

Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District – Board of Managers

Meeting # 137 7:00 A.M. June 21, 2011

French River Lutheran Church

Board Members Present: Katie Kuettel, Scott Smith, Angela Braud, Kevin Bovee, Dean Korri
Board Members Absent: None
Others Present: John Bowen, John Fischer, John Mason
Mary Frances Skala, Mary Ann Sironen, Eric Appelwick, Eric Blasing,
Bryon Tonnis, Colin Mullen

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 am.
2. **Approve agenda: Motion** to approve Agenda as presented by **S. Smith**. Second by **A. Braud**. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the regular meeting # 136, May 17, 2011 were not reviewed in time for the June meeting. **Motion** to table the minutes by **S. Smith**. Second by **K. Kuettel**. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Public Comment / Input:**
 - I. **B. Tonnis** and **C. Mullen** of Bent Paddle Brewery presented information on their proposed micro brewery that is to take place within a year to year and a half. They plan to build on fifteen acres near the Amish Furniture Haus, 5.4 acres in the City of Duluth and 9.6 acres in Lakewood Township. **J. Bowen** asked about the volume of discharge and **B. Tonnis** responded he did not have the figures with him, but it will be a substantial amount that will be introduced into the sewer system in batches. **M. Skala** asked about the organic loading and **E. Blasing** responded, a typical brewery will put out on average 2000 mg/l per BOD and typical is 1200 to 3600 BOD and solids are 200 to 1000. **J. Mason** stated the loadings are similar to a restaurant. **B. Tonnis** stated they are looking into green technologies along with pretreatment in the future. **K. Bovee** asked if there is enough capacity in the line and **J. Mason** stated there is enough capacity, just loading is a concern.
 - II. **J. Fischer** will tentatively meet with the lieutenant governor on July 7th to discuss a plan or proof of action for the District.
5. **Communications / Correspondence:**
 - I. **J. Mason** stated he will address the letter from WLSSD regarding the I/I report in the operations section.
6. **Treasurer's Report: Scott Smith**
 - I. **S. Smith** asked about the Nokomis charges and asked for clarification on what was billed back. **J. Mason** responded that Lind's Septic Service, NTS time and Schemmer's Cleaning Service on May 16th was a bill back. The site had to be revisited on the 19th because the sewer line had plugged again, so Lind's Septic Service, NTS time and Hyrdoklean again were bill backs on May 19th. **S. Smith** questioned the repair parts for lift station #1. **J. Mason** responded the replacement parts were needed because pump #1 at lift station #1 would stay on due to a malfunctioning contactor therefore drawing the water level down below the pumps causing an air lock in all three pumps. This happened on two different occasions. **S. Smith** questioned how to access the information on the database regarding the mainline. **J. Mason** and **J. Bowen** responded the mainline portion of the database was still being worked on.

- II. **Payment of Bills: Motion by S. Smith.** To pay the May bills as presented. Second by **K. Kuettel**. Motion passed unanimously.
 - III. **Further Discussion: S. Smith** asked that he be the primary contact for financial information. Commercial readings are due by the 5th of the month and the NTS invoice is due by the second Tuesday of the month. Discussion regarding the database was the time frame for input, five business days is the requirement, but the Board would like to see data inputted in twenty-four to forty eight hours after an emergency response.
7. **Legal Issues: Fryberger, Mary Frances Skala**
- I. **M. Skala** discussed two bylaw updates: Best efforts to maintain representation on the Board, two members from the City of Duluth, two from the Town of Duluth and one from Town of Lakewood. The second change was allowing for non-Board members to be on committees.
 - II. **M. Skala** explained she needed more information on the bond associated with Northern Shores Town Homes. **J. Mason** explained he had received a call from Northland Constructors regarding the release of a performance bond associated with restoration of the sewer line at the town homes. **K. Bovee** requested that NTS get more information from Northland Constructors and forward it to **M. Skala**.
 - III. **K. Kuettel** asked **M. Skala** if the FOG letter has been sent to commercial users in the District. **M. Skala** stated it is to be reviewed by the operations committee. **J. Mason** has reviewed the letter and the structure looked good to him. **M. Skala** is going to change the language "it is important that you strive to bring your property into compliance" to "it is important to bring your property into compliance."
8. **Engineer's Report: Ayres and Associates, Eric Blasing**
- I. **E. Blasing** was presenting to the Board on behalf of Jim Bakken who was not able to attend. The realignment of Highway 61 was completed in mid-May; Northland Constructors tried to directional drill the new sewer line but was unsuccessful. They proceeded to open cut the trench for the sewer line. The new line is not located in the roadway but is still located in the road-right-of-way. The old line was filled with cement and capped and a six inch valve is still located under the roadway. The existing valve in the roadway is protected by a cap, a casing and is paved over. **E. Blasing** stated he has the location of the valve documented for any future reference. **J. Mason** stated a new valve had been installed in a new location therefore the old valve under the roadway should never need to be used and the valve is also located on the Knife River's side of the pipeline. The new sewer line under the bridge was installed in an 18" casing and the pipe did not experience any kinking due to the new angle. **J. Mason** then discussed the original check valve location was going to be on the north side of the bridge. **E. Blasing** and **J. Mason** discussed moving the location with Northland to the south side of the bridge. The valve installation location on the south side was in the project area therefore not having to move equipment and dig a new hole. Along with the new check valve, a new isolation valve was installed to shut off Old North Shore Road for possible future maintenance. Three isolation valves exist, isolating Knife River, the mainline and Old North Shore Rd. **K. Bovee** asked if all the valves are in Lake County and where does D/NSSD's authority end. **M. Skala** responded D/NSSD has authority in its agreement with Knife River. **M. Sironen** asked if D/NSSD has seen a final cost or if the project had been paid for. **J. Mason** stated there is a bid cost, but the item in question was the rock removal. **E. Blasing** stated the original proposed rock removal amount was twenty yards, the final cost of the project was near \$53,000. D/NSSD will be billed by Lake County. **J. Mason** stated Lake County paid for extra insulation, extra soil removal and extra easements. **E. Blasing** stated fifty-five yards of rock was actually removed during the

