted to croplands by Gregg Smith.
- d. Update of unidentified substance** - Still in the field covered by tarp, Chris has to get it to "dry out" before it can be accepted for disposal.

### **B. Collection System Upgrade**

- a. Progress** - All materials have been purchased, progress continues on upgrades. The end of October is the expected completion date.

### **C. Grattan WWTF**

- a. Ditch Cleaning** - The township board has decided to fund from their reserves improvements to certain roads and ditches, including that one portion of the McArthur drain that is on the Grattan site.
- b. Old Orchard** - This area will be converted into irrigated crop lands, Frank hopes to have it up and running by June 2012. He provided spreadsheet of estimated costs.
- c. Expansion of the irrigation Area** -
  - i. 2012 Plan** - Expand the acreage to the Old Orchard site will require some engineering plans, monitoring wells, changes to DMP, and the usual paperwork requirements. Some discussion of limiting softener discharges to wwtf, at minimum could amend ordinance to apply to new construction.
  - ii. Financing** - Resources to mostly come from O&M budget amendments. To get started we can make do with utilizing existing control panel for the two big guns.

## **VII. New Business**

- A. Irrigation season Extension Request for Grattan WWTF** - Frank reported on request for extension of irrigation season. It's needed as lagoon is five million gallons above last year. Still waiting to hear from the DEQ.

### **B.**

## **VIII. Committee Communications**

Next meeting in October if needed.

8:35 pm

Adjourned.

Submitted by

Jen Medema