

## **Eldorado Springs LID Advisory Committee Minutes**

January 26, 2017  
4390 Eldorado Springs Drive  
Boulder, Colorado 80303

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:40 pm.

**Members Present:** Jeff Mason, Kevin Tone, Vija Handley, and Ken Sheldon

**Guests:** Steve Hansen, Tom Schubert, Gabby Begeman & David Levin

**Staff:** Pete Salas

**Approval of Minutes:** There was a brief discussion regarding some concerns raised in the minutes. It was agreed that those concerns would be discussed with the ORC staff present. Jeff moved to approve the January 26, 2017 minutes. Ken seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all in favor.

Plant Operations:

- a. Ramey monthly activity report – Pete presented the monthly activity reports for November and December. Pete mentioned that the November report was present due to there not being a meeting in November. Pete noted that the primary items of concern had to do with the hydroxide plugging which appeared to be continuing along with a request for a new mixed. Kevin noted that he wanted to thank David Levin to responding to a pump alarm on Christmas Eve.

Jeff noted that there appeared to be a series of alarms going off at the end of November on 194 & 192 Artesian Drive. David Levin reported that there was some initial confusion as to the exact location of the alarm. David mentioned that it took a couple of days to figure out what the problem was. The problem was detected and the issues resolved. Jeff ask about the status of the grinder pumps in terms of how many were available for service. David reported that he believed that there were 4 large pumps and one small pump available for service. Gabby provided an update indicating that there were now 2 good large and one small pumps and one in need of repair. Steve Hansen indicated that 2 had been repaired and ready to go.

There was a brief discussion regarding the pumps with Pete expressing a concern that going forward it may be that pump repairs might soon indicate a need to replace rather than repair. Kevin asked Steve Hansen to comment on the repair issues of the E-One pumps. Steve indicated that the pump itself should average 2 repairs over a 20 year period depending on how quickly you respond to a pump failure. Steve referred to the previous discussion regarding the pump failure at 192 Artesian Drive which might have contributed to more wear and tear. David noted that he thought the failure rate was higher than average to which Steve mentioned that there may be other factors which would contribute to failures. Steve suggested that the most important thing to know was not

which pumps were failing but the addresses where pumps were failing and the reasons for the failures. Steve gave some examples of what those types of issues were. Steve suggested that ORC start tracking the addresses.

Kevin asked if it was possible to track the addresses rather than just the serial number of the pump. Gabby indicated that she had all of that information and had done some research and determined the pumps at the address at 81 Eldorado Springs Drive had been changed out 4 times. Pete mentioned that this information was useful and that the rules and regulations provided that if pumps were misused, the homeowner could be held liable for repairs if it was determined to be owner caused.

Steve indicated that there is value in going through the system once a year to determine the status of individual pumps. Ken asked about the amount of time required and Steve gave the amount of time his crew typically spent doing pump assessment.

- b. Invoices – Pete referred the group to the invoices indicating that the invoice items were in line with the site visits and not out of the ordinary. Kevin commented on one of the invoice repairs which indicated that the repair was due to sand, dirt and abrasive products and the asked whether we should be following up on this type of repair. Kevin feels that this is a red flag for which a follow-up with the homeowner should be done. There was a brief discussion regarding the pump in question (7 Eldorado Springs Dr.) Pete indicated that he would follow-up.

The last couple of items was regarding an invoice for \$243.38 for the 4 flow meters that David purchased and installed and a work order for work. Jeff expressed satisfaction that we are now tracking addresses where the grinder pumps are removed for repair.

