

Seeley Lake Sewer District
REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

DATE: Thursday, March 21, 2024
PLACE: The Barn, 2920 Highway 83, Seeley Lake & Virtual Meeting, via Zoom
Computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86464976067?pwd=dFF0UU9yUVIvZjFZQmo4ZlRQR3VEQT09>
Telephone: 1 669 900 6833
Meeting ID: 864 6497 6067
Password: 032580
TIME: 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Tom Morris, President	○	05/2024
Pat Goodover, Vice President	○	05/2026
Jason Gilpin, Director	○	05/2024
Cheri Thompson, Director	○	05/2026
Troy Spence, Director	○	05/2026
Felicity Derry, Secretary	○	

1. OPENING: Scheduled for 6:00 PM Via Zoom
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
3. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:
4. PUBLIC COMMENT: On Items not on the Agenda of the Meeting and within the Jurisdiction of the Sewer District [MCA 2-3-103 (1)a]
5. CORRESPONDENCE:
6. MINUTES: February 15, 2024 - *Action*
7. FINANCIAL REPORTS:
 - a} Invoices: March 2024 - *Action*
 - b} January 2024
8. MANAGER'S REPORT: Status Report
9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
 - a} Action Plan for 2023-2024 Committee Reports
 - i. Pathfinder Article & Email Newsletter - *Discussion/Action*
 - b} Fluorescence EEM Sampling - *Discussion/Action*
 - c} Test Result Map - *Discussion/Action*
 - d} Monitoring Well & Lake Sampling - *Discussion/Action*
 - e} WET Proposal New Wells - *Discussion/Action*
 - f} WET Proposal Next Step - *Discussion/Action*
 - g} FY2025 Budget - *Discussion*
 - h} Ermine Contracting Proposal - *Discussion/Action*
10. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a} FEMA Funding - *Discussion/Action*
 - b} DNRC Grants - *Discussion/Action*
 - c} CRC Letters of Recommendation - *Discussion/Action*
 - d} Board Election - *Discussion*
 - e} Barn Rent - *Discussion/Action*
11. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: April 18, 2024
12. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:
13. ADJOURNMENT:

**SEELEY LAKE SEWER DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 15, 2024**

Tom Morris	President	PRESENT	Cheri Thompson	Director	PRESENT
Pat Goodover	Vice President	PRESENT	Troy Spence	Director	PRESENT*
Jason Gilpin	Director	PRESENT*	Felicity Derry	Secretary	PRESENT
Bill Decker	Manager	PRESENT			

* Joined the meeting at 6:39pm
Public Attendance – Appendix A

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm. The meeting was held remotely at the Barn, 2920 Highway 83, Seeley Lake, MT and via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Tom Morris moved to accept the agenda. Cheri Thompson seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS:

Tom Morris noted that it was a very full agenda and requested that the meeting be kept moving along and to be respectful of everybody’s time.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tom Morris requested public comment. Bill Decker noted that he had attended a meeting with Missoula City/County Health Department (MCCHD) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for possible grant opportunities that could fund a feasibility study. Bill Decker, Felicity Derry, and Jess Alexander had a meeting with the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC) regarding the Reclamation & Development grant (RDG). CRC had sent the District two letters regarding grant funding, but they were received too late to be placed on the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

MINUTES:

January 18, 2024

Tom Morris moved to accept the minutes for the regular meeting (January 18, 2024) as circulated. Cheri Thompson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Absent
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Troy Spence	Absent

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Invoices

Felicity Derry reviewed the January invoices. Cheri Thompson requested clarification of the WET invoices. Jess Alexander noted that they had been working on the draft report that had been submitted to the Board. Discussion followed and Jess Alexander agreed to provide more task detail on the WET invoices. Tom Morris requested that all documentation and invoices for the board meetings be submitted by the second Thursday of the month.

Tom Morris moved to approve the invoices and pay them. Pat Goodover seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried.

Tom Morris	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Absent
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Troy Spence	Absent

November 2023 Financial Reports

Felicity Derry reviewed the November financial reports, noting that it had been a quiet month, with no checks written.

December 2023 Financial Reports

Felicity Derry reviewed the December financial reports, noting that it had been another quiet month

MANGER'S REPORT:

Bill Decker noted that most of his report would be covered under the eDNA sampling item later in the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Action Plan for 2023-2024 - Committee Reports

Pathfinder Article & Email Newsletter

Cheri Thompson reviewed the map that she had created, noting that she had visited every property on the map. Also, noting that quite a few of the septic permits in the County property information system were attached to the incorrect property.

Mission Update

None.

Environmental Deoxyribonucleic Acid (eDNA) – Fluorescence Excitation Emission Matrix (EEM) Sampling

Bill Decker noted that the fourteen monitoring wells had been sampled for the last five quarters. The four wells that had the highest nitrate results were sent for more intensive testing, and reviewed the testing. Bill Decker then outlined the test results, noting that three of the monitoring well results were fairly uniform, but the results for the monitoring well at Lindey’s were significantly higher.

John Richards asked what was the recommendation for testing? Tom Morris noted that MCCHD had offered to pay for and perform the testing.

Shannon Therriault noted that the County had agreed to install and monitor the ten transducers in the monitoring wells. Also, the County Surveyor would be able to survey those wells. Additionally, the County would take monthly nitrate samples from those monitoring wells and pay for that testing for one year. Jeanna Miller explained how the data from the transducers would be collected. The County would share the data with the District. There was discussion regarding the two monitoring wells on private property and the need for access agreements.