project at \$180 a yard. Some locations were too difficult to reach seven feet of depth, however six feet was the minimum depth reached; insulation was used in the six foot depth locations. The new sewer line was pressure tested for two hours at 150 PSI and passed. **J. Mason** commented on the operation of the system after the Knife River was turned back on. The operation resumed very well and the only problem was an airbound pump on Old North Shore Rd. **E. Blasing** is going to send out his survey crew to get locations of the new valves and line, then he will draft a record drawing of the project area. **J. Bowen** recommended making a new section on the database, similar to the poly pigging project where all the information regarding the Highway 61 realignment project.

- II. **E. Blasing** discussed Mr. Ritchie's new sewer line route. The survey crew had been onsite and surveyed the sewer line and grinder station. A new easement description was drafted and sent to **J. Mason**. The easement had been signed by Mr. Ritchie and sent back to the District.
- III. **E. Blasing** discussed 1141 Old North Shore Rd. The survey crew had been onsite but nothing had been staked and there was only a foundation on the site. **D. Korri** stated the house was now built onsite. **J. Mason** said he told the homeowner and the contractor they cannot do anything with the sewer until the application and drawing is received and approved by the District. **J. Mason** discussed the original plan for the sewer was an E-One grinder station, which is not approved for this District. **J. Mason** did provide the homeowner and contractor the specifications and permit. **K. Kuettel** stated the application did not have the contractor ID number on it. The application has not been approved by the Board yet.

9. **Operations Committee: John Bowen**

- I. The flows have gone down since last month. **J. Mason** stated he noticed the flows had increased during the spring months and was discussed with WLSSD. WLSSD stated this is a normal spring time trend. This trend is due to I/I from both D/NSSD and KRLSD. **D. Korri** asked about the devices recording flow and rain. **J. Mason** responded the devices are downloaded and data is not lost. **D. Korri** asked if D/NSSD should have technical drawings showing the locations of the equipment on the District. **J. Mason** stated he would have a map made with the locations.

10. **Operations Report: NTS, John Mason**

- I. **J. Mason** stated Sy/Com was onsite and replaced some components in Lift Station #1. The pump that failed was not placed back online until after Grandma's marathon due to the risk it posed if it failed during that time. **E. Appelwick** stated Sy/Com showed him how to test the voltages going into the PLC in case of another failure. **J. Mason** stated the contactor was removed and tested. It tested ok, so it was placed back in service; however the pump stuck on again. The contactor was replaced after that.
 - II. **J. Mason** discussed W. W. Goetsch's site visit to replace the pressure gauge at lift station #1. At the same time he had W. W. Goetsch perform the yearly routine maintenance on the main pumping stations.
 - III. **J. Mason** discussed the Nokomis jetting. He stated the grease buildup was just as bad as last year, however ports for jetting were installed so excavation was not needed this year.
 - IV. **J. Mason** discussed Tom's Logging Camp. He installed a twelve inch riser on the top of the grinder station. The riser was bolted on, gasketed and siliconed. The basin is installed in a low area and I/I was noticed this spring. The installation of the riser should eliminate the possibility of I/I.
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- V. **J. Mason** discussed the I/I score from WLSSD. The scale is out of one hundred points, the lower the number, the better the result. D/NSSD had a score of 17/100, which is compliant.
- VI. **J. Mason** stated the probe is bad for the area velocity meter and requires a new one and the cost is \$900. **E. Appelwick** stated he would like to move the meter around in the system to look at flows at different locations. **D. Korri** made a motion to purchase the probe as presented by **J. Mason**. Second by **K. Kuettel**. Motion approved unanimously.
11. **New Business:** None.
12. **Old Business:**
- I Knife River numbers: Rates and charges will have a recommendation for the Board to consider at the July meeting.
- II **S Smith** updated the Board on the Larsmont Community Assessment Feasibility Study. He spoke with Lake County last week and they are getting ready for enforcement on failing septic systems. **K. Kuettel** asked who initiated the assessment **S. Smith** responded it was Lake County. **A. Braud** asked if D/NSSD needed to do anything as a result of the assessment and **J. Bowen** responded D/NSSD is designed for their flow.
13. **Other:** None.
14. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn meeting by **K. Bovee**. Second by **S. Smith**. Motion passed unanimously at 9:02 A.M.

Minutes Approved by:

Chair

Date

Secretary

Date

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be held at 7:00 am at French River Lutheran Church on July 19, 2011.