- c. Budget Review – Pete reviewed the budget spreadsheet with the group and noted that a supplemental had be made due to the fact that the budget was put in place and didn't take into account the rate increase passed earlier in the year. Kevin noted that aside from the infrastructure costs the rest of the expenses were under budget compared to the previous years.
- d. Do's and Don'ts pamphlet. Pete indicated that at the last meeting an express was concerned regarding the information pamphlet sent to the residents in the District. Pete mentioned that there were a couple of items which might be added like disposable kitty litter not flushable. Gabby mentioned that in addition, flushable wipes are not flushable and should not be put into the system. Gabby also mentioned two other concerns; obstacles in the way of pump pits and pump access covers being covered by silt. The group discussed briefly the issues related to pump access and proper use and additional items to be included in the pamphlets.
- e. ORC operations update. Gabby indicated that ORC will provide a monthly operations report. She indicated that they were still trying to get a handle on plant operations and that she had done some initial assessments of what she felt was needed. Pete mentioned that he had provided the last few Ramey monthly reports and would be glad to send

additional information if ORC wanted to see more previous reports. Tom mentioned that the reports were helpful and that going forward the staff, as they get more familiar with plant operations they would be compiling more comprehensive monthly reports. Jeff indicated that additional more concise flow data would be helpful.

Gabby said that small systems are inherently difficult to get consistent data from. Kevin expressed concerns with plant loading data. Kevin suggested that this was an area that he hoped ORC would look at the set up for sampling and the composite data. Gabby provided a brief detail of the process utilized to do the sampling noting that it is sometimes hard to get a good sample. There was a brief discussion regarding the sampling process, areas of concern, and explanations for issues that arise in the process as well as, remediation efforts under consideration.

There was a brief discussion regarding the effluent tanks and how things are working with the pumps and tanks.

Kevin mentioned that it would be helpful that if Tom and Gabby find maintenance issues that may be in need of repairs or capital improvements to make the committee aware so that the issues can be addressed. Gabby mentioned that the chemical storage at the plant was something that needs to be addressed rather soon. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the issues with the plant building. Gabby suggested that she get quotes to deal with the venting issues at the plant building.

Pete asked that Steve provide his thoughts on what issues or concerns he has relative to the collection system. Steve suggested that a baseline report for all the pump units be developed to determine the status of each unit and get an overall assessment of the health of the system. Gabby indicated that she was going to keep working on the system data spreadsheet to obtain a good picture of where issues were occurring. Gabby gave a quick example of what the data would indicate.

David asked about the need to replace rather than repair the grinder pumps. Steve gave his opinions regarding the general maintenance of the pumps and the maintenance process his company employs to repair or replace the pumps. Steve reiterated the need to monitor the use of the pumps as it relates to the cause for failure rates. There was a question regarding the pump flow meters that David had installed. It was decided that this question would be discussed later in the meeting.

Kevin asked for a quote to update the panels. Steve indicated that he thought he had provided a quote and that it was around \$200 per pump which might be unnecessary and too high as it relate to this type of system. The group engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the pumps and Steve's thoughts on how issues might be dealt with.

After the long discussion, Ken thanked Tom, Gabby and Steve for coming to the meeting and for the opportunity to share their thoughts on the plant and collection system operations along with their opinions for dealing with ongoing concerns. Kevin asked Steve about issues that came up when the system first came on-line suggesting that this

information might help inform relative to anticipating system problems. There was a brief discussion regarding the construction of the plant and issues that arose at the time with Steve providing background on the initial frequent calls. Steve reiterated the need to establish baseline data and advised the committee to have someone walk the entire system and test and inspect every pump station. Steve added some additional comments regarding the system and data needs.

Jeff suggested that ORC be made aware of the past problem areas in the system to get a more complete idea of areas of concern. Jeff indicated that there were two trouble spots that were of concern.

David Levin - Flow meter updates: David provided the committee with locations of the flow meters he installed and his thoughts on data inconsistencies. David suggested that the committee take a more active role in monitoring the flow at various locations and taking action. David mentioned the marijuana grow operations as locations which might be of concern as it relates to the system.

Gabby provided some insights regarding the water use at various locations except for the handful of residences that are on well systems. The group engaged in a brief discussion regarding the water use in the system.

Pete mentioned that the group might want to discuss the need to have Tom and Gabby meet with the committee. Pete suggested that they come to an agreement regarding this question. Gabby indicated that with their other clients they usually just show up when the need arises but that with Eldorado Springs, they intend to come every month for the first few months. It was suggested that ORC be put on the beginning of the meeting.

There was a brief discussion regarding the need to get an understanding of the capital needs requirements and expectations for capital improvements going forward.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.