

**Village District of Eidelweiss
Water Advisory Board
Minutes of 2/17/2009 Meeting**

Attendance: Mike Smith, Ralph Lutjen, Mark Graffam, CP Smith, Gloria Aspinall, and Nancy Cole. The meeting was taped by videographer Tim Hughes.

At 5:00 pm the joint meeting of the WAB and Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Mike Smith for the WAB and Gloria Aspinall for the VDOE Commissioners.

Ralph Lutjen makes a motion to accept the agenda as presented, Mike Smith seconds the motion and the motion passed.

The minutes of the January 29th, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Peter Craugh to be removed from attendance list, paragraph on stimulus meeting to be added. Minutes to be update prior to approval.

Discussion on the sealed bids received for the Jungfrau to Reinach forced main project which were opened yesterday by the Commissioners.

Low bid: Glenn Builders at \$109,156.

A bid was received by a company called BDU. This company is not on the list of pre-qualified bidders. Mark informs that he received a call from LRW to inform him that due to a bond issue, a friends company was used to secure the bond for the bid. The DBU bid is actually LRW. Discussion if this action voids the LRW/DBU bid. Bid was not one of the lowest 3 received so relevance is questioned.

Mark received requests for additional break down of the bids from other bidders. He has put together a spreadsheet of pertinent cost points. Blasting charges show the largest variance, from \$69/cu.yard to \$250/cu. yard. Mark has sent this breakdown to Paul Fluet, whom he spoke to today. Paul was informed that the lowest three bids are on their way to him for review. Mark suggested Paul meet with the low bidder(s)? Meeting would be best scheduled for Monday 2/23/09 at 8 am at the District Office. Discussion turned to how many bidders should be invited. CP mentions that more than one bidder should be invited in case something is wrong with the low bid. **Agreement that a meeting should be scheduled with the lowest 2 bidders. Glen Builders and AJ Coleman to be invited to meet with Paul Fluet next Monday am.**

Mark also mentioned that Paul informed him he will be out of state for the month of March. He will be reachable, but will not be physically available.

Mark questions if the State has approved the plan. Mike informed that Rick Skarinka was given all information and asked to contact Paul Fluet if he had any questions or needed any additional information. Paul has not heard from Rick as of today.

Ralph discusses the meeting that was attended on February 6th, 2009 in Concord. The overall program will be administered by the EPA in Boston and subsequently managed at the State level. The program speculated at up to 80 million dollars may be made available for clean water sources and up to 20 million available for wastewater sources. The mechanism of how the program will work was not precisely described as it is still unknown if the 50% forgiveness will be for the principle costs only or if it will also cover interest charges and other fees/charges. The drinking water system program seems best to apply to the Village. There is a pre-application available that must be completed and returned to the State by February 27th, 2009. The review of the pre-applications will be looking for programs that are ready to proceed.

Mark informed that he recently read that only 59 million total dollars would become available for clean water and drinking water programs. This number is much reduced from the numbers used at the Feb 6th meeting.

Discussion turns to the original application on this project sent to the State Revolving Funds. This application should be declared void. The pre-application should be completed and State Funds can be re-applied for in the future if necessary. Current focus should be on the stimulus program. The EPA should have the monies available within 30 days of President Obama's signing of the documents. Requested timing is to have shovels ready within 90 days.

Every project that we would like to have considered for potential stimulus money should have a separate pre-application completed.

Numbers for the pre-application are discussed. Mark questions the dollar amount of the contingency. Does Scott Hayes need to be overseeing the project as Water Manager; Paul Fluet as engineer; or is an independent person hired? Project should take approximately 90 days. A 'clerk of the works' needs to be present every day on the project. Overall impression is that the project duration should not exceed 6 weeks. Numbers should reflect approximately \$5,000 to clerk with an additional \$2,000 to Paul Fluet.

Reducing the original \$537,000 by the \$127,000 for the Jungfrau to Reinach forced main project leaves \$410,000. Mark would like to have the voters decide how much of this amount of money they would be willing to spend in order to receive 50% forgiveness of the principle debt through stimulus money. He is working with the DRA on the wording to be used to include this as a second option for the voters. The voters will now be deciding on two projects; Jungfrau to Reinach forced main and the Tank project. Intent is to make clear that Jungfrau to Reinach forced main is NOT part of the stimulus package as it existed prior to the stimulus. Gloria asks for clarification; does this mean that should the voters agree to pursue the stimulus money for the \$410,000,

that only \$205,000 plus interest would need to be paid back? Yes. Updated wording will need to include the information that should the Village be denied stimulus funds, that the project for the Tank would not be pursued at this time.

Additional savings for this project could be up to \$116,000 if the location for the tank is left as current and not moved to the higher elevation previously discussed. It is unclear what size cast in place tank would fit in this space. Mike shows the dimensions of the cast in place tank to be 60x80x30. It is thought that it will be cheaper than \$116,000 to make the current large enough to hold the new tank.

Discussion turns to the pump stations and whether or not pump work would be necessary regardless of the tank location. Pump upgrades are part of the overall Master Plan. It is agreed that the pumps do not need to have work done now, whereas the Tank plan is next on the list of critical items. This agreement will help keep the overall suggested price tag as low as possible. The pumps are not that old, Pump 1 was installed in 1994.

Ralph verbalizes agreement to keep the costs under control by using the current location vs. the proposed higher location.

A control area comes with the cast in place tank, it is all poured at the same time. CP suggests a full building be built so as to allow easier access to the control area. The question is raised if there is a price available on a full control building. A wooden building was proposed at approximately \$30,000. That would bring total project cost to \$288,000. Refining of this number to include additional potential expenses, i.e. heat, electricity; will bring it to approximately \$293,000. Ralph points out that this would be an overall reduction in the requested bond by \$122,000.

Warrant will be updated to allow voters the option of one project, both projects or no projects at all.

Contingency is discussed as possible increase to the \$293,000. Mike questions the use of tanker trucks to store water while tank is under construction and the impact that may have on the bottom line numbers. Discussion to increase the number to \$300,000 to allow for additional items and unforeseen expense.

The Board still needs to know if the forgiveness percentage is principle forgiveness or negative interest rate forgiveness; what kind of interest rate we would get from the bank on a loan; has Rick Skarinka at the State approved the plan; and what wording is required to be used by the DRA. Mark will continue working with the DRA and Paul Fluet, while Mike will handle the pre-application and approval from Rick Skarinka.

Gloria will work with Mark on the letters that should be sent to the local political offices.

Discussion continued on other possible projects. Aspen and Birstenstock were mentioned for possible upgrades to the water lines should the road be re-done. Ralph does not see any reason to include water lines in what is actually a safety issue due to the current condition of this area. It is possible that the road was never set properly during initial construction and it is questioned if the culverts are installed properly. It was also brought up that there could be a leak under the road as it seems to have deteriorated in a rather brief period of time. Regardless of potential causes, Ralph does not want to see the warrant article for Aspen at Birstenstock altered to allow water line replacement.

At 6:57 pm Ralph makes a motion to adjourn, Mark seconds the motion and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy E. Cole