Tom Morris moved to move ahead with the ten transducers and let the County Surveyor do the sampling and have Bill (Decker) continue testing quarterly on any of the (monitoring) wells that have higher results, that may not be those ten (monitoring) wells. Bill Decker noted that the ten transducers would be in the monitoring wells that would have water. **Tom Morris amended his motion to move forward with having the County do the transducers and the surveying and take the nitrate samples monthly.** Both Pat Goodover and Cheri Thompson seconded the motion. There was discussion regarding the monitoring wells that had water. Jeanna Miller added that the Water Quality District would choose which ten wells would be most advantageous, some of which might not have water year-round. There was no further discussion. The motion was unanimous.

Tom Morris	Aye
Pat Goodover	Aye
Jason Gilpin	Aye
Cheri Thompson	Aye
Troy Spence	Aye

NEW BUSINESS:

WET Proposal

Jess Alexander noted that the proposal was not complete.

Written Access Agreement for Transducers

Previously covered.

Missoula City/County Health Department – Septic Permit Policy

Jeanna Miller provided an overview of how the Health Department reviewed septic permits in the Special Management Area (SMA) and then gave information and an in-depth history on how the septic permit rules/protocol had been developed and the SMA was formed. Jeanna Miller noted that over time the permit evaluation protocol was updated and explained how and why.

Jeanna Miller reviewed the normal levels of naturally occurring background nitrate in groundwater and the nitrate standard in drinking water. Adding that health impacts had been observed at lower nitrate levels. Seeley Lake had limited water rights and the public water system was nearing capacity, which illustrated why both actual and potential drinking water sources were protected to the same degree.

Jeanna Miller reviewed the water flow map and noted that the transducers and the testing that the Health Department had offered to the Board would help provide a better understanding of the groundwater flow and the level of the groundwater, as well as the surface water.

Jeanna Miller reviewed the protocol for new use and the level to which a permitted septic system would be required to treat to and how nutrient trading could be utilized. Jeanna Miller then outlined the process for increased use, such as adding a bedroom. For a replacement system there would be no changes and conventional systems would be allowed.

Jeanna Miller illustrated correlations between each of the three requirements in the SMA and how the current protocol addressed them, giving some history on the release of the protocol and the updated protocol. The Health Department's role was to uphold the health code rules and write permits, but also to be part of the solution. Taking on the study was exciting and they were trying to stay connected with the interested groups. The Health Department will propose new health code rules this year and wanted to advocate for community wide and community lead action.

Brandon Grosvenor asked if there was a way for residents to find out what kind of system they had if it was not registered with the County. Jeanna Miller noted that the Health Department had been issuing septic permits since 1966 and the records from the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s were sometimes lacking. When a permit was not attached to a property it was not necessarily an issue. Information that can identify where a permit should be placed can be sent to the Health Department to be reviewed. If there was no septic permit, contact the information desk at the Health Department as they can search the permits. Alternately a septic pumper could help you identify your system.

There was discussion regarding the smaller lots in town and what their options for a septic system would be.

MCCHD Rebuttal Letter

Cheri Thompson noted that Jeanna Miller had addressed most of the points and the transducers would help. Cheri Thompson agreed to retract her letter and requested that the Health Department put an update in the Pathfinder.

FY2025 Budget

Tom Morris requested that the Board review the 2024 budget and start putting together a 2025 budget, to enable the District to finalize it by June.

Emerine Contracting Proposal

Brandon Grosvenor, the President, and owner of the Lazy Acres RV Park LLC noted that it had taken him six years to complete the Missoula County subdivision process. The subdivision was for 70 sites on 14 acres and had been approved last fall. The site also had preliminary approval from DEQ for a discharge permit for 5-7.5mg/L. During this process he met Gary Chilcott, the owner of Emerine Construction, who had built four or five RV parks in Montana and the surrounding states, as well as numerous medical waste treatment plants. During discussions Brandon Grosvenor became aware that Gary Chilcott owned a sewer system. This system was half the price of the previously proposed system. It could handle the RV park and the community and treat the effluent down 2.2mg/L at discharge. Darrel Barton was an engineer and worked with Gary Chilcott.

Gary Chilcott introduced himself to the Board, outlining his history and background in wastewater treatment in the oilfields. He reviewed his proposal for the Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) to the Board and felt that it was a great opportunity for Seeley Lake to demonstrate that nitrates could be kept lower at a much more reasonable cost. Gary Chilcott then reviewed the level of treatment that the plant could offer, as well as the price, which did not include the collection system. Gary Chilcott would like to do a design build for the plant, install the plant and then have the Seeley Lake Sewer District design the collection system, which he would bid for. The cost per resident would be well under \$100. Butte and Bozeman both had MBRs similar to this plant, which he would like to show to the Board members. They would trade the usage during the summer from the RV park for the land that the building was on. The building, the plant and the land would all be included in the cost of \$6.5 million. Darrell Barton had worked with DEQ for a long time and would do the grant writing, which was all included in \$6.5 million deal. They would find the money, put the plant in and the District would go out to bid for the collection system for Phase 1 & 2, whereby spreading the cost over more people.

Pat Goodover questioned if the system had been approved by DEQ and the State of Montana. Darrell Barton noted that there were smaller subdivisions around the state that utilized MBR systems.

Tom Morris wanted to clarify that the treatment plant cost \$6.5 million, but asked how much the collection system would be. Gary Chilcott agreed that the cost was for the treatment plant, and the collection system would be above that.

Cheri Thompson questioned how much the collection system would be. Gary Chilcott noted that he would require more information before he could estimate a cost for the collection system. Discussion followed on the cost of the collection system and the engineering. The estimated monthly customer cost of a \$100 per and the number of homes in Phases 1 & 2 were discussed.

Gary Chilcott and Darrel Barton requested that the Board allow them to present a proposal, adding that they would submit a bid for the collection system also.

