

**Catskill Watershed Corporation**  
**Septic Committee Meeting**  
**June 7, 2016**  
**Minutes**

**Attendance:**

Committee Members: Donald Brandow (Director), Tom Hynes (Director), Berndt Leifeld (Director), Wayne Marshfield (Director), Tina Mole' (Director), Robert Pelham (Director), Tom Snow (NYSDEC), Alan Rosa (CWC), Michael Triolo (Director), Michael Meyer (NYCDEP)

Others: Tim Cox (CWC), Bruce Dolph (Coalition of Watershed Towns), Marty Donnelly (Director), Phil Eskeli (NYCDEP), Dean Frazier (Delaware Co. Watershed Affairs), Diane Galusha (CWC), John Jacobson (CWC), Innes Kasanof (Director), Larry Kelly (CWC), Leo LaBuda (CWC), Jim Martin (CWC), Molly Oliver (Delaware Co. Planning), Richard Parete (Director), John Schwartz (NYCDEP), Tom Stalter (NYCDEP), Alicia Terry (Schoharie Co. Planning)

- I. The meeting was called to order at 9:29 AM by Wayne Marshfield.
- II. Septic Program
  - A. Claire Davis Over \$25,000.00: Ms. Davis' project is located in the Town of Windham. Her proposed septic system will serve a five bedroom house. Major components of this system include two 1,000 gallon septic tanks, 65 linear feet of 4" gravity piping, 310 linear feet of force main, 117 cubic yards of absorption fill material, one effluent filter, four peat modules, 120 linear feet of curtain drain and site restoration. A septic system for five bedrooms requires a 1,500 gallon septic tank, but that size is not available. It is cheaper to install two 1,000 gallon tanks instead. Ms. Davis' contractor has submitted a quote for \$29,950.00 to build this system. This is below the staff estimated cost of construction based on the Schedule of Values. The Septic Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board of Directors to approve reimbursing Claire Davis in the amount not to exceed \$29,950.00 to build her septic system.
  - B. Daniel Hutchby Additional Costs: Mr. Hutchby's project was previously approved for \$21,800.00 and is located in the Town of Middletown. Soon after the project was completed the system flooded due to a water problem on the site. Mr. Hutchby's engineer has proposed 160 linear feet of curtain to direct water away from the system to alleviate the problem. This is a peat filter system. The contractor has submitted a quote for \$3,889.60 to build the curtain drain and restore the site. This amount appears to be fair and reasonable. This amount will bring the total project construction costs to \$25,699.60. The Septic Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before

the Board of Directors to approve reimbursing Daniel Hutchby in the amount not to exceed \$3,889.60 for additional costs to build his septic system.

- C. Florence Schetzel Over \$25,000.00: Ms. Schetzel's project is located in the Town of Olive. Her proposed septic system will serve a three bedroom house. Major components of her proposed system will include a 1,000 gallon septic tank, one siphon chamber, 75 linear feet of 4" gravity piping, one distribution box, 278 cubic yards of absorption fill material, an effluent filter, 275 linear feet of absorption trench, tree removal, a temporary access road and site restoration. Ms. Schetzel's contractor has submitted a quote for \$27,090.00 to build this system. This is within 10% of the staff estimated cost of construction based on the Schedule of Values. The Septic Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board of Directors to approve reimbursing Florence Schetzel in the amount not to exceed \$27,090.00 to build her septic system.
  
- D. Timothy Brand Over \$25,000.00: Mr. Brand's project is located in the Town of Prattsville. His proposed septic system will serve a three bedroom house. Major components of this system include a 1,000 gallon septic tank, pump station, 15 linear feet of 4" gravity piping, 95 linear feet of force main, one distribution box, 378 cubic yards of absorption fill material, an effluent filter, 290 linear feet of absorption trench, 120 linear feet of curtain drain, 65 linear feet of curtain drain outlet piping and site restoration. Mr. Brand's contractor has submitted a quote for \$29,070.00 to build this system. This is below the staff estimated cost of construction based on the Schedule of Values. The Septic Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse Timothy Brand in the amount not to exceed \$29,070.00 to build his septic system.
  
- E. Brian Powers Over \$25,000.00: Mr. Powers' project is located in the Town of Windham. His proposed septic system will serve a two bedroom house. Major components of her proposed system include a 1,250 gallon septic tank, 15 linear feet of 4" gravity piping, 60 linear feet of force main, four peat modules, an effluent filter and site restoration. Leo explained septic tank sizing. The minimum size septic tank is 1,000 gallons for a one to three bedroom house. The theory is that the tank needs to retain sewage for 72 hours for separation of solids and floating grease and oils. Each additional bedroom requires a tank 250 gallons larger. Design flow with low flow fixtures is 110 gallons per day for each bedroom. Houses up to nine bedrooms may be eligible for the residential Septic Programs. Nine bedrooms would require a design to accommodate 990 gallons per day. Systems for more than 1,000 gallons per day require a SPDES permit. Mr. Powers' contractor has submitted a quote for \$25,550.00 to build this system. This is within 10% of the staff estimated cost of construction

based on the Schedule of Values. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse Louise Hughes in the amount not to exceed \$27,000.00 to build her septic system.

