

River Glen Homeowners' Association

PO Box 1251

Berthoud, CO 80513

Meeting Agenda 02.17.2010, sewer committee

Mike Dower, Tom Smith, Craig Sheard, Ken Huson, Lynn Hargrove

1. Pipe Cleaning

- Total feet estimated about 10,000
- On 12.14, cleaned out about 7,500 feet
- 1,500 feet uncleaned
- Length heading up Glenview court, plus length behind Julie's house
- Found small obstruction (root growth) in front of vaughn's house
- Board wants me to complete this year (root removal and complete cleaning), to reach \$4,000 goal required for balancing of sinking fund. I will schedule this spring.
- Team agreed with advisability of finishing this job. Further, team agreed we should be pretty happy that we have not incurred more pipe damage than this small amount discovered here.

2. Permit Renewal

- Expiration date 05.31.2010
- Renewal application submitted mid-december
- Preliminary contact by phone 2-3 times with the engineer in charge of reviewing our permit. So far, nothing alarming in our discussion, nor any mention of new limits
- Previous permit included requirement to track chlorine and nitrogen as "info only". Not sure yet if he will be imposing explicit limits on these two for our new permit.
- If he does impose new limits, he has assured me that there will be a grace period that he described as a "compliance period", to enable us to develop mechanism to meet these
- Previous discussion with industry experts have yielded estimates of around 10 years for predicted life of our system. This guy estimated 15-20 more years before our system will be prohibited entirely.

3. Effluent Treatment

- I have advertised before that we need to prepare for sharp increase in severity of our effluent limits for bacteria (E.Coli is the measured indicator). This was based on informal reports from first district engineer with whom I interacted, plus confirmation from Earl.
- I asked for permission back in September to install a dechlorination tablet feeder to accommodate this. The DE office said I must first submit an engineering report plus a "site application amendment".

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- Ken and I have worked on preparing an engineering report to justify this. I submitted the report and application in December. Six weeks later, I was told that I also must pay two separate fees, totaling about \$1,300 for them to review this request for us.
- Instead of paying, I asked the DE office to confirm that our effluent limits are indeed going to change, so we're not wasting our \$\$\$. She could not tell me anything about that basically "that's not my job". Frustrating.
- So, I pushed until I got the name of the engineer responsible for our permit review. He confirmed that there is NO WAY that he will be changing our effluent limits on bacteria, and that there is no need to add dechlorination. If there were, he would also give us several months to achieve compliance with any changes like this.
- He recommended we do it anyway based on the "good guy principle".
- Ask committee for recommendation. I have not yet paid any \$\$ for this.
- Team agreed to postpone/cancel this project for now. If no need driven by permit, then let's use the \$\$\$ more wisely.

4. System Obsolescence

- Not directly my responsibility: the board really owns this one. My resp is limited to operation and maintenance of current system
- Julie and I met on Monday 2.15 with an organization called "NFRWQPA", or Northern Front Range Water Quality Planning Organization. Their charter is to develop and implement a long term master plan regarding overlap of service areas, primarily for municipal facilities. Conclusions from this meeting attached separately.
- Team understood my explanation. Team agreed to begin discussion with town of Berthoud when possible, not incur any costs until we are compelled to.

5. Safety equipment

- Previously purchased a 110v blower fan with 20 feet of flexible duct
- Next purchases are:
 - Tripod/Winch/Harness system (about \$xx)
 - Gas detection system (about \$xx)
- Craig S is reviewing catalog to help us select appropriately sized devices with the correct features.
- I will review selections with Ben, then order these items in the next few weeks.
- Team agreed to pay for the new safety equipment, but to negotiate with Ben the topic of ownership. The agreement was that if we can get Ben to own the equipment, including maintenance responsibility, then he is more likely to take good care of it. And, he is more likely to use it frequently.

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- Further, team suggested we offer Ben the tax break by letting him buy against his own credit card, then reimbursing him. Mike will discuss this with Ben directly.

6. Sludge Removal

- State reporting form more complicated this year
- Several supporting test reports required
- Paid contractor a \$500 fee to prepare and submit on our behalf
- Team understood this expense, and agreed with Mike's decision to pay it.