Tom Morris noted that the Board had accepted an engineering firm during the request for qualifications process. Discussion followed on if Gary Chilcott would work with WET and whether this MBR was cheaper than other alternatives. The limited water rights in Seeley Lake and how this proposal would affect the RV park were discussed.

Pat Goodover suggested that the group return with a more concrete proposal for the Board to review and vote on. Tom Morris agreed that this could be an action item on the next agenda, but prior to that there should be a conversation with the current engineers. Discussion followed on how this proposal would fit in with the current plan for testing and potential funding. The collection system and going out to bid was discussed further.

Jess Alexander added that this proposal was a great idea, and worth the Board considering. WET would be more than happy to review the proposal as the engineer of record.

Tom Morris agreed that Gary Chilcott could have a short conversation with WET.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING: March 21, 2023

The next meeting will be held in person at the Barn and via Zoom. Any item for the meeting should be received no later than March 14, 2024.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

Tom Morris noted that the following items should be added to the March agenda: Action Plan – Committee Reports – Pathfinder Article; Mission Update; Test Result Map, Clearwater RV Dump Station, eDNA Sampling, Monitoring Well & Lake Sampling, WET proposal, FY2025 Budget, FEMA funding, DRNC Grants, CRC Letters of Recommendation for Missoula County and Emerine Contracting LLC Proposal discussion/action.

ADJOURNMENT OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING:

Tom Morris moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm. Pat Goodover seconded the motion.

Attest:

Tom Morris, President

Felicity Derry, Secretary

**Seeley Lake Sewer District
Invoices for March 2024**

District:

Seeley Lake Water District - <i>Inv#230 February 2024</i>		\$284.60
Bill Decker - <i>February/March 2024</i>		\$357.50
Felicity Derry - <i>February/March 2024</i>		\$180.00
Pathfinder		\$44.00
		\$866.10

Account Balances as of 2/29/2024

Citizens Alliance Account	\$4,987.20		\$4,987.20
Reserve	\$28,000.00		\$28,000.00
Missoula County Account	\$221,502.47		\$220,636.37
	\$254,489.67	(\$866.10)	\$253,623.57

Seeley Lake - Missoula County Water District

PO Box 503
Seeley Lake, MT 59868-0503

Phone # 406-677-2559

Invoice

DATE	INVOICE #
3/1/2024	230

BILL TO
Seeley Lake Sewer District PO Box 403 Seeley Lake, MT 59868-0403

SHIP TO

P.O. NUMBER	TERMS	REP	SHIP	VIA	
	Due on Receipt		3/1/2024	Vince	

QUANTITY	ITEM CODE	DESCRIPTION	PRICE EACH	AMOUNT
17	MiscI	Bookkeeping & Admin February 2024	15.00	255.00
592	MiscO	Copies	0.05	29.60

THANK YOU!	Total	\$284.60
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Manager's Report 2/8/24-3/14/24

Personnel from the Missoula County Health Department came to the District on 3/8/24. I toured the District with Elena to show her the locations of the monitoring wells. They installed transducer in 10 of the wells. They will be monitoring static water levels hourly and will be taking water samples for Nitrate analysis monthly for the next year. At our March board meeting we will discuss with the County whether the Board wishes to have chloride nitrogen and Keldahl sampled at District cost, or even if the County believes that is necessary.

The county is also going to survey (at county expense) the monitoring wells that have transducers installed, maybe the county could survey all the monitoring wells? It is necessary to have a survey to calculate static water level in relation to the level of water in Seeley Lake. With that information the experts will be able to determine whether we have groundwater under the influence of surface water or if we have surface water under the influence of groundwater. We would then know if water was flowing into the lake from the groundwater or flowing out of the lake into the groundwater. It will also help to determine groundwater flow in general. This will be new information not previously known. The County was able to place a transducer in the monitoring well at the Baptist church, a well that hasn't been monitored for years due to the inability of dropping a baler down it to the groundwater level. We will be getting a proposal from WET on drilling some additional wells at our March meeting. they will propose a new well to replace the Baptist church well, maybe with the placement of the transducer a new well at this location is not necessary.

I attended a zoom meeting with the Clearwater Resource Council. At the meeting were personnel from FWP, DNRC, Missoula County and USFS. The purpose of the meeting is to coordinate information in the future regarding Clearwater drainage and issues related to water quality.

I have not received the final report from Isotec on our Fluorescence EEM analysis. They will try to have that report or a preliminary report for our meeting on the 21st.

I attended the March Community Councils meeting. County Health Department personnel gave a presentation on the Special Management Area. Details were given on the type of treatment systems required for new construction, increased use construction and replacement systems. At this meeting I read my response to the Pathfinder article regarding the MBR proposal from Emerine Construction.

I believe the Sewer District is now at a transition point. We are moving from a sampling/analysis priority to the phase where we wonder what our next step will be. I think that as a result of our sampling/analysis during the past year that we can now say that there is an elevated Nitrate problem likely caused by the septic systems in our District and not caused by the large population of wildlife in our area. I believe the County Health Department feels that is true and I believe our consultant (WET) will also agree on that. So, what do we do about it? Sounds like we've been here before, right? This time around we will look harder at different solutions rather than throwing all in for a major centralized collection and treatment system. Our consultants have served us very well to this point and I am very confident that they will offer the district more than one option for cost effectively dealing with our situation. Jess Alexander, who we have been working closely with is a Geologist and Senior Scientist. His area of expertise is not in wastewater collection or treatment. We will be joined at our March meeting by Josh Vincent and Steve Alexander, who are experts in wastewater collection and treatment. Many locals have dealt Steve Alexander (Septic Net) in the past and Septic Net is the standard for treatment used by the County health department. Is exciting to be moving to the next phase of our project with such qualified people to work with.

