

Eldorado Springs LID Advisory Committee Minutes

May 20, 2021

Video Conference Meeting

Members Present: David Levin, Mary Smith, Cathy Proenza, Vija Handley, Kevin Tone

Guests: Gabby Begeman (ORC), Janet Gray, Ken Sheldon

County Staff: Mark Ruzzin, Jon Adam

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

Jon read the "Meeting Expectations" document to the committee, which was a review of how the ESLAC meetings will be run and the expected conduct of committee members during a meeting.

ORC Ops Report (Gabby)

The wastewater treatment facility had high average monthly TIN and ammonia levels in April and May, which resulted in a violation of the permit in April for average monthly TIN. The system stopped converting ammonia to nitrate at the end of April due to an unexplained mass die-off of bacteria. ORC is currently investigating if something was added to the sewage system that could have killed the bacteria. ORC has been adding bacteria to the system, but it isn't thriving yet. All the other system parameters have been normal during this time. The first tank, the SAM tank, hasn't been pumped out for a long time and a sludge haul is needed. Jon pointed out that the last sludge haul was in April in 2020. Kevin added that since the last sludge haul was over a year ago, this might be a reason for the die-off. Gabby would like to remove all of the old sludge material in the SAM tank and is working on a way for the incoming sewage to bypass the SAM during the sludge pumping.

There have been no E1 pump replacements this year.

Invoices and Budget (Jon)

Jon presented the April financials and noted that the charges to the LID from Diversified Underground were for utility locates related to the Elm tree stump removal and the gate access project. The committee reviewed the April Budget to Actual report and had no comments.

New/Old Business

Capital Equipment Investment Plan Review

Jon presented the capital equipment investment plan to the committee, explaining that all plant equipment is categorized as either capital (costing \$10,000 or more) or non-capital according to the County definition of capital equipment. Annual maintenance costs are outlined on the second page of the plan which aligns with the current annual budget for the LID.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding

Plant infrastructure investment could be eligible for funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that the county will be receiving in the coming months. The County Commissioners are accepting applications for funding through July 31, 2021. County LID staff are discussing and researching what equipment (a digester tank, a back-up generator, a davit crane, and E1 pumps) to include in a funding request and are gathering necessary documentation to include in an application.

USGS Stream Study

Jon met with Rob Runkel from the USGS to discuss the feasibility of a stream study to determine how much the small springs along the South Boulder creek contribute to the total streamflow above the plant outflow. The USGS could perform a sodium bromide dye tracer study to determine how much the springs contribute to the flow but would cost at least \$40,000 no matter the outcome. Jon and Kevin discussed the possibility of having the City of Lafayette shut off their outflow during the Fall low-flow season, where the same information could be captured by the soon-to-be-installed stream gage. David added that there should be a fair amount of ground water seeping into the South Boulder Creek either through springs or from the groundwater table.

The City of Boulder Water Resources Division no longer needs the committee to continue taking stream gauge measurements.

CDPHE Alternatives Analysis

The contract with Wright Water Engineers was renewed for five years (with a not-to-exceed of \$10,000) to continue work on the Alternatives Analysis and to answer CDPHE's Requests for Information in the Alternatives Analysis.

LID Security and Access Gate

Jon met with the City of Boulder (COB) Parks and Open Space and Planning Department to determine how best to construct a walk-around on the north side of the LID access gate. The solution proposed by the COB was to put an additional gate post next to the current gate post on the north side a few feet closer to the road so people can walk between the two gate posts. Boulder County Parks and Open Space (POS) can provide and install the new gate post

and a longer gate at no charge to the LID. The next step is for the COB Planning Department and the County Attorney to draft an access agreement. The access agreement will be for the entire boundary between the LID and the COB Parks and Open Space properties. The City requested that the new path is made by foot traffic rather than new construction.

The COB Parks and Open Space staff will also remove the t-posts along the access road on city property.

Tree Work Update

COB Parks and Open Space does not have funds this year to remove the Elm tree stumps on the west side of the access road, which is City property, although the City approved of removing the tree stumps, which will happen in 2022. ORC has been diligently applying concentrated Epsom salts to the Elm tree stumps around the WWTF.

Site Clean-Up

Jon will be removing the old black irrigation tubing on the LID property next week.

Public Comment

Ken Sheldon asked if the county had collected the outstanding lien; Jon will report back in the next ESLAC meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.