

## **Eldorado Springs LID Advisory Committee Minutes**

February 18, 2021

Video Conference Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Jeff Mason.

**Members Present:** Jeff Mason, Vija Handley, David Levin, Cathy Proenza

**Guests:** Gabby Begeman (ORC), Janet Grey, Stephen Sangdahl

**County Staff:** Mark Ruzzin, Jon Adam, Darla Arians, Kate Burke

**Approval of Minutes:** The January meeting minutes were approved by the committee.

### **ORC Ops Report**

The TIN was low at 7.3 mg/L, running average 4.44 mg/L. Influent is coming back to normal relative to the prior months.

Gabby introduced two quotes for the proposed Dissolved Oxygen control system from Fluidyne to keep the plant's effluent from exceeding the 10mg/L TIN limit. The higher quoted unit includes an updated computer system, remote operation and improved user interface. These quotes came from 2018 and Gabby is waiting on a new set of quotes, which will be around \$20K and \$30K. The automated Dissolved Oxygen control unit will better regulate the amount of oxygen being introduced into the system to help bacteria break down nitrates and therefore lower the effluent TIN level. The installation of a Dissolved Oxygen control unit will take about 5 days and will increase ORC's labor costs during the installation for that month. The LID will be responsible for purchasing the DO control system.

In the Alternatives Analysis we are asking the state to keep the current 10mg/L TIN in through a Permit Modification and are demonstrating our commitment to meeting the TIN limit by installing technology like a Dissolved Oxygen Control unit. Our approach with the AA is to demonstrate to the State that we are working towards running the plant as best we can while working with other local agencies to explain that in the future there will be enough water running in the South Boulder Creek that a 1.5mg/L TIN will not be necessary.

The Board of County Commissioners have been informed of the current financial and regulatory issues facing the LID and that the ESLAC is working hard to run as efficiently as it can and make wise investments for the plant's and community's future.

### **New/Old Business**

ESLAC Bylaws

County Attorney Kate Burke joined the meeting to discuss changes to the LID bylaws vs 3 that have been made since the last meeting with regard to comments from committee members at the last meeting.

Section 1 - outlined changes that better clarify the duties of the committee and staff for running the operations of the District and interacting with the County Commissioners.

Section 4 - outlined changes that helped clarify the role of staff in relation to the committee's business and duties.

Section 6 - added specifics from the Colorado Open Meetings Laws at the request of committee members at last month's meeting.

A question was posed about one person from the committee to discuss operations with the county staff or the county commissioners. The bylaws and the Open Meetings law don't prohibit the discussion between one committee member and the county staff, though policy decisions would have to be made with the full committee.

The question was raised if emails could be shared amongst all of the members of the committee without it being a violation of Open Meetings law so committee members had more time to review and pose questions about discussion items in between meetings. The Open Meetings Law requires that any discussion amongst 3 or more board members requires a public notification though committee members can still receive information to be discussed at the next meeting. It was also asked if individual members could present ideas to the county liaison and then be distributed to the members. The answer was yes, as long as those ideas being distributed are also noted in the meeting agenda for members of the public to be able to see.

Cathy Proenza motioned to accept version 3 of the LID bylaws for approval by the Board of County Commissioners. Vija seconded the motion. 3 of the 4 committee members voted in favor of the motion.

### Alternatives Analysis and Stream Gage

The City of Boulder Water Resources Division intends to have the State Department of Water Resources install an official stream gage at the current Barber Lane bridge sometime this Spring. By having the official stream gage in place the State would be able to accurately measure the real flow in the South Boulder Creek even if the City of Lafayette has to shut off its diversion pipe since there are other sources, like springs, that continually contribute water into the stream below the FRICO diversion. The stream gage and flow in the South Boulder Creek are addressed in the Alternatives Analysis.

Septic pollution downstream of Eldorado Springs, a.k.a. the valley, was addressed as there are most likely septic systems polluting the creek. This is addressed in the Alternatives Analysis. Septic systems could be contributing 100 or more mg/L TIN downstream of our facility. The Alternatives Analysis also addressed that the Wastewater Plant has taken the place of polluting septic systems in the town of Eldorado springs and is treating all of Eldorado Springs wastewater to a 10mg/L TIN.

Cathy asked if the state's response to the Alternatives Analysis addressed flow in the South Boulder Creek. CDPHE returned an analysis of a single part of our first Alternatives Analysis submittal pertaining to our proposed TIN level of 12mg/L which would require a completely different process than the Alternatives Analysis. How long CDPHE will take for the complete response is currently not known.

City of Boulder Department of Water Resources staff have preliminarily determined that the winter stream flow ranges from .8cfs to 1 cfs. Based on the data the committee has been collecting from the water level gage already installed.

#### LID Security Updates

Boulder County Electricians visited the site and will be installing lighting as requested including motion sensors that have sensitivity adjustments. They will also fix/replace the existing motion sensor light above the door.

Boulder County staff are working with the City of Boulder, who owns the property on the North and West sides of the gate and access road, to secure permission to create a small walkaround on the North side of the gate in order to keep the gate closed and locked and still allow residents access. The City requested that the walkaround be of minimal design.

The walkaround should be of minimal cost to the LID and will be paid for by the LID and that this is a necessary step in securing the facility while providing access to the community. Jon will be having a site visit with City of Boulder Parks and Open Space staff to get a better idea of what the City would want and if possible, their assistance in creating the walk around.

Vija asked that the boundary between City of Boulder Parks and Open Space and the adjacent property owner be defined so people aren't walking on private property. She also asked if it can be determined if the City of Boulder had any leash restrictions for dogs.

Jon informed the committee that the wastewater facility requires a NFPA placard notifying the presence of hazardous chemicals, especially for first responders. The chemical, methanol, is stored in a 55-gallon drum inside the plant which is both flammable and has toxic health effects. Jon will order and install the proper signage.

A short discussion was brought up about the lien on 261, 267, 277 Eldorado Springs Drive clarifying that the lien was placed on the property in order to be collected at a later date

through property taxes or sale of the property. The question was raised if we could continue to accrue added penalties for non-payment even though we applied the lien. A penalty or a lien was an “either or” situation according to the LID rules and Regulations and the committee chose to go the route of the lien.

### **Public Comment**

Stephen Sangdahl added that since the LID is now considering a purchase of the Dissolved Oxygen Sensor Control unit where will that equipment be stored securely. Jon replied that the unit will be both underground and inside the plant.

The meeting was adjourned by Jeff Mason at 8:30 pm.