3/11 Community Council Meeting	2.00 hrs@ \$26 hr	\$ 52.00
2/15 Sewer District meeting	2.75 hrs@ \$26 hr	\$ 71.50
3/1 CRC meeting	1.50 hrs@ \$26 hr	\$ 39.00
3/8 Meeting with County	1.25 hrs@ \$26 hr	\$ 32.50
3/7 Response to Pathfinder	1.00 hr@ \$26 hr	\$ 26.00
Emails	12X.25@ \$26 hr	\$ 78.00
Phone calls	9 X.25@\$26 hr	\$ 58.50
Total		\$357.50

Felicity Derry
February/March

Date	Time	Subject	Hours
2/15/2024	5:00-5:30p	Board Prep	0.50
2/15/2024	5:45-8:45p	Meeting	3.00
3/4/2024	5:30-9:00am	Minutes	3.50
3/5/2024	4:45-7:45p	Minutes	3.00
			<hr/>
			10.00
		10 x \$18 = \$180.00	

\$180.00
\$180.00

Your subscription
is expiring soon!

Seeley Swan

Giving a Voice to the Valleys



Seeley Swan Pathfinder
Box 702
Seeley Lake, MT 59868
406-677-2022

Thank you!

Return this card with payment

by 3/21/24 to renew!

If you have made payment, and feel you have received this
notice in error, please call or email the Pathfinder.

Email: office@seeleylake.com

03-21-2024 1319 1 R 1

SEELEY LAKE SEWER DIST #
PO BOX 403
SEELEY LAKE MT 59868-0403

**8004

Missoula, Lake or Powell Counties

1 Year \$44.00
6 Months \$32.00

Elsewhere US

1 Year \$49.50
6 Months \$39.00

*Address changes outside trade
area for any part of the year will
be charged at "Elsewhere" rate.*

	JANUARY 2024	MTHLY BUDGET	2024 FISCAL YTD	YTD BUDGET	2024 BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
OPERATING BILLED INCOME						
Fee Assessment	\$936.10	\$2,500.26	\$18,932.89	\$17,501.82	\$30,003.12	63.1
Interest Income CAB	\$19.36	\$0.00	\$125.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Interest Income Missoula County	\$818.81	\$0.00	\$4,084.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	\$1,774.27	\$2,500.26	\$23,143.45	\$17,501.82	\$30,003.12	77.1
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Audit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0
Bookkeeping	\$15.00	\$250.00	\$750.00	\$1,750.00	\$3,000.00	25.0
Dues & Subscriptions	\$300.00	\$83.33	\$300.00	\$583.33	\$1,000.00	30.0
Election	\$0.00	\$83.33	\$0.00	\$583.33	\$1,000.00	0.0
Equipment	\$0.00	\$4.17	\$0.00	\$29.17	\$50.00	0.0
Income Survey	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0
Insurance - Liability	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$1,750.00	\$3,000.00	0.0
Legal	\$0.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$8,750.00	\$15,000.00	0.0
Licenses & Fees	\$0.00	\$8.33	\$0.00	\$58.33	\$100.00	0.0
Meals, etc.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0
Office Supplies	\$0.65	\$29.17	\$48.40	\$204.17	\$350.00	13.8
Postage	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$600.00	0.0
Public Relations	\$0.00	\$62.50	\$0.00	\$437.50	\$750.00	0.0
Manager	\$174.20	\$2,140.42	\$2,496.00	\$14,982.92	\$25,685.00	9.7
Secretary	\$157.50	\$500.00	\$585.00	\$3,500.00	\$6,000.00	9.8
Training	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0
Nutrient Budget Analysis	\$0.00	\$959.58	\$0.00	\$6,717.08	\$11,515.00	0.0
Well/Lake Monitoring	\$66.70	\$1,159.91	\$2,555.79	\$8,119.35	\$13,918.88	18.4
Drill 5 Wells	\$0.00	\$833.33	\$0.00	\$5,833.33	\$10,000.00	0.0
Engineering Costs	\$0.00	\$2,083.33	\$14,570.75	\$14,583.33	\$25,000.00	58.3
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$714.05	\$9,747.41	\$21,305.94	\$68,231.85	\$116,968.88	18.22
DISTRICT RESERVE OFFSET				(\$86,965.76)	(\$86,965.76)	
NET OP. INCOME (LOSS)	\$1,060.22	(\$7,247.15)	\$1,837.51	\$36,235.73	(\$0.00)	

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

11/30/23

12/31/23

01/31/24

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash Accounts	11/30/23	12/31/23	01/31/24
Citizens Alliance Bank Account	\$32,933.80	\$32,950.81	\$32,970.17
- District Reserve Funds	\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00
- General District Funds	\$4,933.80	\$4,950.81	\$4,970.17
Missoula County Account	\$234,038.26	\$235,809.11	\$235,587.07
Total Cash Assets	\$266,972.06	\$268,759.92	\$268,557.24

Accounts Receivable

\$0.00

\$0.00

\$0.00

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS

\$266,972.06

\$268,759.92

\$268,557.24

FIXED ASSETS

Total Fixed Assets

\$2,033,813.16

\$2,033,813.16

\$2,033,813.16

TOTAL ASSETS

\$2,300,785.22

\$2,302,573.08

\$2,302,370.40

BALANCE SHEET**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

11/30/23

12/31/23

01/31/24

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$3,690.70	\$10,857.90	\$9,295.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$3,690.70	\$10,857.90	\$9,295.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES\$3,690.70\$10,857.90\$9,295.00**OWNERS' EQUITY**

