

SEELEY LAKE SEWER DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
July 8, 2020

Tom Morris	President	PRESENT	Walt Hill	Director	PRESENT
Beth Hutchinson	Vice President	PRESENT	Jason Gilpin	Director	PRESENT
Pat Goodover	Director	PRESENT	Felicity Derry	Secretary	PRESENT
Jean Curtiss	Manager	PRESENT	Kim Myre	Missoula Co	PRESENT

Public Attendance - Appendix A

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Tom Morris at 6:01pm. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom, due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Pat Goodover moved to approve the agenda as presented. There was no discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Aye
Beth Hutchinson	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Walt Hill	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Review/Respond to Recent Correspondence from Litigating Attorney

Tom Morris yielded the chair to Vice President, Beth Hutchinson. Beth Hutchinson summarized what had led to scheduling the special meeting to address Jon Beal's request for action from the Board. There was discussion on how to handle any potential confidentiality and that the Vice President should be made aware if it arose during the discussion.

A timeline of events was reviewed by the Board. For this item the Board consisted of Beth Hutchinson, Pat Goodover and Walt Hill. The Board discussed the referral of Mr. Boltz's concerns

of election influencing to the Missoula County Elections Office and whether it could be pertinent to the current litigation. Discussion followed on the language of the Board's response to Jon Beal.

Pat Goodover moved to state that District Manager Curtiss had accurately reflected the Seeley Lake Sewer District's position on Boltz's referral to the Missoula County Elections Office. The Board did not discuss, investigate or move to take any action on this matter. The Board feels it was properly referred to Missoula County and then to the Office of Political Practices. Walt Hill seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried.

Beth Hutchinson	Aye
Walt Hill	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Tom Morris	Recused
Jason Gilpin	Recused

The Board continued to review the timeline of events. Discussion followed on whether Ms. Dowdall still represented Tom Morris and how to respond to Jon Beal's request for direction regarding the motion to disqualify. The Board discussed the declaratory judgement.

Jean Curtiss noted that Tom Morris wanted to add something to the discussion. The Board discussed whether it was appropriate for Tom Morris to be included and referencing the by-laws declined to permit Tom Morris to speak on this topic.

Pat Goodover moved that the Board has discussed the motion to disqualify as it was filed on July 1st, 2020. The Board reiterates that Mr. Beal is our attorney for the remaining litigation portion of this case. Walt Hill seconded the motion. Discussion followed and the Board agreed to add the case number (DV-18-913) to the motion.

Beth Hutchinson	Aye
Walt Hill	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Tom Morris	Recused
Jason Gilpin	Recused

The Board discussed whether to make a comment relaying their feeling that the argument between the attorneys was ridiculous and agreed to postpone the decision.

Discussion followed on the responses from Beth Hutchinson and Jean Curtiss to Jon Beal's request for clarification and how the Board should respond to Jon Beal's emails.

Beth Hutchinson moved that the comments Jean Curtiss had emailed to the Board be included in some manner, verbatim, because Jean Curtiss had addressed things quite clearly. Walt Hill and Pat Goodover agreed with the motion.

Beth Hutchinson requested public comment regarding the possible unfortunate influence on elections. There was no public comment.

Beth Hutchinson requested public comment regarding the challenge to Mr. Beal being the District's attorney.

Colleen Krause was experiencing technical issues, which were then resolved. Colleen Krause commented that the District should get rid of the attorney as he had far exceeded the duties he had been hired to perform. Things would run much smoother without him.

Pat Goodover and Walt Hill did not agree with Colleen Krause's statement as they felt that the District's litigating attorney, Jon Beal, needed to resolve the attorney's fees and costs portion of the litigation before he should be permitted to resign or withdraw from the case. Beth Hutchinson added that she wanted the penalty phase of the litigation to be resolved as quickly as possible.

Beth Hutchinson requested public comment regarding the clarification of the emails from Beth Hutchinson and Jean Curtiss to Jon Beal. There was no public comment.

The Board requested that Jean Curtiss compile the letter to Jon Beal for the Board (Beth Hutchinson, Pat Goodover & Walt Hill) to review. After discussion the Board agreed that the letter from Beth Hutchinson should be emailed to Jon Beal and the omission of a signature would be acceptable.

After discussing adding language regarding the quarrelling attorneys to the letter, the Board agreed to do so.

Beth Hutchinson turned the meeting back over to Tom Morris.

Tom Morris noted that he did not take part in the business part of the meeting and did not review any of the packet that was sent.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING: July 16, 2020

ADJOURNMENT OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING:

Walt Hill moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:53pm.

Attest:

Tom Morris, President

Felicity Derry, Secretary