

City of Depoe Bay – Gleneden Sanitary District Wastewater Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting – Monday, January 7, 2013 – 4:00 PM
Depoe Bay City Hall

PRESENT: Monte Arehart, Brad Baines, Pete Erickson, Mark Snyder, A.J. Mattila, Skip Hoitink, Zeke Olsen

STAFF: Plant Operator G. Walls, Recording Secretary E. LuMaye

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began at 4:00 PM. Snyder congratulated Depoe Bay on getting its bonds refinanced. He also said all Gleneden Beach pumps have been replaced within the last five years.

II. DISCUSSION ITEM – Operations Report

Walls reported on the effects of the storm before Christmas, which produced 4.4 inches of rain overnight. He and co-worker Arnold worked hard through the night to keep on top of the flow. He had to take the pumps offline from the computer and run them manually to avoid an overflow. He said 997,000 gallons were received from Gleneden Beach that night, out of a total 1.85 million gallons processed. He said Depoe Bay was one of the only cities that did not have an overflow that night. There were a few questions about the number of sewer connections and the system capacity. Snyder said Gleneden Beach has about 1,500 connections. Walls said the plant usually runs around 65% of capacity of the 3.5 million gallons per day it was built to handle. If flow increases very much more than current, pump stations would have to be increased. The main 15-inch line coming from Gleneden Beach to the harbor lift station is running close to capacity now. The line is in great shape, and the area in the vicinity of the harbor lift station is regularly inspected by the sewer cam, which does a very good job at identifying any problems.

Other discussion included: Snyder said Gleneden Beach is always cleaning their system. They also do regular smoke testing. Walls reported that as of January 1, the Depoe Bay Wastewater Plant is now a Level 3 plant, and that as the only Level 3 Operator, he is responsible for the plant. He studied very hard for the test, which he was told 85% of first-time-takers fail, but he passed with 73% correct. The Committee congratulated him on his achievement. He said Level 3 requirements include knowledge about a lot of industrial situations that don't exist in our small community. He said his co-worker and supervisor are both retiring soon. He said [being a Level 3 Operator] is a big responsibility that he takes very seriously, and that willful negligence or falsification could get him fined \$250,000 or five years in jail. Olsen expressed interest in visiting the plant for a tour. The methods of flow (pump/lift and gravity flow) between Gleneden Beach and Depoe Bay were briefly discussed, noting how much engineering is involved in gravity flow.

II. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 4:33 PM.

Emma LuMaye
Recording Secretary