

**SEELEY LAKE SEWER DISTRICT**  
**BOARD TRAINING WORKSHOP**  
**July 25, 2020**

Tom Morris	President	PRESENT	Pat Goodover	Director	PRESENT
Beth Hutchinson	Vice President	PRESENT	Walt Hill	Director	PRESENT
Jason Gilpin	Director	PRESENT	Felicity Derry	Secretary	ABSENT
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 10:01am. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom, due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

The Board agreed to move public comment to the end of the meeting, upon the recommendation of Dan Clark.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Seeley Lake Sewer Board Training with Dan Clark from MSU Local Government Center

Dan Clark introduced himself and noted that the Board was an elected body and therefore should represent and make decisions for the greater good of the entire District.

The following topics were covered in the presentation and discussed:

Principles of Good Governance

Montana Statutes on the Right of the Public to Know and Participate, with Regard to Meetings

Public Participation

Rules & Procedures

Open Meetings

Nathan Bourne questioned if the Board was polled on a topic, would it be legal to make a decision on that poll. Dan Clark explained that a poll would not allow the public to participate in the process, so it would not. The discussion turned to scheduling special meetings, and that it would not apply in that instance. However, if there was a time constraint the Board should consider holding a well noticed Zoom meeting, even if a 48-hour notice could not be given.

The presentation continued and the following topics were covered and discussed.

Agendas  
Motions, Resolutions & Ordinances  
The Ability to Undo Previous Resolutions

The work session was recessed at 11:41am for lunch

The work session was reconvened at 12:30pm

The presentation continued and the following topics were covered and discussed:

Setting the Agenda and Managing Time  
Amending, Restructuring and Approving the Agenda  
Montana Code of Ethics and Public Trust  
Abstaining or Recusing from a Vote  
Electronic Signatures of Documents  
Board Member Accountability  
Parliamentary Procedures

Nathan Bourne questioned if a Board member had previously sued the District over an issue and was later elected to the Board, would it constitute a conflict to vote on the issue they previously had sued on. Dan Clark recommended consulting legal counsel and Board discussion followed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Nathan Bourne asked whether emails from the attorney were public record. Dan Clark recommended consulting legal counsel and clarified what was considered privileged information.

Nathan Bourne asked if a Board should have separate litigating and general business attorneys. Dan Clark suggested that should be based on the skill set of the attorney and at the discretion of the board.

Nathan Bourne questioned if boards could go back to the public and ask if a project should go ahead or not, once a project was moving forward through funding. Dan Clark felt an approach could be that the question had been asked, it had been answered and it was moving forward. By putting it on the ballot the board was abdicating their responsibility, as the decision had been made that the District was moving forward. The question should not be initiated by the board. The constituents within the District could put it on the ballot to have it nullified.

**NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING: August 6, 2020**

**ADJOURNMENT OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING:**

Walt Hill moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:46pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Attest:

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Tom Morris, President

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Felicity Derry, Secretary