Retained Earnings	\$2,291,237.89	\$2,291,237.89	\$2,291,237.89
Net Income (Loss)	\$5,856.63	\$477.29	\$1,837.51
Total Owners' Equity	\$2,297,094.52	\$2,291,715.18	\$2,293,075.40

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY\$2,300,785.22\$2,302,573.08\$2,302,370.40

CASH FLOW RECONCILIATION

	31-Dec	31-Jan	FISCAL YTD
TOTAL NET INCOME (LOSS)	(\$5,379.34)	\$1,060.22	\$1,837.51
Operating Activities			
Accounts Payable	\$7,167.20	(\$1,262.90)	\$7,480.00
Total Investing Activities	\$7,167.20	(\$1,262.90)	\$7,480.00
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NON-CASH ASSETS			
Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NET CASH INCREASE (DECREASE)	\$1,787.86	(\$202.68)	\$9,317.51
CHANGE IN ACCOUNT BALANCES			
Cash at Beginning of Period	\$266,972.06	\$268,759.92	\$259,239.73
Cash at End of Period	\$268,759.92	\$268,557.24	\$268,557.24
Change in Account Balances	\$1,787.86	(\$202.68)	\$9,317.51

Seeley Lake - Missoula County Sewer District
Check Detail
January 2024

Type	Num	Date	Name	Item	Account	Paid Amount	Original Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	2050	01/18/2024	ME Labs		1001 - Missoula Co...	-1,246.00	-1,246.00
Bill	Inv#2312517	12/14/2023			6290 - Well/Lake Mo...	-1,246.00	1,246.00
TOTAL						-1,246.00	1,246.00
Bill Pmt -Check	2051	01/18/2024	Montana Rural Water		1001 - Missoula Co...	-300.00	-300.00
Bill	Inv#443	01/15/2024			Dues & Subscriptions	-300.00	300.00
TOTAL						-300.00	300.00
Bill Pmt -Check	2052	01/18/2024	Seeley Lake Water District		1001 - Missoula Co...	-32.55	-32.55
Bill	Inv#227	12/01/2023			6652 - Bookkeeping ...	-15.00	15.00
Bill	Inv#228	01/01/2024			6652 - Bookkeeping ...	-1.90	1.90
TOTAL					Copies	-15.00	15.00
						-0.65	0.65
TOTAL						-32.55	32.55
Check	2053	01/18/2024	Decker, William		1001 - Missoula Co...	-240.90	-240.90
TOTAL					6117 - Sewer Distric...	-174.20	174.20
					6290 - Well/Lake Mo...	-66.70	66.70
TOTAL						-240.90	240.90
Check	2054	01/18/2024	Felicity Derry		1001 - Missoula Co...	-157.50	-157.50
TOTAL					6110 - Secretary	-157.50	157.50

Manager's Report 2/8/24-3/14/24

Personnel from the Missoula County Health Department came to the District on 3/8/24. I toured the District with Elena to show her the locations of the monitoring wells. They installed transducer in 10 of the wells. They will be monitoring static water levels hourly and will be taking water samples for Nitrate analysis monthly for the next year. At our March board meeting we will discuss with the County whether the Board wishes to have chloride nitrogen and Keldahl sampled at District cost, or even if the County believes that is necessary.

The county is also going to survey (at county expense) the monitoring wells that have transducers installed, maybe the county could survey all the monitoring wells? It is necessary to have a survey to calculate static water level in relation to the level of water in Seeley Lake. With that information the experts will be able to determine whether we have groundwater under the influence of surface water or if we have surface water under the influence of groundwater. We would then know if water was flowing into the lake from the groundwater or flowing out of the lake into the groundwater. It will also help to determine groundwater flow in general. This will be new information not previously known. The County was able to place a transducer in the monitoring well at the Baptist church, a well that hasn't been monitored for years due to the inability of dropping a baler down it to the groundwater level. We will be getting a proposal from WET on drilling some additional wells at our March meeting. they will propose a new well to replace the Baptist church well, maybe with the placement of the transducer a new well at this location is not necessary.

I attended a zoom meeting with the Clearwater Resource Council. At the meeting were personnel from FWP, DNRC, Missoula County and USFS. The purpose of the meeting is to coordinate information in the future regarding Clearwater drainage and issues related to water quality.

I have not received the final report from Isotec on our Fluorescence EEM analysis. They will try to have that report or a preliminary report for our meeting on the 21st.

I attended the March Community Councils meeting. County Health Department personnel gave a presentation on the Special Management Area. Details were given on the type of treatment systems required for new construction, increased use construction and replacement systems. At this meeting I read my response to the Pathfinder article regarding the MBR proposal from Emerine Construction.

I believe the Sewer District is now at a transition point. We are moving from a sampling/analysis priority to the phase where we wonder what our next step will be. I think that as a result of our sampling/analysis during the past year that we can now say that there is an elevated Nitrate problem likely caused by the septic systems in our District and not caused by the large population of wildlife in our area. I believe the County Health Department feels that is true and I believe our consultant (WET) will also agree on that. So, what do we do about it? Sounds like we've been here before, right? This time around we will look harder at different solutions rather than throwing all in for a major centralized collection and treatment system. Our consultants have served us very well to this point and I am very confident that they will offer the district more than one option for cost effectively dealing with our situation. Jess Alexander, who we have been working closely with is a Geologist and Senior Scientist. His area of expertise is not in wastewater collection or treatment. We will be joined at our March meeting by Josh Vincent and Steve Alexander, who are experts in wastewater collection and treatment. Many locals have dealt Steve Alexander (Septic Net) in the past and Septic Net is the standard for treatment used by the County health department. Is exciting to be moving to the next phase of our project with such qualified people to work with.

