

STILLWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Notice: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder (MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b)).

PUBLIC HEARING ABSAROCKE RSID 5 & 7 MARCH 9, 2016 - 6:30 PM

Present: Commissioners Dennis Shupak, Chair; and Gerald W. Dell, Member. Others present: Collette Anderson, Project Manager, Great West Engineering, and Craig Pozega, Great West Engineering; Jerry Gardner, Norm Tjeltveit, Roger Nummerdor, Tom Degele, Mike Reynolds, Absarokee Water District, Cathy McClurg, Absarokee RSID 5 & 7 Manager, Pete Gaustad, Karl Gaustad, Tom Osborne, Lori Good, and Rick Hanners, Stillwater County News. Absent: Commissioner Maureen Davey.

Open Meeting: Commissioner Dell welcomed everyone to the hearing and introduced staff. He stated the purpose for the hearing is to receive comments relating to the Absarokee Sewer RSID 5&7 wastewater system improvements.

Collette Anderson, Project Manager, gave a background on the current Absarokee RSID Sewer System, explaining the main focus is the treatment options, costs, and obtain public comments relating to the preliminary engineering report (PER). She then presented a PowerPoint presentation to the group. The 45-minute presentation outlined the PER, MPDES Permit, Administrative Order on Consent (AOC), Collection System, Planning Area, Evaluation of the Existing Treatment System, Alternative Screening Process, Storage and Irrigation, Extended Aeration Activated Sludge (BIOLC), Existing Partial Mix Lagoons with Submerged Attached Growth Reactor (SAGR), Preliminary Cost Estimates, Ranking Criteria, Selection of Preferred Alternative, Project Funding Strategy, and Environmental Assessment.

Question Period: Commissioner Dell opened the hearing to questions and comments.

1. Jerry Gardner, Absarokee - longevity of the new system and the current lagoon use.
2. Tom Osborne, Absarokee - discussed option with irrigation system and nitrate levels. Cost difference between the options were discussed. He also asked if: Circle T Subdivision would be able to hook up to the system; Mixing zone numbers; and O and M Cost between BIOLC and SAGR. He stated he favors Option 2 - Packaged

- Extended Aeration Activated Sludge (BIOLC).
3. Roger Nummerdor, Absarokee - discussed SAGR system, gravel replacement, infiltration and inflow (I&I), treatment issues, and larger lagoons.
 4. Norm Tjeltveit, Absarokee - questioned mixing zones and how many acres are need for the irrigation system. Also asked about water flow into Rosebud River
 5. Mike Reynolds, Absarokee - time schedule for project.
 6. Tom Degele, Absarokee - asked when the Commission will decide on the options.
 7. Lori Good, Absarokee - inquired about regulatory requirements

Craig Pozega and Collette Anderson spent the next 45 minutes answering questions and discussing the comments received.

Close Hearing: Commissioner Dell hearing no further comments, concluded the hearing at 8:03 PM. Commissioners Shupak and Dell thanked everyone for attending.