

Joint Meeting of Brown County area Sewer Boards April 4, 2019

BC Public Library

Attending: Jenny Austin, Phil LeBlanc, Sean Cassiday, Mike Leggins, Nancy Crocker, David Hess, Jerry Pittman

Phil opened the meeting, and reported that Jerry Pittman had suggested that boards convene, and that he would facilitate this, and future meetings, as well. Phil & Jenny wanted to pull small group first for efficiency, and to gather info in order to prepare an agenda for the meeting of the larger group of all boards' members.

Jerry: asked that we identify problems with each board. Some people would like to combine the boards to create one large board. We went around the table to hear the main concerns of each sewer district board:

Nashville has approx. 750 customers, and the plant runs at approx. 68% capacity. System has some issues, and needs some upgrades in order to allow for growth. New music center won't be that high of output. Not all town residents are on town sewer. Annandale is an area that could be annexed at some point to be included in Nashville system. Last upgrade (built new plant) in 2009. Sean said he thinks the grinder pumps are better. Average monthly sewer bill: metered on water bill (approx. \$65 according to Mike Leggins)

Gnaw Bone has 60k gal per day capacity.

Gnaw Bone has limited piping to allow for expansion. To change it would require digging up the existing lines to replace it. The piping narrows down to a smaller diameter which causes an issue if GB were to try to expand.

GB monthly bill averages \$50. GB could take on another distillery or similar project.

Biggest problem is 20-yr. old system. Have 2 vacuum pumps that are soon due to be replaced at an estimated price of \$35,000-\$45,000. Dave says they're planning to purchase a pump to have it on hand when the pump fails. The board does the maintenance. Dave says they need to do a rate study, and may have to raise rates. New flat rate will go into effect soon. Working board can get paid a max of \$50/day. Problem for future is keeping a working board...couldn't afford to hire somebody to maintain the system. GB charges \$5k for connection. GB charges a minimum rate \$30/month for properties who are temporarily not using the service.

Helmsburg has high rates due to increased BCWU billing rates, which is difficult for some residents' budget. Plant is aging, and there's no money for upgrades or major repairs.

Plant doesn't operate at maximum capacity, due to only having approx. 65 customers.

HRSD charges a \$2500 connection fee, which has been this same rate for many years.

Jerry agreed to facilitate a future meeting of all county sewer district boards. The meeting date was agreed upon to be April 15, 2019, at approx. 6:30 (immediately following the HRSD regular meeting).

Minutes recorded by Jenny Austin