3/11 Community Council Meeting	2.00 hrs@ \$26 hr	\$ 52.00
2/15 Sewer District meeting	2.75 hrs@ \$26 hr	\$ 71.50
3/1 CRC meeting	1.50 hrs@ \$26 hr	\$ 39.00
3/8 Meeting with County	1.25 hrs@ \$26 hr	\$ 32.50
3/7 Response to Pathfinder	1.00 hr@ \$26 hr	\$ 26.00
Emails	12X.25@ \$26 hr	\$ 78.00
Phone calls	9 X.25@\$26 hr	\$ 58.50
Total		\$357.50

1 Introduction

The Seeley Lake Sewer District (Board) requested a proposal from Water & Environmental Technologies (WET) to install additional groundwater monitoring wells. The locations of these wells, which were determined based on the findings from the initial groundwater investigation completed by WET in 2024, are provided in Figure 1 of this report. Below is a summary of the purpose for installing each well.

1.1 Baptist Church Replacement Well

The purpose of this well is to replace the Baptist Church Monitoring Well that was destroyed and decommissioned in 2019. The Baptist Church Well was installed in 2004 and has over 15 years of quarterly groundwater chemistry data. Replacing this well would allow the Board to continue monitoring this area and to observe changes in groundwater chemistry as they compared to historical data.

Additionally, the location of this well is important in monitoring groundwater hydrology. One of the questions that the Board and Missoula County have is if Seeley Lake is influencing groundwater hydraulic flow direction. This well would aid in understanding hydraulic conditions in this area.

1.2 MW-3 Replacement Well

Monitoring Well MW-3 was installed using direct push drilling methods. While this method is efficient and cost effective, its ability to drill to deeper depths is limited. Refusal was encountered using this drilling method before groundwater was encountered, therefore no groundwater samples were collected from this well. WET recommends replacing this well with a deeper one using a larger drill rig capable of hollow stem auger drilling.

Replacing MW-3 would assist in understanding groundwater chemistry and hydraulic flow properties within the central portion of Seeley's residential area with the highest concentration of septic systems. Additionally, this data would aid in determining the northern extent of the high nitrate concentration plume observed during the initial investigation and interpreted in Figure 1.

1.3 MW-5 Replacement Well

Direct push drilling refusal was encountered on MW-5 approximately 1 foot below the top of the shallow aquifer. As the aquifer fluctuated, this well dried up, allowing for only one groundwater sample to be collected during the initial investigation. WET recommends replacing this well with a deeper one using a larger drill rig capable of hollow stem auger drilling.

Replacing MW-5 would assist in understanding groundwater chemistry and hydraulic flow properties within the central portion of Seeley's residential area with the highest concentration of septic systems. Additionally, this data would aid in determining the northern extent of the high nitrate concentration plume observed during the initial investigation and interpreted in Figure 1.

1.4 MW-15

WET recommends installing MW-15 as part of this scope. This well is located south of Seeley Lake. Installing this well would allow us to get a better understanding of the influence Seeley Lake is having on the hydraulic flow direction and groundwater chemistry of the shallow aquifer in this

area. Additionally, this well will aid in determining if the residences along the southern shore of Seeley Lake are having an adverse effect on the nitrate concentrations of the shallow aquifer.

2 Boring and Groundwater Monitoring Well Installation Methods

The groundwater monitoring wells will be installed using a Mobile B57 track mounted drill rig and 4 ¼ - inch hollow stem augers. The boreholes will be advanced to a minimum of 5 feet below the top of the shallow aquifer.

The groundwater monitoring wells will consist of 1-inch diameter, Sch.40, PVC, flush threaded well casing and 0.01-inch factory slotted well screen. The annulus of the borehole will be backfilled with filter sand from the bottom of the borehole to 2-feet above the top of the screen and medium size bentonite chips from the top of the sand to surface. The boreholes will be completed at surface with 8-inch diameter flush mounted well vaults set in a concrete pad.

WET will provide a qualified engineer or scientist to characterize the soils and record well construction completions. The soil boring and well completion logs will be provided to the Board upon completion.

3 Assumptions

WET has made the following assumptions when developing this proposal.

