

City of Depoe Bay / Gleneden Sanitary District Wastewater Advisory Committee  
Regular Meeting – Thursday, January 26, 2017 – 4:00 PM  
Depoe Bay City Hall

PRESENT: P. Jensen, Mayor B. Leff, J. Grant, K. Stevens, G. Wakeman, J. Wiseman

STAFF: City Superintendent B. Weidner, WWTP Operator G. Walls, M. Bauman, D. Bartoldus

## I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began at 4:00 PM.

## II. DISCUSSION ITEM

- Introduction of New Member(s)

Mayor Leff asked everyone to introduce themselves for the record.

- Quarterly Meeting Schedule

Weidner noted that Committee meetings often fall on the Operator's day off, and said a Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday meeting day would be better for Depoe Bay. A Gleneden Beach representative indicated the third or fourth week of the month would be best for Committee meetings; while another Gleneden Beach representative said the Gleneden Board meets on the second Wednesday of the month. April 25, July 25, and October 24 were agreed upon dates for 2017 meetings, as long as Staff doesn't identify a conflict. The meeting time will remain at 4:00 PM.

- Update on Bio Solids Transfer/Disposal

Walls reported there were two issues with the bio solids program: 1) There are not adequate storage facilities to make it through the period until we can haul it to the fields. We currently have storage for 585,000 gallons of 2% liquid. We have to wait eight months over the winter months until the fields are dry enough. He said he did not think there would be enough storage to make it to May. There are alternative areas to haul it to, but due to the distance, the cost is prohibitive. 2) We are about to lose the availability of our land application site in Logsdon, due to complaints from neighbors and the Siletz River Watch Committee. DEQ has recently begun to take the position of guilty until proven innocent, and last fall threatened two letters of reprimand before they verified the facts. We are going to have to find an alternative. He said he doesn't want to invest the money to build another storage tank if we are going to lose our application field. He said one option is to make a thicker bio solids and dispose of it in a landfill, and there are several machines that will do that. He said he thinks the most viable option is a sludge-thickening machine. He is looking at one like the one used in Gold Beach, which is a similar-sized operation as Depoe Bay, and would like to travel to Gold Beach and talk to the operators there. He said the cost would be more than we are paying now for land application, but should still be reasonable; the current budget is \$70,000 a year, and disposal of thickened bio solids should only cost \$20,000-\$30,000 more. The machine he is looking at is called a screw press, and costs between \$180,000-\$250,000 depending on the size selected and the level of automation required. An issue that will need to be addressed is odor; the machine needs a containment area and the materials cannot be allowed to sit for very long. He would like to see the new system up and running by September. Plans will need to be reviewed by an engineer. The machine would have to be purchased outright, as the City Charter does not allow debt without voter approval; the City has reserve funds adequate to cover the purchase and setup costs if we need to go that route. A Gleneden Beach representative asked to be kept informed of costs and funding issues as they are identified. Walls said when he gets all the numbers and an engineer is on board, he will make presentations to this Committee and the City Council; Mayor Leff suggested holding a joint workshop meeting for Walls' presentation.

Weidner said he also had a concern about the annual I&I (Inflow & Infiltration) prevention report to DEQ due the first week in February. He spoke with Steve McMillan, this area's compliance officer at DEQ, about the permit that's shared between Depoe Bay and Gleneden Beach districts, and we need an update from the north. Bauman said in the past year they have TVd areas of the worst I&I and located areas they will try to fix this spring. They will be smoke testing the whole area in March before sending letters out to private property owners, as they've found some pretty serious problems and expect to find more with the smoke testing. Weidner added that Gleneden Beach also got gasket covers for the lids, which is crucial because when heavy rains come it goes right into the manhole covers and the gaskets prevent the rainwater from entering the openings. Walls said the City has found over \$100,000 in leaks, more than is covered in the Budget. Weidner said the portion of the Coast Avenue project with costs shared with Gleneden Beach is Kent Street to South Point Street, about 2% of the project, and he wanted Gleneden Beach to be aware of the cost.

- **Gleneden Sanitary District and City of Depoe Bay Agreement**

A Gleneden Beach representative said they would like the Agreement to be renegotiated. What they think would work best is instead of an EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit) calculation, would be to go to a flow rate charge, which would serve as an incentive for them to cure their I&I problems. Bartoldus said he and City Attorney Gintner have discussed the flow situation, and Walls had said one of the things that would help delay the need for building a new plant would be cutting down on the I&I, which would be financially beneficial for both parties. Bartoldus and Gintner also discussed a first step of getting information on what an Agreement based on flow would look like, what would be a reasonable cost, and that each District would contact their own engineers. He said Gleneden Beach has contacted their engineer, who has provided some information and has also been asked to provide information on what costs are for other coastal areas. Bartoldus said if Gleneden Beach was on a flow rate, they would be paying the full amount every month vs the current practice of a monthly charge followed by a once-a-year accounting and payment of various additional expenses. Walls noted that expenses include things other than just the operating cost of the plant. There was additional discussion regarding what costs are included in allocating expenses to Gleneden Beach. A Gleneden Beach representative said they would like to see this move forward.

### III. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 4:52 PM.

Emma LuMaye  
Recording Secretary (transcribed from audio)