

Eldorado Springs LID Advisory Committee Minutes

October 20th, 2022

TEAMS Video Conference Meeting

Members Present: Cathy Proenza, Janet Gray, Mary Smith, Janet Robinson

Guests: Gabby Begeman, Doug Larson

County Staff: Jon Adam

Approval of Minutes: The July 2022 meeting minutes were approved by the committee. Janet Robinson was greeted as the newest member of the advisory committee. Janet Gray was selected the new vice chair of the committee. County Staff read aloud the Meeting Expectations document.

ORC Ops Report

Effluent Pump #1 was replaced and a slide rail system was installed to make installation and removals easier in the future. Gabby indicated that the plant's electrical control panel needs repair due mostly to normal wear and tear though some of it is related to the vandalism. The cost is expected to be less than \$5,000 though the committee did request an estimate of the work for review. The committee approved Gabby going ahead with the estimate and repairs of the control panel. The small sample refrigerator inside the plant will be replaced as the current one no longer maintains the permit required temperature to hold samples until they are taken to the lab.

Gabby shared the results of a plant inspection conducted by the state in September required as part of the permit renewal process. Plant inspections generally occur every 5 years when the permit is renewed. Most of the violations were related to monthly reporting procedures and errors in reports submitted to the State. ORC is currently resubmitting corrections to those errors found in the reports and is adjusting procedures to match the requirements of the current permit.

The State inspector found that plant's influent flow was not being measured daily as is required by the permit as there is not an operator on site to take the measurement daily. Gabby determined the plant's Mission alarm system has the datalogging capability to take and save daily influent flow measurements.

It was determined that the designed capacity (2000 gals/day or greater) of Eldorado Artesian Springwater's (EAS) Pool sewer lift station requires review and approval from the State before it can be put in operation. Gabby is working with EAS to either complete the review and approval or lower the designed capacity of the sewer lift station to less than 2000 gals/day so as not to require the review and approval from the State.

The monthly average TIN level exceeded the 10mg/L allowable limit in September though the rolling average still remains below 10mg/L. TIN levels for October are reading below 10mg/L.

Invoices and Budget

Due to length of discussion during the meeting, Invoices and the Budget were not reviewed but it was requested to review them during the next meeting.

New/Old Business

Siberian Elms

Scott Lehman and Bay Roberts, neighbors adjoining the LID property, joined the meeting to present their experiences and expertise on managing the invasive Siberian Elms. Since the construction of the WWTF Siberian Elms quickly overtook and outgrew native vegetation planted in areas disturbed by the construction of the plant, the access road and the effluent line. The elms have grown on private property adjoining the LID property along the access road. In the past, Scott and Bay along with nearby neighbors, have helped maintain the spread of the Siberian Elms along the access road though the elms continue to regrow and require periodic cutting to keep the access road clear of overgrowth. These smaller shrubby Siberian Elms produce more seeds and spread much faster than nearby fully grown Siberian Elms.

Bay and Scott recommend that the shrubby Siberian Elms be cut back to the ground level in the early Fall and concentrated Epsom salts be applied directly into the remaining stumps without disturbing the nearby soil which can cause more growth of invasive species. Bay and Scott have offered to test this cut and treat process on scrubby Siberian Elms on private property along the access road up to the access gate. Some of the property on the North side of the access road on both sides of the access gate is owned by City of Boulder Open Space. Bay and Scott will refrain from cutting and treating those elms, though they would do so if granted permission by the City. County Staff will reach out to the City to reconfirm allowance to cut and treat the elms on city property. The committee agreed that Bay and Scott go forward with the cut and treat plan as discussed along the access road and that the remaining scrubby elms along the access road just be cut back until next Fall.

8 Chesebro Way Sewer Usage

The committee discussed the possibility of monitoring the Art Center for sewage use as they are throwing large parties. The committee did request that ORC provides what instrumentation they would put in place to monitor usage, the duration of monitoring required and the cost of the monitoring equipment at the next meeting.

Vandalism Update

The County Sherriff has increased surveillance at the WWTF.

Committee Discussion to Change Meeting Duration

The committee discussed whether to shorten the duration of the meetings and all agreed to keep the meeting times the same but work towards keeping on track with the agenda.

Comments Open for 2025 LID Transfer

A portion of each committee meeting will be open for committee members and the public to express questions, comments and concerns about the upcoming end of the LID in 2025 after the last construction loan has been paid. No public or committee comments were made about the LID transfer.

Jon noted that County Staff, led by the LID County attorney, are currently reviewing regulations and statutes pertaining to the operation of public utilities and that they met with the County Commissioners to discuss the findings. The County Commissioners did request robust community input on the transfer process starting in 2023. Staff is unable to provide specific information about the transfer process until 2023.

Public Comment

Doug Larson commented that he thinks all district member sewage effluent should be metered like Eldorado Artesian Springwater and noted that there are other members most likely producing more sewage effluent than their allotted EQRs. Doug doesn't agree that the Art Center should be monitored and it's not likely the Art Center is producing more sewage than it's allotted EQR allows.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.