

SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
NEW SHOREHAM SEWER COMMISSION and BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

June 10, 2008 @ 3:00 PM, SPECIAL MEETING Minutes

Present were members Robby Brown, Cliff McGinnes, Rally Migliaccio; alternates Ann Cunningham and Frank Leslie and District Clerk Janet Ziegler.

Absent were members Bob Pokraka and Howie Rice.

Also present were Engineer Jim Geremia, Public Works Director Nancy Dodge, Superintendents Dave Simmons and Ray Boucher, and Counsel Elliot Taubman.

Absent was Finance Director Amy Lewis.

C. McGinnes called the meeting to order at 3:08 P.M.

Presentation by Engineer James Geremia of the new Department of Environment Management
RIPDES (Rhode Island Pollution Discharge Elimination System) Permit for
Sewer Effluent and Water Concentrate Flows.

J. Geremia stated that the draft RIPDES Permit (Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) from DEM (Department of Environment) was received May 16, 2008 for the combined effluent discharge from water and sewer and is in the process of being reviewed.

Sewer has requested to increase its effluent flows from 0.300 MGD to 0.450MGD (million gallons per day) and to add 0.050 MGD additional waste from Block Island Water Company's concentrate stream; this was initiated two years ago. Supporting documents supplied to DEM were about process improvements made over the years to sewer's operations and details of Block Island Water Company's (BIWC) production and by-product specifications. The combined RIPDES permit is for 0.500 MGD of discharge to the Atlantic Ocean.

During the Permit development process, DEM's requirement to individually sample the separate waste streams was eliminated in favor of monitoring elements on a flow-weighted basis. Additionally, the 'dilution study' performed over ten years ago, was favorably re-evaluated based on updated mathematical calculations, the depth of the water diffusers and combination of the two discharges. Sewer will be relieved of its testing requirements for copper based on the dilution factor of the combined streams. DEM may set new monitoring limits when the Permit is renewed annually.

A composite page of results will be submitted in a single monthly DEM report. If the Water Superintendent chooses, the concentrate waste could be diverted in the winter to the sewer treatment plant to simplify testing and reporting. Whenever the reverse osmosis's (RO) membranes are cleaned, the discharge must go to the treatment plant.

The new Permit will be posted for public comment on June 20 and the Public Hearing will be held July 22.

BLOCK ISLAND SEWER & WATER COMMISSION GRANT SUMMARY

2001 Sewer USDA.

The June 1 balance of \$103,620 funds must be spent before the close of the fiscal year or it will be lost. Already obligated are costs for the production aeration panels, a sewer lateral in Bridgegate Square and engineering. USDA has given permission to spend additional funds for pumps and computer needs. C. McGinnes suggested that pumps be alternated every five to seven years so that there is always a working spare on the shelf.

2006 Water USDA.

The June 1 balance was \$77,717.29. Boyle & Fogerty installed a new concentrate discharge line from BIWC to the sewer outfall. The water plant's fire suppression system was completed with combined funds from the 2003 Water grant. A new well pump and motor was installed in Well #5; the spare pump and motor will be a backup for # 5 as well as #6 – the major producers. \$45k was used to purchase account meters and a feed pump. There is no urgency to close out the balance of ~\$14K; as projects come up, permission will be sought to apply the remaining funds. D. Simmons suggested that RO #1 and RO #2 were the same size and need to have a spare pump and motor as backup.

C. McGinnes contemplated on rehabbing source Well #4 and/or Well #3. A preliminary look at electrical concerns should include wire size, conduit size and the economy of production from each location. J. Geremia, fully supporting the research, said that a complete study for the Water Board would be conducted in the engineering design phase.

J. Geremia ended his presentation by reflecting that five to six million dollars of infrastructure costs have been saved over the years with USDA grants. The sewer and water production plants still qualify for receiving grants \$0.65 on the dollar – a very good rate in today's market.

C. McGinnes applauded J. Geremia's extra effort to simplify the combined Permit requirements and added that the Commission fully appreciates the long term cost savings it will affect for both production plants. Geremia was thanked for facilitating the technical advancements made to both plants and, in general, of being a great help in all phases of operations and management.

Adjourn.

MOTION: by R. Migliaccio to adjourn the meeting and that the time period for the filing of the minutes be extended to 75 days from today's date. The motion was seconded, a quorum was present and the vote to adjourn was approved unanimously by all members present.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Ziegler

District Clerk

Approved: August 13, 2008

The New Shoreham Sewer Commission and Water Board are an equal opportunity providers and employers.