

STUDY COMMITTEE

BUENA VISTA COUNTY SEWER STUDY COMMITTEE

Revised 04-24-09

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Sewer Study Committee
November 19, 2008

Present: Bob Bergendoff, John Brostad, Glen Huntington, Neal Kuehl, Gene Lyster, Brent Mangold, Bud Myers, Steve Roth, Harry Schaller, Paul Merten, Kim Johnson, Steven Anderson, Dick Mooney. Also Present: Bill Lanphere,
Ron Brockmeyer, 3360 340th Avenue. Ruthven IA 51358 Phone: (712) 837-5588
Larry Koos 2289 West Twin Lakes Rd Box 204, Rockwell City, IA, 50579, 712-297-7496

Lost Island Sewer District – started in 1974, when the Lake had high fecal and algae issues Started with area with road borders ended with all land within 500 feet of the high water mark of Lost Island, Has 14 lift stations and gravity feed plus 2 larger pressure lifts from district to Ruthven. 4.2 million dollar project with grants paying 85% (no longer available) completed in 1988-89, waste is treated at Ruthven, under a 28 E agreement, there is a meter where it leaves the sewer district and a meter at the plant. District pays 19% of operations and maintenance of Lagoon, Have a part time office manager and a part time O&M person, O&M on call 24-7, Have generator for power outage, Have had to hire a pump truck when pumps go out but have never had waste go into Lake, They allow people from outside district into the district, Property values went from \$700 per foot to \$2500 per foot, There have been issues with infiltration, all pay the same fee. Currently \$275 per year. They do not control the water system so they cannot bill on water usage. Operation budget - \$70,000

Twin Lakes Sewer District Started in 1973, had issues because of public meeting issues and had to restart. District is 360 ft from road around Lake Uses grinder pumps for 6 miles around lake, and then to a 3 cell lagoon owned and operated by district. Operation of lagoon is very simple. Effluent from grinders looks like malted milk, district owns grinders, most cabins did not have 220 volt power, 220 is more efficient, issues with some infiltration because they did not start at house but at grinder. Better to replace pipe back to the house. Most grinders are outside. Outside units need to be protected from physical damage. Grinders last if maintained and not abused. Warranties for 3 years if electricity to them continuously, Larry has had grinder for 16 yrs without issues. His unit is in his basement. Because of lagoon need a wastewater operator. Have a total of 380 grinders. Replace approx 12 new grinder pumps and fix 26 per year. Currently hiring a maintenance operator, all pay \$25.00 per month for the first 3,000 gals of water and \$1.50/1,000 gallons over 3,000. Operation budget \$122,000.

Both use Electric Pump Repair out of Des Moines for repair services.

Brostad indicated that he is researching other funding sources for the project. Comments were made regarding the City installing the system. Don't understand why SL is not willing to cooperate when Alta may be willing to discuss receiving waste. Group felt that they want to invite council representatives to a future meeting.

Kuehl suggested Other Topics for future meetings including:

Annexation pros and cons
Cluster systems – advantax
Iowa Lakes Regional water

Next Meeting December 10, 2008

Tentative agenda will include presentation from Advantax and preliminary results of alternatives.

Sewer Study Committee
December 10, 2008

Present: John Brostad, Neal Kuehl, Gene Lyster, Brent Mangold, Bud Myers, Harry Schaller, Patti Moore, Kim Johnson, Steven Anderson, Dick Mooney. Also Present: Bill Lanphere, Mark Gross, Tyler J. Molatore Orenco Systems, Inc. Sutherlin, Oregon 97479
(800) 348-9843

Neal reported he has sent specs to 3 companies for input into the project.

There are three types of systems that we are looking at

Conventional – like the City of Storm Lake
Pressure – like Twin Lakes
STEP – Septic Tank Effluent Pump

Orenco has over 300 employees, 30 yrs of experience, and is one of the companies that promotes STEP systems.

Most of the cost of the system is on the lot which facilitates non-mandatory connections if not necessary.

Primary treatment is in the septic tank which:

Removes 80% of fats oils and grease
gives you more emergency storage – power outage, pump failure
abuses stay in tank –wrong thing down the drain – toys, paint, hygienic products,

Effluent sewer systems

Flow: 50gpd/person
BOD₅: 140 mg/L
TSS: 30 mg/L
FOG: 15 mg/L

1000-1500 tank
½ Hp, 115 VAC pump
Mains can be oversized fro growth
No minimum velocity
Replace pump 20 yrs \$ 500.00
No pump repair \$ 0.00
Pump tank 3-5 yrs \$250
Elect \$1.15 per month

Grinder sewer systems

Flow: 50gpd/person
BOD₅: 450 mg/L
TSS: 503 mg/L
FOG: 164 mg/L

70-150 HDPE Basin
1.5-2 Hp, 230 VAC pump
difficult to oversize for growth
requires minimum velocity
Replace pump 20 yrs \$ 1,500.00
pump repair 8 -10 yrs \$800.00
no tank to pump \$ 0.00
Elect \$ 4.50 per month