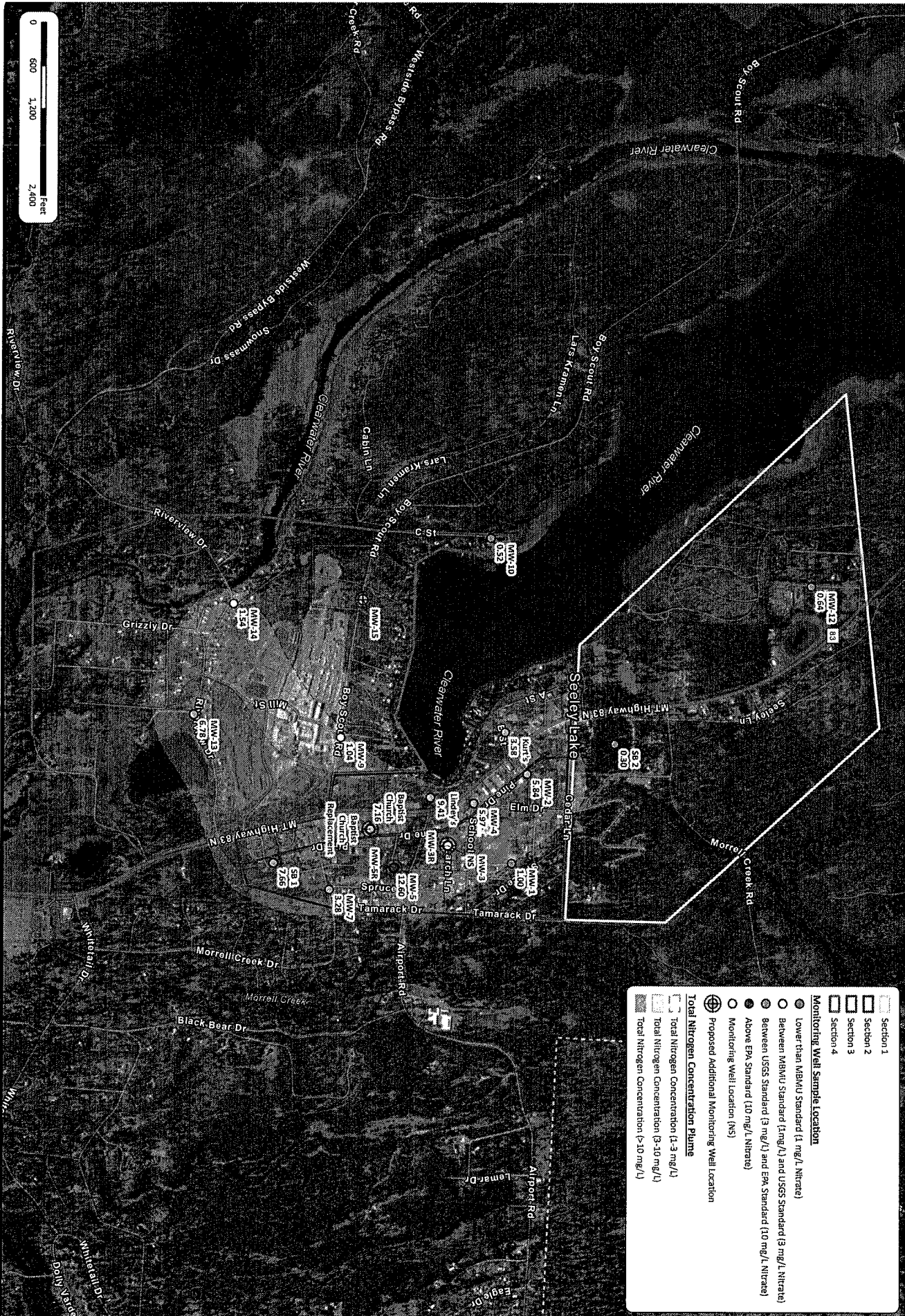
- The borehole depths will be:
 - Baptist Church Replacement Well – 40 feet
 - MW-3 Replacement Well – 60 feet
 - MW-5 Replacement Well – 70 feet
 - MW-15 – 30 feet
- WET will complete utility locates prior to drilling. The Board will provide a representative to mark out the borehole locations and to meet with utility locators.
- The boreholes will be advanced using hollow stem auger drilling methods.
- The wells will be surveyed by others.
- Well development and sampling are not part of this scope.

4 Costs and Schedule

WET anticipates that this work can begin on or after May 2024 and should take 2 8-hour days to complete the drilling and well installation activities. The time and materials cost estimate to complete this work is \$20,623 and broken down to the tasks outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Cost Estimate

Task	Labor	Expense	Total
1. Project Management	\$725	\$0	\$725
2. Mobilization	\$4,746	\$3,567	\$8,313
3. Well Installation	\$8,304	\$3,506	\$11,810
4. Reporting	\$210	\$0	\$210
Total	\$13,550	\$7,073	\$21,058



Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Monitoring Well Sample Location

- Lower than MAMU Standard (1 mg/L Nitrate)
- Between MAMU Standard (1mg/L) and USGS Standard (3 mg/L Nitrate)
- Between USGS Standard (3 mg/L) and EPA Standard (10 mg/L Nitrate)
- Above EPA Standard (10 mg/L Nitrate)
- Monitoring Well Location (NS)

Proposed Additional Monitoring Well Location

Total Nitrogen Concentration Plume

- Total Nitrogen Concentration (1-3 mg/L)
- Total Nitrogen Concentration (3-10 mg/L)
- Total Nitrogen Concentration (>10 mg/L)



PROPOSED ADDITIONAL GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS

SEELEY LAKE, MT MISSOULA COUNTY

Figure 1

JOB#: SEELEYLAKEMD1
DATE: 3/13/2024

PROJ: MT:SEELEYLAKEMD1:GIS:GWE_WZ:GWE_WZ:Aprx_Author:rcamoy

NOTES

NS - Indicates that the well was not sampled.

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DRAFT	REVIEW
1	MAP CREATION	03/13/24	CC	JA
2				
3				
4				
5				



Seeley Lake Sewer District
Operating Budget
FY24 (07/01/23 - 06/30/24)
Adopted 04 20 23

DESCRIPTION	FY2024
Bookkeeping	\$3,000.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$1,000.00
Election	\$1,000.00
Equipment	\$50.00
Income Survey	\$0.00
Insurance-Liability	\$3,000.00
Legal	\$15,000.00
Licenses & Fees	\$100.00
Office Supplies	\$350.00
Postage	\$600.00
Public Relations	\$750.00
Manager	\$25,685.00
Secretary	\$6,000.00
Training	\$0.00
Travel	\$0.00
Nutrient Budget Analysis	\$11,515.00
Well/Lake Monitoring	\$13,918.88
Drill 5 Wells	\$10,000.00
Engineering Costs	\$25,000.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	<u><u>\$116,968.88</u></u>
DISTRICT RESERVE OFFSET	-\$86,965.76
TOTAL AMOUNT BEING ASSESSED & SENT TO DOR	<u><u>\$30,003.12</u></u>

Feb. X

Seeley Lake Sewer District

Missoula County Commission

Dear Commissioners,

The Clearwater Resource Council (CRC) has asked the Sewer Board for a letter of support for their request for funding from Missoula County. The requested funds would allow CRC to expand its role in helping to coordinate and communicate around natural resource needs in the Clearwater Valley. CRC is a partner to the Sewer District through its monitoring and reporting on surface water quality. With numerous agencies, organizations, and lake homeowner groups all increasing their interest in water quality, additional coordination and outreach is needed. CRC needs additional funding to provide its staff the time to help meet these needs. The Sewer Board supports CRC's request for contributing funds from the County to allow it to expand its service to the community through enhanced coordination, communication, and outreach activities. We hope that you are able to include this funding request in your budget.

