

Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District – Board of Managers

Meeting # 151 7:00 A.M August 21, 2012

French River Lutheran Church

Board Members Present: Kevin Bovee, Dean Korri, Scott Smith, Angela Braud, Katie Kuettel
Board Members Absent: None
Others Present: Mia Thibodeau, Eric Appelwick, John Fischer, Rick Schmahl, John Bowen, Charles Furlong

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 A.M. by **K. Bovee**.
2. **Approve Agenda:**
 - I. **Motion** to approve Agenda by **D. Korri**. **Second** by **K. Kuettel**. **Motion** passed unanimously.
3. **Meeting Minutes:**
 - I. The minutes of the regular meeting # 150, July 17, 2012, **Motion** to approve the minutes by **K. Kuettel**. **Second** by **S. Smith**. **K. Kuettel Abstained** from voting. **Motion** passed.
4. **Communications/Correspondence:** None
5. **Treasurer's Report: Scott Smith**
Payment Of Bills:
 - I. **S. Smith** stated the PFA payment of \$423,962.37 has been submitted. **S. Smith** discussed the bill backs for the Nokomis and the Gardenwood. **E. Appelwick** stated the Nokomis was cleaned and jetted due to increased pump hours that showed the sewer lines were plugged. **E. Appelwick** stated the Gardenwood billback was for the electrical work at the Gardenwood. 2401 Old North Shore Rd's invoice is not a billback per **E. Appelwick** due to inconclusive evidence of where the infiltration was entering the four inch pipeline. **Motion** to pay bills as presented by **S. Smith**. **Second** by **D. Korri**. **Motion** passed unanimously. **K. Kuettel** noted the current accounts receivable is \$79,463.00

KRLSD

 - I. **K. Bovee** stated he has sent E-mails to Mr. Bob Enzion of KRLSD regarding the outstanding balance for monthly sewer bills of \$18,721.91; **K. Bovee** has not received any responses. **Motion** to have rates and charges committee review legal options and come to the September meeting with recommendations by **D. Korri**. **Second** by **K. Kuettel**. **Motion** passed unanimously. **Motion** was presented by **S. Smith** stating the 2013 rate will be based on the current cost calculation formula. **Second** by **K. Kuettel**. **Motion** passed unanimously.

Budget

 - I. **S. Smith** stated D/NSSD will proceed with the 2013 budget.
6. **Public Comment/Input:**
 - I. **C. Furlong** asked about Ayres Associates performing further documentation of properties visited by Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) as stated in July's meeting minutes. **E. Appelwick** stated Ayres Associates said they had to do more inspections of the properties that were inspected by the MDH. **J. Bowen** stated MDH has not responded to Ayres about the well location inspections yet. **E. Appelwick** recommended that **C. Furlong** contact Sandra Beck, MDH.

- II. **R. Schmahl** was asked by his neighbor 2315 Old North Shore Road to attend today's meeting to determine why the sewer flags were located on his property. He also asked if the flags are related to the MDH inspections and whether or not it is a non-conforming sewer connection. **E. Appelwick** stated NTS located the sewer line at 2315 Old North Shore Road at the request of Ayres Associates and the Minnesota Department of Health, but is unfamiliar with the outcome of the inspection. **R. Schmahl** asked about the concrete collar that was required for 8901 East Superior Street and if it was going to be a requirement for existing customers to dig up and install. **E. Appelwick** stated all of grinder basins, during the original project, were precast at the contractor's job site prior to installation. The purpose of the concrete collar is to act as an anti-floatation device; this is depicted in the specifications for new connections on the D/NSSD website. **R. Schmahl** asked to clarify what payments make up the accounts receivable. **K. Kuettel** stated it is the monthly service fee. **R. Schmahl** stated the fee is too high and is unfair to low income families. **S. Smith** responded, the District has reviewed this issue in the past, but determined it would not be fair to the other users on the system that would have to subsidize those payments. Everyone in the District pays the same amount.
7. **Legal Issues: Fryberger, Mia Thibodeau**
 - I. **M. Thibodeau** stated she followed up on charging a fee for certification of past due charges. **M. Thibodeau** stated D/NSSD can charge a fee for the certification costs. The rates and charges committee will meet to discuss what fee is applicable.
 - II. **M. Thibodeau** discussed whether or not the District could make users directly hire contractors to perform repairs due to plugging or failure. **M. Thibodeau** stated the District owns the pipes and is responsible for the repairs. **D. Korri** stated the costs associated with this type of work is paid by the District and billed back to the user. He stated this should be paid directly by the user. The consensus was District line have to be maintained by the District with contractors that are hired by the District.
8. **Engineer's Report: Ayres and Associates**
 - I. Not Present
9. **Operations Committee: Dean Korri, John Bowen**
 - I. **J. Bowen** stated the recorded flows are high for the month of July. **E. Appelwick** stated NTS has verified the flow meter is working correctly. NTS revisited the commercial properties, spoken with the Lakewood Water Treatment Plant, and has driven through the area of concern without any luck locating the source of water. **E. Appelwick** also called the City of Duluth's billing to see if they had any high flows noted, which they did not.
10. **Operations Report: NTS, Eric Appelwick**
 - I. **E. Appelwick** stated that **K. Bovee** and **E. Appelwick** met with Steve Simms of FEMA on July 13th to discuss the flooding and the District's options. **E. Appelwick** and **S. Simms** performed an onsite inspection of the areas affected. Washouts were at Ryan Road and the retention tank. The labor and contractor costs may be covered by FEMA.
 - II. **E. Appelwick** stated NTS has begun working on the yearly routine maintenance of the system.
 - III. **E. Appelwick** stated two pumps at the Red Swan had to be replaced due to mechanical failures.
 - IV. **E. Appelwick** stated **W. W. Goetsch** will be inspecting the main pump stations in the near future. Pump two in lift station one has failed and will be repaired by **W. W. Goetsch** while they are onsite.
 - V. **E. Appelwick** stated NTS will be searching for a full time operator to help service clients in the Duluth area.
 - VI. **E. Appelwick** discussed the overflows experienced during the rain events in June. The District experienced four overflows that were reported to the Minnesota Duty Officer and the MPCA.

11. **New Business: None.**
12. **Old Business: None.**
13. **Other: None.**
14. **Adjourn: Motion** to adjourn meeting by **K. Bovee**. **Second** by **S. Smith**. **Motion** passed unanimously at 8:24 A.M.

Minutes Approved by:  9-18-12
Chair Date


Secretary Date

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be held at 7:00 am at French River Lutheran Church on September 18th.

Minutes taken by: Eric Appelwick
DNSSD Mtg # 151, 082112, Minutes