

## Wastewater Advisory Board Meeting Minutes 26 April 2004

Members present: Gail Pigg, Charles Jennett, John Estep, David DiTraglia, Eddie Gumbert, Jack Hollon, Amy Frederick (partial attendance)

### WASTEWATER ITEMS:

Cypress Creek Nature Trail Wastewater Holding Tank Kelly Kilber with Pro-Tech Engineering was present to answer questions related to the memo he prepared on the wastewater holding tank. The proposed plan consists of a 20,000 gallon holding tank to be equipped with audio and visual alarms as well as phone line telemetry that would contact a GBRA wastewater system operator and/or the septic hauler contracted to pump the tank in case of emergency. The cost stated in the memo increased from \$5000 to \$17,000 including the telemetry. Mr. Kilber was not requested to evaluate any alternatives other than the holding tank. Other alternatives were discussed such as incinerator toilets, compost toilet, and building restroom but locking doors until wastewater service is available. Other points brought up during the discussion included:

- o TPW grant may not allow use of funds for a non-functional building.
- o TCEQ requires a permit for all holding tanks.
- o TCEQ rules state that holding tanks should only be considered as a last resort after all other alternatives have been eliminated. Can we demonstrate this?
- o From cost evaluation standpoint it is not clear what the timeframe is for relieving the tank with gravity collection system to Blue Hole WWTP therefore total cost cannot be quantified.
- o Cost of installing holding tank and pumping & hauling sewage over time could be put toward permanent solution.

Deer Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility - Presentation by Rickey Wright & GBRA Representatives John Smith and Darrell Bull

The February/March report to TCEQ indicated CBOD of 164mg/l and 184 mg/l for February and March respectively. We did not meet the required permit parameter of 100 mg/l. The GBRA representatives reported that the Imhoff tank is having problems effectively settling out solids, may look into polymers to improve solids settling. Since GBRA assumed operations 5 February 2004, 24,000 gallons of sludge has been cleaned out of the plant and the drain lines have been flushed out with effluent. The accuracy of the effluent meter is questionable. It has been cleaned to improve accuracy. We discussed the issues and implications of the very high influent BOD (300 mg/l plus) going into the lift station from the Deer Creek Facility. A typical BOD limit allowed for an industrial user is 200 mg/l. Rickey Wright is meeting with Deer Creek representatives to inspect the facility and look into ways to reduce BOD, FOG and solids into the WWTP. He will give a report at the next meeting. Question by Councilmember Nichols: Can we hook anyone else up to the WWTP? Answer: Not until it is meeting the permit requirements.

### WATER ITEMS:

Presentation by David Baker concerning 2003 Monitoring Data

David Baker hands out information summarizing the 2003 Monitoring Data. Cypress Creek is no longer listed on the 303d list of impair waterways. At least 25% of the

samples must exceed limits to qualify. The data indicated that the DO was low 5 times on Cypress Creek. We had no gage station for recording flows so TSUSM was contracted to measure flows: 24 cfs was measured at Gumbert Property and 39 cfs at the confluence of the Blanco. Springs are contributing to the flows. Also saw DO sag in 7A site 4 times DO was below 6. The DO is directly proportional to temperature influx of fresh water due to the storm events in early 2003. David Baker recommends establishing a USGS site. USGS offers \$30,000 for 2 years, it costs approximately 25K to install equipment and then 20K/year to maintain site. See Handouts for more information on presentation. Spreadsheet summarizing budget information also provided.

#### **LIASON REPORTS:**

P&Z – No report this meeting

Wimberley Water Supply – No report this meeting

#### Council Liaison Report

Blue Hole Grant Application Status - Carolyn Nichols presented update on the Blue Hole Grant Application status. The Mayor and two council members went to LCRA meeting and confirmed that the \$200,000 grant was approved. We are expecting to hear about the TPW grant soon. A group consisting of seven (7) members will work with the Trust for Public Lands to come up with events and respond to opportunities as we go into the final 6 months of fund raising.

#### **CONSIDER & ACT:**

The following recommendation to Council was approved 6-0 concerning Blue Hole Property Monitoring Well.

Recommend that Council request authority from Owner to convert existing water well located just east of Deer Creek Nursing Home off of RR 3237 to a monitoring well to be accessed for data collection monthly.

#### **ADJOURN**