Full time O&M personnel not required

Sewer Study Committee
Jan 7, 2009

Present: Bob Bergendoff, John Brostad, Candy Galbraith Neal Kuehl, Brent Mangold, Steve Roth, Dale Arends, Patti Moore, Kim Johnson, Steven Anderson. Also Present: Randy Van Dyke, Erik Johnson, Kelli Whiteacre, Iowa Lakes Regional Water, 1301 38th Avenue West, P.O. Box 555, Spencer, Iowa 51301, Phone: 712-262-8847

Iowa Lakes currently have 28E agreements with 14 different entities for services on wastewater management. Each operation has its own unique set of conditions that were studied and reviewed before actual construction began. They look at population density, topo of the soil, even conduct basement surveys, and then decide the best option available for the people of the area. ILRW looks at both construction costs and maintenance costs when determining the best option of treatment. Iowa Lakes is responsible to the DNR for the construction, NPDES, and operation permits. They normally operate through a 28E agreement with the Board of Supervisors. To form a Sanitary Sewer District would just add an additional layer of government and give the people less ability to change things if needed. Each property owner would become a member of ILWR with voting rights at the annual meeting. ILRW build, own, and or operate the facilities under the agreements. Each wastewater project is its own operation with its own rates for that area alone. Normally the rate is based off of the water usage.

Neal distributed cost figures for grinder pump systems. These figures do not include any operations and maintenance or treatment costs.

Committee will discuss future next meeting when more people are present. Hope to have costs for STEP system then also.

Sewer Study Committee
January 22, 2009

Present: Bob Bergendoff, John Brostad, Candy Galbraith, Neal Kuehl, Gene Lyster, Brent Mangold, Steve Roth, Dale Arends, Patti Moore, Kim Johnson, Steven Anderson, Dick Mooney.

Neal does have notification that we would be allowed to discharge to Outlet Creek. Standards need to be met.

Neal presented his findings for LPS (grinder pump) systems to different locations for treatment. See attached sheets.

Neal discussed with Alta City Council the possibility of wastewater going to their facility and he has received positive feedback for Lake Creek, but unsure as to how positive for the entire project. We need to ask them from the committee, as Neal is also doing a project for Alta in addition to ours.

Neal to proceed with STEP system costs and O&M costs for both LPS (grinders) and STEP, and get those figures to Kim.

Patty is going to talk to the City of Storm Lake about different cost options, will get back with numbers by March 4th meeting.

Public Hearing is to be the 24th, will open and then continue to another date as we do not have enough info yet.

Next Meeting March 4th

Sewer Study Committee
February 11, 2009

Present: Bob Bergendoff, John Brostad, Candy Galbraith, Glen Huntington, Gene Lyster, Brent Mangold, Jim Radke, Steve Roth, Harry Schaller, Patti Moore, Paul Merten, Kim Johnson, Dick Mooney.

Jim Radke is going to replace Bud Meyer on the committee.

A group of people meet with Alta Council. Alta has three people to meet with us for discussion of sewer project.

Kim shared info on time of transfer inspections: those exempt from inspection, what must be inspected, what does not fail the system to date and hopes to learn more when she takes the certification class.

Kim has received some O&M costs from USDA. Cost projections for LPS (grinders) \$ 9.00 to \$ 12.00 per month. STEP is \$ 6.00 to \$ 9.00.

Discussion on different options available to the groups.

Next Meeting March 4th

Sewer Study Committee
March 4th, 2009

Present: Bob Bergendoff, John Brostad, Candy Galbraith, Glen Huntington, Neal Kuehl, Gene Lyster, Brent Mangold, Mike Rust, Steve Roth, Harry Schaller, Patti Moore, Kim Johnson, Steven Anderson, Dick Mooney, Brad Pederson, Jim Heschke, Gary Wallburg.

Kim explained that during her training to become a certified inspector it was explained that if the system has a tank, any tank, and a drainfield that is not in the water table; the system will pass a time of transfer inspection – however the inspector is to document all non-complying components of the system. She shared a fictitious report. This report will be given to the buyer thereby having the potential of adversely affecting the sale.

Brad Pedersen and Jim Heschke spoke on behalf of Alta explaining that they have chosen an activated sludge system for the new treatment plant. They are currently in the process of design and need to know what we are planning to do as far as contracting with them on disposal. It will effect how the design goes. Lake Creek is definitely interested in joining.

We discussed the option of splitting Lake Creek off and they can do their own planning. First need cost estimates for Lake Creek to Alta. Possibility of Lake Creek having their own meeting.

Gary Wallburg told the Committee that Lakeside is looking at starting their own water and sewer treatment as their contract with Storm Lake is about to expire. Storm Lake has made the offer to Lakeside for 150% of current Storm Lake rates. Lakeside's current contract is at 110%. They are looking at a possible grant for wastewater up to 45%. One of the options that their engineer had proposed this the current Landfill Commission property for a lagoon. The Council is meeting on Tuesday the 17th with engineer. Is there an option to take all of the South side of the Lake?

Neal to have reports completed at next meeting on March 18th. At 6:30

Patti to have City proposal at that time also.

Everyone to think of pro and cons dealing with management (City, Sewer District, Iowa Lakes Regional Water), collection (LPS, STEP) and treatment (Lagoon, Advantax)