

Eldorado Springs LID Advisory Committee Minutes

May 21, 2020

Video Conference Meeting

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:40pm by Ken Sheldon.

Members Present: Ken Sheldon, Cathy Proenza, Jeff Mason, Kevin Tone, Vija Handley

Guests: Gabby Begeman (ORC), Janet Robinson

Staff: Mark Ruzzin, Pete Salas, Darla Arians, Jon Adam

Introductions

Introductions were made by the ESLAC members, followed by Gabby Begeman (ORC). Mark Ruzzin welcomed Darla Arians and Jon Adam from the Boulder County Public Works Department, who will be taking over administration of the LID in the months ahead; June will be Pete's last month with the county. Darla and Jon introduced themselves to the team. Darla mentioned overseeing the Eldorado LID in 2011 and 2012. Mark Ruzzin advised everyone that he is recording the meeting and everyone will be able to view the recording, if interested.

Approval of Minutes: Ken made a motion to accept last month's (April) meeting minutes, as presented. Cathy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Plant Operations

Gabby began by indicating that people are home because of COVID 19 and residents are contributing higher loads and flows to the wastewater plant. The plant had a "sludge haul" performed in early April, which typically upsets the balance of the treatment process, so the plant has been dealing with higher TIN numbers as a result. ORC also had to respond to alarms from failed floats which stalled the treatment process. Gabby referenced pictures of the wiring boxes and explained that wiring boxes in a basin can be submerged and infiltrated by water and short the electrical system within the box. This particular box was replaced, and a second new wiring box will be installed in the effluent tank as well.

Last month the committee discussed the E1 pump in the collection system and asked Gabby to research commercial-grade E1 pumps. Gabby reached out to Ambiente, who indicated that there is no commercial grade E1 pump, but there are two varieties of E1 pumps available, one that fits the LID's collection system and one that appears not to be freeze friendly. Gabby found that the E1 pump type that works for the system is available in larger pumping capacities. Cathy asked if it is better to move more water because of increased flows from people being at home and the increased capacity from the pool. Gabby agreed we need to design the system accordingly, stressing the need to ensure that the system is not overtaxed by a higher capacity pump; there is a balance that needs to be achieved. A larger sludge tank would be one strategy for improving system efficiencies. Cathy suggested that Gabby would be the best one to help ESLAC make that decision, and Gabby noted that she would want to refer to the

engineers to help make that decision. Kevin asked for more clarification on the system and Gabby explained that a greater flow could disrupt the solids and move them further into the system.

Kevin noted that EAS is looking into a holding tank and pump system because of the grade between the pool and the wastewater treatment facility, and brought up the point that the EAS holding tank would potentially affect the flow into the system. Gabby agreed that it will be necessary to take the EAS holding tank and pump system into account after it is designed. Kevin proposed that EAS could pump from a holding tank after peak residential flow, like at night.

Gabby indicated that she received an email from the EAS regarding an engineer being on site tomorrow at 10 in the morning for an excavation on EAS property. EAS was concerned that they had contacted the LID and had received no response from the LID. Pete and Mark noted that neither of them had received such an email. Cathy expressed concern that EAS was not giving anyone at least 24 hours notice before beginning excavations. Gabby indicated that EAS can commence the excavation on their property because it is their property and that the LID's concern is only if EAS introduces a piece of equipment that will impact the WWTF. Cathy asked Mark and Pete to look into slowing down EAS's project and that the Rules and Regs should give the committee authority to require a permit. Gabby did agree that we need to reach out and talk to EAS about their plans moving forward.

It was later confirmed that the excavation work was related to the water delivery system at the EAS property, not the wastewater system.

A lengthy discussion ensued about the ESLAC and the county's responsibilities to permit/regulate the improvement activities being performed by EAS, and that the district will need to permit the activities of EAS according to the LID's rules and regulations.

Vija joined at about 30 minutes into the meeting.

The discussion was concluded with the understanding that the EAS construction permits were still under review by the Boulder County Planning and Permitting Department, per an update provided by Mark, and that the committee should focus on reviewing and possibly updating the rules and regulations in preparation for any future activities by EAS that could affect the WWTF.

