

08-12-19 Mendocino County Fair Board Meeting

Present: Fair board and staff: Wayne Hiatt, chairman, Lindsay Clow, Jay Newcomer, Eva Johnson, Jim Brown (mgr), Gina Pardini (staff), Craig Titus, Morgan Baynham.

AVCSD: Val Hanelt, Chair, Larry Maillard, Kathleen McKenna, Francois Cristen, Paul Soderman. also: Mark Scaramella, AVA; Phil Williams, attorney, and Ted Williams, 5th District supervisor

Val Hanelt gave presentation introducing concept and then asked for questions. The engineers have responded (in red) to the following:

Morgan Baynham: What is the "equalization tank"? What does it equalize? Is it covered? **The equalization tank will equalize flow, so it will contain raw (but screened) sewage. The tank will not be covered, but will be in the covered building. The equalization tank will be aerated similar to the treatment tank. Thus the wastewater will not go septic. At some cost, the building could be outfitted with an odor control system (carbon absorption) that would treat all the ventilated air discharged from the building. If the building is 50-100 feet away from campers, there should not be any odors noticed. Siting the building with the land use considerations will be important.**

Wayne Hiatt: "when we tested it, none of that area would perc". Has it been tested? **The soil will be tested – early in the planning process to make sure the ground is suitable for underground disposal. If the ground is unsuitable the drainfield will be located elsewhere. Published soil conductivity values by the NRCS indicate that subsurface effluent disposal should be possible.**

Mark Scaramella: Does it need to "leach"? **Yes, the treated wastewater will need to soak into the soil as the disposal method.**

Jim Brown: "We will lose that space for camping" "What if a tent stake punctures a pipe and raw sewage comes out?" **Pipelines will be buried with a minimum of 3 feet of cover. The raw sewage pipeline will be at least that deep and not subject to tent stake punctures. There will only be one raw sewage pipeline routed into the treatment building and it will likely be routed under roadways thus not under any tent areas.**

Mark Scaramella: Will the project require a County permit? (Jim Brown answered "yes")

Wayne Hiatt: How many will it serve? (about 150 parcels) Will hookups be mandatory? (Yes)

Morgan Baynham: This will impact the Fair. Who will mow the field? **The landowner/manager (the fairgrounds) can continue to maintain the surface of the fields for their purposes. The drainfield will not affect vegetative growth on the surface. The effluent will be discharged into infiltration chambers a few feet below the ground surface.**

Eva Johnson commented on condition of the back road. Said it was a "non-maintained County road". (discussion about the quality of that section of road connecting to Lambert Lane, fire access, etc.). **Val has brought this up with Jesse Davis of Mendocino Building and Planning and Howard Dashiell will be apprised of potential need for the road to be upgraded for the wastewater project. Andres Avila, Fire Chief, intended to be at this meeting to discuss current problems of emergency response entering the Fairgrounds on that road. He was on an incident and could not attend.**

Morgan Baynham: If there is a nitrogen removal tank, will there also be trucks hauling away the extracted nitrogen? In addition to trucks hauling away the solids and daily monitoring by the operator? The treatment process will perform nitrification – the oxidation of ammonia into nitrate and then denitrification – the removal of the nitrogen in a gaseous form. The nitrogen simply returns to the atmosphere (which is 79% nitrogen). There is no nitrogen storage or handling of the nitrogen. There will not be any liquid nitrogen involved in the process.

Gina Pardini: Will there be a prison-style chain link fence around the building? (Val, I believe the building will just be locked) Yes, normally in an installation such as this, security is provided by simply locking the building doors. No fence is anticipated to be necessary. There may be a fence around the backup generator and fuel tank.

Craig Titus: Project is based on assumption that soil is permeable. All agreed that this was conceptual and this was to be discovered. Published soil hydraulic conductivity values by the NRCS indicate that subsurface effluent disposal should be possible. A field survey should be made sooner than later to verify this.

Jim Brown: Soil needs to perc. All of this discussion may not be necessary if they can't use the soil back there. This is true...a field survey should be made sooner than later to verify this.

Final – we would let them know the results of the Aug 26th meeting at County Building and Planning. We would revisit after the Fair.

Notes by Kathleen McKenna and Val Hanelt

Comments by Dave Coleman and Julian Kayne, Engineers, Brelje and Race

Val commented on conferring with Jesse Davis, Building and Planning, about the back road.