- F. Cheryl Raaymann Additional Costs: Ms. Raaymann's project is located in the Town of Walton and was previously approved for \$24,620.21. During construction it became apparent that the house connection to the septic tank could not be made at its original location. The contractor had to cut through the concrete foundation. Additionally, 40 linear feet was added to the high venting pipe to provide air flow and prevent odors. The vent had to extend above a deck. The contractor is asking for \$1,623.60 for the additional work which has been completed. This appears to be a fair and reasonable cost. This amount will bring the total construction costs to \$26,243.81 for the project. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse Cheryl Raaymann in the amount not to exceed \$1,623.60 for additional costs to build her septic system.
- G. Michael Pelletier Over \$25,000.00: Mr. Pelletier's project is located in the Town of Jewett. His proposed septic system will serve a three bedroom house. Major components of his proposed septic system will include a 1,000 gallon septic tank, pump station, 60 linear feet of gravity piping, 70 linear feet of force main, one distribution box, 350 cubic yards of absorption fill material, an effluent filter, 244 square feet of absorption bed, 165 linear feet of curtain drain and extensive site restoration. Mr. Pelletier's contractor has submitted a quote for \$28,300.00 to build this system. This is slightly below the staff estimated cost of construction based on the Schedule of Values. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse Michael Pelletier in the amount not to exceed \$28,300.00 to build his septic system.
- H. James Butler Over \$25,000.00: Mr. Butler's project is located in the Town of Hunter. His proposed septic will serve a three bedroom house. Major components of this system include a 1,000 gallon septic tank, 94 linear feet of gravity piping, one distribution box, 305 cubic yards of random fill material, an effluent filter, 700 square feet of absorption bed, 140 linear feet of curtain drain, tree removal a plumbing change to avoid a pump and site restoration. Maintenance of a pump if it is included in a program funded septic system is the homeowner's responsibility. Mr. Butler's contractor has submitted a quote for \$26,874.06 to build this system. This is within 10% of the staff estimated cost of construction based on the Schedule of Values. The committee recommend that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse James Butler in the amount not to include \$26,874.06 to build his septic system.

- I. Maureen Knipper Over \$25,000.00: Ms. Knipper's project is located in the Town of Kortright. Her proposed septic system will serve a three bedroom house. Major components of this system will include a 1,000 septic tank, siphon chamber, 65 linear feet of gravity piping, 80 linear feet of Schedule 80 piping, one distribution box, 240 cubic yards of absorption fill material, an effluent filter, 225 linear feet of absorption trench, 100 linear feet of curtain drain, 160 linear feet of swale, 65 linear feet of 18" culvert piping, tree removal, a temporary access road and site restoration. Ms. Knipper's contractor has submitted a quote for \$29,084.85 to build this system. This is within 10% of the staff estimated cost of construction based on the Schedule of Values. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse Maureen Knipper in the amount not to exceed \$29,084.85 to build her septic system.
  
  - J. Septic Cluster: A system likely to fail has been identified in an area eligible for the Septic Cluster Program. It is located in Clovesville. The homeowner's name is Richard Solomon. This program was designed for areas where the lots are small and houses are close together. Connecting them to a cluster system may be the most cost effective way to provide for adequate wastewater treatment. Under this program the Town would have to set up a maintenance district. Property owners would pay a tax for use of the system. There is no subsidy or block grant for maintenance funds available to Towns. So far Towns have been reluctant to participate in this program. Clovesville may not be a good place for this program. Several houses have been bought out and removed after the floods over the past few years. Not many houses are left. We are waiting for a response from the Town of Middletown.
  
  - K. Septic Maintenance: Larry Kelly reviewed activity in this program with the Committee. 20 homeowners were reimbursed for pump outs last month. 77 homeowners have been reimbursed this year. 370 Letters were sent to homeowners newly eligible for this program. Leo commended Larry for his work in this program.
  
  - L. Update: Leo reviewed activity in the Septic Program with the Committee. 16 septic system repairs/replacements were paid for last month. 38 repairs/replacements have been paid for this year.
- III. The next Septic Committee meeting was scheduled for July 5, 2016.
- V. The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 AM.