



Placer County

Wastewater Advisory Committee

County Environmental Health ♦ 3091 County Center Dr. Suite

180 ♦ Auburn, CA 95603

MINUTES

May 03, 2011

CDRA Cypress Room

I. Call to Order

Rick Bluhm called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

II. Preliminary Items

A Roll Call and Determination of Quorum, Rick Bluhm, Joe Olsen, Mark Navo, David Honeycutt, Mike Broyer, Chris White, Dave Buck, Marc Lindbloom, Guy Ostenson, and Ken Denio, were present. Kevin Bell, Bill Carpenter, and Tibor Banathy were absent. A quorum was established.

B Introduction of Members and Guests

Rick McCauley, Robin McCauley and Ben McCauley from SOS Onsite

David Holmes from Infiltrator Systems

Jill Pahl, Mohan Ganapathy and Marci Branaugh attended the meeting representing Environmental Health.

Karin Schwab attended the meeting representing Placer County Counsel

C Minutes Review

Ken Denio made a motion to approve the December 07, 2010 minutes as written and Mark Navo seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor and no opposing votes.

D Correspondence and Public Comment

Mark Navo attended a forum in Butte County where about two hundred people showed up and there were representatives from four or five other counties. Butte County has set up a program similar to Placer County and they wanted their local Contractors to come and see what other Counties were doing. The meeting ended up focusing on what's going on locally in Northern California; with representatives from other Counties and Environmental Health.

E Agenda Review

III. Action Items

A Elections

Guy Ostenson recommended Rick Bluhm remain as Committee Chair for a second term; Ken Denio seconded that motion. Mike Broyer made the motion to

vote, Dave Honeycutt seconded that motion. The vote was all in favor and no opposing votes.

Rick Bluhm recommended Ken Denio remain as Committee Vice-Chair for a second term; Mike Broyer seconded that motion. Dave Honeycutt made the motion to vote, Mike Broyer seconded that motion. The vote was all in favor and no opposing votes.

- B Placer County Grand Jury Report on the Placer County Wastewater Advisory Committee, Dated April 12, 2011 – Discussion of the findings and recommendations of the report. Actions requested: Direction, if any, to staff to incorporate recommendations into amendments to Committee by-laws.

The Grand Jury investigates based on complaints brought to them; this specific report addresses concerns regarding the Committee's by-laws. To review the Grand Jury report, please click on the following link.

<http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/grandjury/2010-2011/2010-2011.html>

Mike Broyer made the motion to direct the Director of Environmental Health to respond on behalf of the department to the Grand Jury's report; Ken Denio seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor and no opposing votes.

- C Completion of review period for the Hoot Treatment System. Request from Mr. Rick McCauley to change status from "experimental" to "alternative".

Mr. McCauley has completed the requirements of Placer County Environmental Health's Experimental Program for permitting and monitoring the Hoot Aerobic Treatment System and as such is requesting the change in status from "experimental" to "alternative".

It was pointed out that the Conditions of Approval for Hoot differs slightly from what was previously approved for the Advantex System. This is because the Advantex System's manufacturer recommendation for OM&M is once a year, however we are requiring that it be looked at every six months because of the UV light. For the ATU Aerobic Treatment units the manufacturer recommendation for OM&M is once every six months.

Guy Ostenson made a motion to approve the Hoot Treatment System to change status from "experimental" to "alternative", Mike Broyer seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor and no opposing votes.

Chris White made a motion to approve the draft Conditions of Approval for the Hoot Treatment System, Mark Navo seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor and no opposing votes.

D EZflow Gravelless Trench System – request by Mr. David Holmes to use it as an approved alternative to drain rock and gravelless chambered systems.

David Holmes from Infiltrator Systems is formally requesting that the EZflow Gravelless Trench System be removed from the experimental program and be used as a regular alternative to drain rock. He provided WAC with two in-depth studies of EZflow; one comparing EZflow with gravel and chamber systems and the other looking at EZflow installed in differing soil types.

Mike Broyer made a motion to approve EZflow Gravelless Trench System to change status from “experimental” to “alternative”, Marc Lindbloom seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor and no opposing votes. Guy Ostenson abstained from the vote because he is a distributor of the product.

Dave Honeycutt made a motion that the Conditions of approval remain the same as what was required during the experimental process with the exception of the monitoring as it is moved from experimental to alternative, Ken Denio seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor and no opposing votes. Guy Ostenson abstained from the vote because he is a distributor of the product.

IV. Non-Action Items

A Legislative Update (Standing Item)

AB885 - State Water Resources Control Board started initial scoping but has not yet released a copy of the proposed policy changes. They are estimating that only 5% of the people would be impacted by the new tiered approach. They are looking to schedule State Water Board workshops in the fall of 2011 and an adoption by March 2012. If you would like additional information the SWRCB has the initial study, frequently asked questions and other informative documents posted on their website.
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/owts/index.shtml

B Ideas to resolve non compliant homeowner OM&M issues.

Rick Bluhm took the ideas to Placer County Association of Realtors for feedback. The Realtors liked the idea of having the fee put on the tax bill because if the property is foreclosed upon or goes through a short sale the bank almost always takes care of whatever is on the tax bill. However if there is a lien on the property the bank has the option of deciding that the lien is not their problem and therefore will refuse to take care of it. The realtors were also okay with posting a house as substandard if the house was in foreclosure and vacant with a non compliant septic system. It was also mentioned that Tuolumne County puts a fee onto property taxes for OM&M service similar to Santa Cruz County. The Realtors did not want something recorded onto title requiring EH sign off prior to the close of sale; however they were okay with recording onto title of foreclosed homes for payment of OM&M fees. No additional ideas came from the meeting.

Jill asked the possibility of training homeowners to change a UV light? Most of the feedback was skeptical, however in Solano County the homeowner can do it for two years and then on the third year they need to have it done by a certified technician.

V. Agenda Preparation for Next Meeting

Date: June 07, 2011

Location: Cypress room at the CDRC

Time: 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

Proposed Action Items:

By-laws

Proposed Non-Action Items:

Report on remaining systems in the experimental program.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM