

**VEAZIE SEWER DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**July 15, 2013**  
**6:30 P.M.**

Attended by: Chairperson Rob Tomilson, Trustee Norman Webb, Chief Operator Dana McLaughlin, and members of the public.

- 1) Call Meeting to Order – Rob called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m.
- 2) Consider June Meeting Minutes – Approved.
- 3) Review Agenda – Rob would like to add August meeting date and the Annual Audit after Public Comments.
- 4) Public Comments – Complaint regarding reserves being unfunded and tax breaks being unfair.
- 5) Warrants – okay
- 6) Operations Report – Daily checks have been fine. The comm. losses with Buck Hill appear to have subsided for now but the recommendation if they occur again is that the antenna at Buck Hill and the antenna at the plant be swapped. There is no guarantee that it would work, but the only other alternative would be to replace the antenna currently at the plant. We are monitoring DO 3 times a day and noticing a pattern of DO reduction at night and are thinking that the controlled DO may not be necessary. Rob would like to see the DO control pursued anyway. The manhole just inside Black Bear Hydro gate was fixed this month. Three bucket loads of duckweed were pulled from pond 2 again this month. We have consulted with Lamor regarding the anchors for the new baffle. We have those in. The baffle is expected in 2 more weeks. The LMI pump is beyond repair and the other is a borrowed pump from Brewer. We would like to replace ours with a peristaltic pump. We have a sewer line break at 1348 State Street that is our responsibility. The road is a concrete based road and the DOT says if we remove any part of it, we have to replace it. The suggestion is that if the break is further out in the road, than instead of excavating the area, we use pipe bursting. It would likely be quicker and cheaper. An emergency digsafe has been filed for Wednesday. The pipe bursting company has been notified should we find that we need their assistance.
- 7) CBOD & TSS Graphs – Charts provided marking when we cleaned the TLV's this year and providing information for the previous 5 years. The algae bloom this year appears to have significantly increased our effluent TSS, however, you can see marked decreases after cleanings.
- 8) Personnel Policy, Benefits – Unsure if the provided policy is the current or previous, but it is the only one we could find. Trying to match district personnel policy to that of the town. Rob like to see them matched up by the first of October.

- 9) Black Bear Drive Manhole Water Runoff Issues – 2 foot hole at the stake and approximately 2/3 of the way down there is a drainage ditch running into the hole. The manhole is completely surrounded in standing water. Proposed to place clay around the manhole and water stop in the seal such that water won't run into the well from the surface. Involves confined space entry. Water is running into the hole and undermining.
- 10) Recycle Computer Monitors and Old Printers – Rob indicated to throw them away if they do not work and if the monitors work, see if Scott Nichols would like them.
- 11) Buck Hill Comm Loss Update – See Operator's Report
- 12) Pond 1 Baffle Update – See Operator's Report
- 13) Greystone Camera Request – 2<sup>nd</sup> time this year, a manhole is overflowing. According to the person spoken to, during the repair of one line there was a root that was not properly moved that may have now broken the line. They asked if we could camera it. Rob suggested that we camera that section for them as we have time available. Buddy agreed. Rob suggested that in the next meeting they would establish a policy.
- 14) Payment Plan Forms & Payment Plan Requests – We have not received any back yet. Jon Pottle wrote up the agreement. Rob suggested that it be notarized when the owner signs it.
- 15) Crowe Update – We think the confusion lies in the fact that one service is entirely unused, but he is still connected to the sewer, so he is still charged the flat fees. He has been told that if he would like to remove the service he can, but it will be another \$1500 to reconnect at a later date. As far as the taxes are concerned, that debate is between him and the Town of Veazie, not the sewer district.
- 16) Rod Hathaway Letter – Mr. Hathaway was present. He wanted to know why these homes were allowed to accumulate debt without his knowledge and what is being done to take care of it. The response is that this is the first the trustees had heard of the property that had not paid since 2007. Dana explained that according to our billing process, the owner's name does not come up until the lien process begins. We are trying to streamline our billing process. According to Mr. Hathaway he has several properties on Hobson Avenue, which have never been billed for sewer. Rob's suggestion is that we only bill owners from now on and they may have their tenants pay if they so choose. We will get together all the past due amounts for Mr. Hathaway's properties and he may deal with them. The vote will be made in September regarding the suggestion.
- 17) Billing Update – According to the water district it is approximately \$0.62 per bill. Currently, we're around \$1.00 per bill. With the special cases that we have, it would still require some extra time on our part to deal with outdoor meters, adjusted meters and those not on public water. Rob would like Charlie to work with Jim on streamlining the process. They would like to keep Rychel on during the school year to do the billing and accounts while also looking for a more permanent employee.

- 18) Treasurer's Report - \$51500 in checking, \$1800 in other accounts, \$92000 in accounts receivable, \$69500 outstanding July 1<sup>st</sup> bills, \$7400 outstanding April 1<sup>st</sup> bills, \$15200 outstanding previous bills and no accounts payable. The next lien process will begin August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 19) Delinquent Accounts – 20-30 pending liens. Rob wants to know if there are any matured liens over the past year. Dana wants to know if these are all landowners or if there are tenants. Dana wants to send them a notice that there is a payment plan available. We requested the information from the town for letters that bounced back.
- 20) Yearly Audit – Rob proposed that Nick Henry with the previous year's audit firm does this years audit. Motion passes.
- 21) August Meeting – Typically there is no August meeting held. Motion made to make the next meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of September. Motion passes.
- 22) Adjournment – Motion passes at 7:36 P.M.

NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 16, 2013 AT 6:30 P.M.