

1Diamond Lake Sewer Committee

The meeting of the Diamond Lake Sewer Committee was held on Monday, January 28, 2008 at 3 PM via telephone conference. Jon Hanson was the facilitator. Those on line were Sandy George, Tim Groshens, Jon Hanson, Dale Owen, Richard Phillips, Jim Teschendorf and Vanessa Glieden Henjuna of the Watershed District.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted. Dale Owen made the motion to accept the minutes and Tim Groshens seconded the motion.

Richard Phillips has resigned as chairman. A discussion was held on candidates to replace Richard. Several names were brought forward and discussed. Dale Owen will do the follow-up contacts to fill this position. Richard has agreed to work with the new chairperson to fill them in on work done to this point.

Sandy George reported the in-kind hours total 91.25 @ \$15.00 = \$1,368.75; mileage totaled 256 hours @ .485 = \$124.16 with a total of \$1,492.91. It was noted that the mileage rate increased to .505 as of January 1, 2008.

Committee Reports:

Finance – Jim Teschendorf

No treasurers report was given because Harlan Meints was not connected to our conference call.

The monies available are:

Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District grant	\$3500
Kandiyohi County Environmental Services grant	\$3500
Diamond Lake Area Recreational Association	\$3500

The committee looked at the big picture of the finance process and with that in mind contacted Valerie Prax from the University of Minnesota extension. They discussed grant/funding availability and the application process.

Through discussions the committee found out that Kandiyohi county had submitted an application for the State Revolving Funds (SRF). The disbursement for this grant is based on points obtained during the project. The point value currently stands at 25 but the planned project activities will increase the point value as we report back to MPCA. Once a decision has been made, an application will need to be made and the point value will determine the funds available. The project priority listing (PPL) shows how our project stands point wise relative to other projects of a similar nature.

A second item the committee is addressing is the organizational structure. The two options are our own legal service district or to combine under the township as a subordinate service district. This will be addressed within the next two months.

Assessment – Dale Owen

There were 350 surveys mailed out in January with 177 returned as of today. The committee is transferring the information to file cards. Richard Phillips will set up an Excel spreadsheet to allow information to be input and therefore allow for sorting as needed. Richard will begin the input project.

Tim was asked to include a reminder to return surveys when he did the next communication.

The County grant for septic inspections was approved for \$61,000. The next step will be to send out the RFP. It was suggested that the assessment committee request an opportunity to have input when the county prepared the RFP.

Dale, Harlan, and Tim will contact Gary Geer about the inspection process. They will keep in mind that this is time sensitive information and needs to be announced by our communication committee before the public announcement from the county meeting.

Communication – Tim Groshens

The committee continues to work on infrastructure for e-mail addresses and hard addresses.

The committee is doing the final editing on questions that will be mailed and posted on the website.

A URL for the project is set up. Several members will have access to read the questions and then work together to prepare the answers. It was felt a broader spectrum would be covered if several people worked together on the answers.

The Watershed is currently interviewing for a replacement for Julie. The new person should be announced by mid-February.

It was decided that the new chairperson should call the next meeting, so no date has been set.

The telephone conference adjourned at 3:55 on a motion by Jim Teschendorf with a second by Dale Owen.

Sandra George
Acting Secretary