Sincerely,

XXX

Feb. XX

Seeley Lake Sewer District

Missoula County Rural Impact Grant

To Whom it May Concern:

The Clearwater Resource Council (CRC) is applying for a Missoula County Rural Impact Grant and requested that we provide a letter of support. We are pleased to do so. The funding CRC seeks is to purchase a 9.9 hp outboard motor for their boat to allow them to conduct water quality and aquatic invasive species sampling on lakes in the Clearwater Valley. Having its own boat capable of conducting the sampling of all lakes in an efficient and safe manner would be a great help in completing the water quality and aquatic invasive species sampling specified in its sampling plans. The Sewer District relies on CRC as a partner in conducting sampling of surface waters. We support this application for funding as it will allow CRC to better provide the community of Seeley Lake with important information about the status of its surface waters.

Sincerely,

XX

Seeley Lake Sewer District

Clearwater Resource Council's Request for Funding

The Clearwater Valley comprises the southwest corner of the Crown of the Continent Ecoregion, and as such is one of the most intact environmental settings in the lower 48 states. This Valley still supports all of its native fauna and has healthy forest and aquatic ecosystems. Residents of the Valley live here because of the quality of the environment, recreational opportunities, and the rural lifestyle. The Clearwater Resource Council (CRC) was formed in 2003 with a mission to engage the community and facilitate efforts that enhance, conserve, and protect the natural resources and rural lifestyle of the Clearwater Valley. For the past 20 years CRC been the local collaborative natural-resource based organization serving the community of Seeley Lake. We have provided numerous benefits to the community including a landscape assessment of the Clearwater Valley that provided a foundation for sound development planning by the County, fuel mitigation coordination, over \$1 million in grants to landowners for fuel treatments, water quality and aquatic invasive species monitoring, coordinated recreational use discussions, input to agencies and others on natural resource projects, and conducting education and outreach programs. These activities have produced excellent results and benefits for the community. However, with increasing expansion of the human population, increasing demands for recreational use of the Valley estimated at over 20,000 visitors each year, continued demands for natural resource products, climate change impacts including increasing risks from wildfire, and increasing threats to water quality, a greater level of engagement is needed. Specific opportunities include expanded fuels mitigation coordination, additional grants to homeowners for conducting fuel mitigation work and home assessments, identifying and coordinating restoration activities for forest ecosystems, increased levels of monitoring of lakes and streams for pollutants and aquatic invasive species, providing local input on proposed forestry operations, and enhanced educational outreach to the local community about the local natural resources and their management.

CRC is well positioned to provide expanded services. A new staffing structure has experts in both terrestrial and aquatic programs as well as staff for outreach and operations. Expanded funding is needed to provide the level of support these positions require to meet demands. For example, CRC can perform a central role coordinating efforts across agencies in the implementation of our recently completed lake and stream sampling and restoration plan to address threats to water quality. Outreach and coordination with residents residing around each of the lakes in the Clearwater Chain of Lakes is needed to engage these property owners in appropriate actions to protect the quality of each lake. Engaging the community through discussions and volunteer opportunities is important to have an informed and supportive local population. Continuing operations such as oversight of the Seeley Swan Fuels Mitigation Task Force that CRC has chaired since its inception in 2004 is needed to coordinate activities among partnering agencies and organizations and to prepare a revision to the Seeley Swan Fire Plan. These and other tasks require additional support for CRC to fully fulfill its mission. CRC has broad community support for its role in coordinating across agencies and the public for natural resource programs and issues as indicated by the attached letters of support.

CRC is seeking \$10,000 from Missoula County as part of its initiative to raise \$100,000 in capacity support this year from a diverse set of funders including foundations, businesses, organizations, and agencies to allow us to meet these needs.

Board Appointment

1 message

Tyler Smith <tyler@lakesideexcavation.com>
To: "slsdsecretary@gmail.com" <slsdsecretary@gmail.com>
Cc: "lindeys@blackfoot.net" <lindeys@blackfoot.net>

Wed, Feb 21, 2024 at 12:05 PM

Dear Felicity Derry

I am writing to recommend myself for appointment to the Sealy Lake Sewer Board. With 25 years of experience as a contractor in the water wastewater industry, I possess the skills and knowledge necessary to make valuable contributions to the board. My dedication to ensuring efficient and sustainable water management practices is evident in My work. I have constructed everything from a basic dwelling sewer system to municipal systems that serve towns like Seeley Lake.

I have served on many local and state boards. Currently, I serve as the utility representative for the Montana Contractors Association.

I currently co-own a property in Seeley Lake in the area where the sewer system would serve.

My experience and expertise make me a highly qualified candidate for the Sealy Lake Sewer Board. I believe my commitment to excellence and track record of leadership would greatly benefit the board and the community as a whole. I would like you to consider me for this vital role.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

I have reviewed the Qualifications for Directions and meet all of those qualifications.

Please let me know if anyone from the board or you have any questions for me.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Tyler Smith
Owner-Estimator
Lakeside Excavation Inc.
220 22nd Ave W.
Havre, MT 59501
Office 406-265-9401
Cell 406-262-3178
Fax 406-265-5693

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