Gabby updated the committee on the need to prune the trees that are encroaching on the north side of Barber Lane just before the access road. The committee discussed whether to do the pruning work as a community volunteer activity or hire an outside contractor to do the work. Pete indicated there would be a cost associated with the county doing the work. It was determined that the homeowner, Neil Cannon, bordering the access road should be contacted to perform the work on his property.

Janet Robinson joined the meeting at 1 hr and 7 minutes.

Mark asked Gabby for clarification on the spare effluent valve being ordered and Gabby indicated the spare would be approximately \$1300. Mark indicated that we are waiting to get a quote from Water Technology Group for the spare SBR pump.

Gabby left the meeting at 1 hr and 10 minutes.

Invoices

Mark referenced the spreadsheet of invoices which includes all the expenses paid by the LID year-to-date. The ORC April 2020 invoice had not yet been received. To date the LID has spent \$42,000 of the annual budget leaving about \$54,000 for the remainder of the year. This does not include \$11,500 for the SBR pump and Gabby's costs to research the generator needs.

New/Old Business

A.

Pete updated the committee on his recent conversation with Peter Spraitz. Mr. Spraitz strongly disagreed with the cost of the excavations. He is going to have a contractor/plumber look to see if the problem is actually on his side of the pump pit. He would be willing to cover the costs if it is confirmed that the problem is with his service line; if not, he is prepared to contest the charges. Pete explained to Mr. Spraitz that the cost is high due to the nature of the excavation of the pump pit, which because of its location, required hand digging.

Kevin asked if the LID should be prepared to cut off the wastewater services to Mr. Spraitz's properties. Cathy added that Mr. Spraitz should be reminded that the district is willing to pay for half the cost of the excavation and that should be a take it or leave it offer. Mark assured committee members that the county is doing everything it can to ensure that Mr. Spraitz holds up his part of the offer. Cathy suggested that the county send a strongly worded letter on county letterhead indicating that the district has the right to turn off service if he doesn't comply with the offer.

Darla asked for clarification on the issue. Mark explained that the LID investigated the reason for the multiple pump failures to the E1 pump attached to Mr. Spraitz's system and determined that the cause of the failures is a problem with his service lines, which are his responsibility. It has been agreed by the ESLAC committee that he will have to pay half the costs of the investigation of the pump pit, which totaled \$5,600. The problem has yet to be fixed.

After subsequent discussion by the committee it was agreed that Mr. Spraitz will be issued a letter outlining his responsibilities and potential consequences, will be provided a copy of the rules and regulations, and will be provided a timeline to meet his responsibilities outlined in the letter. Mr. Spraitz will also be provided a detailed invoice from Gabby of the work completed by the LID to make this determination.

B.

Kevin Tone brought up the need to focus on the WWTF permit process. Mark provided updates on the stream gauge to start collecting data for CDPHE. The City of Boulder hadn't been planning to install a stream gauge until after the potential Gross Reservoir expansion project is completed, but recently expressed interest in installing a gauge sooner, possibly at First Bridge, which is owned by EAS, and in collaboration with other interested parties such as Boulder Flycasters. The City is also looking into grant opportunities to help pay for a stream gauge. Mark also informed the committee that the county has been in communication with Wright Water Engineers to further explore an Alternatives Analysis project that could be completed utilizing the existing contract that Boulder County Public Health holds with WWE. Kevin Tone did bring up his concern that CDPHE is not always receptive to Alternatives Analyses. Mark responded that he will set up a meeting between the county, the committee, and Wright Water Engineers.

C.

Cathy proposed that ESLAC prioritize a discussion of the Rules and Regulations and the permit application at the ESLAC meeting next month. Mark suggested that the next meeting agenda include drafting proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations for Kate Burke, the County Attorney, to review, and that she be invited to attend. Jeff Mason proposed the EAS MOU title be changed to "LID Permit" and that it will need to be acquired by and signed by EAS. Mark agreed to bring this before the County Attorney. Cathy also proposed that ESLAC stipulate that any EAS connection to the WWTF be reviewed by an engineer.

Public Comment

There was no public comment. The meeting was adjourned about 8:40pm.