

Catskill Watershed Corporation
Septic Committee Meeting
July 5, 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), Jim Eisel (Director), 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. Watershed Affairs), John Schwartz (NYCDEP), Tom Stalter (NYCDEP), David Warne (NYCDEP)

I. The meeting was called to order at 9:20 AM by Wayne Marshfield.

II. Septic Program

A. Joseph Faro Over \$25,000.00: Mr. Faro's project is located in the Town of Bovina. His proposed septic system will serve a five bedroom house. Major components of this system include a 1,500 gallon septic tank, a 700 gallon siphon chamber, 250 linear feet of 4" gravity piping, one distribution box, 550 cubic yards of absorption fill material, an effluent filter, 350 linear feet of absorption trench, 195 linear feet of curtain drain, three cleanouts and site restoration. Mr. Faro's contractor has submitted a quote for \$29,999.00 to build this system. This is well 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 Joseph Faro in the amount not to exceed \$29,999.00 to build her septic system.

B. Clifford Rikard Additional Costs: Mr. Rikard's project was previously approved for \$24,900.00 and is located in the Town of Roxbury. Soon after the project was begun it became apparent that addition fill material was necessary to insure proper cover of the system's components. The contractor used an additional 75 cubic yards of material to complete the project. Mr. Rikard's engineer has verified the need for the additional material in writing. After some negotiation the contractor agreed to a price of \$1,218.75, which is in accordance with the Schedule of Values. This amount will bring the total project construction costs to \$26,118.75. The Septic Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board of Directors to approve

reimbursing Clifford Rikard in the amount not to exceed \$1,218.75 for additional costs to build his septic system.

- C. Joaquin Solis Over \$25,000.00: Ms. Solis' project is located in the Town of Middletown. His proposed septic system will serve a four bedroom house. Major components of his proposed system will include a 1,250 gallon septic tank (which was previously installed on an emergency basis for \$3,481.00), one siphon chamber, 160 linear feet of 4" gravity piping, one distribution box, 390 cubic yards of absorption fill material, an effluent filter, 330 linear feet of absorption trench, 165 linear feet of curtain drain, a temporary access road and site restoration. Three quotes were received for this project. The lowest quote is for \$32,349.00 (without the septic tank). This is within 10% of the staff estimated cost of construction based on the Schedule of Values. The total construction cost with the septic tank is \$35,830.00. The Septic Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board of Directors to approve reimbursing Joaquin Solis in the amount not to exceed \$32,349.00 to complete his septic system.
- D. Alan Brundege Over \$25,000.00: Mr. Brundege's project is located in the Town of Walton. His proposed septic system will serve a three bedroom house. Major components of this system include a 1,000 gallon septic tank, pump station, 140 linear feet of 4" gravity piping, one distribution box, 370 cubic yards of absorption fill material, 225 linear feet of absorption trench, 170 linear feet of curtain drain, two cleanouts, a temporary bridge, access road and site restoration. Mr. Brundege obtained three quotes for this project. They are for \$36,200.00, \$35,700.00 and \$33,514.15. The lowest quote 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 to reimburse Alan Brundege in the amount not to exceed \$33,514.15 to build his septic system.
- E. George Hewitt Over \$25,000.00: Mr. Hewitt's project is located in the Town of Jewett. His proposed septic system will serve a four bedroom house. Major components of his proposed system include a 1,250 gallon septic tank, 180 linear feet of 4" gravity piping, 20 linear feet of force main, one distribution box, 70 cubic yards of absorption fill, one effluent filter, three peat modules, two cleanouts, 125 linear feet of curtain drain, 65 linear feet of outlet piping, tree removal, 200 linear feet of temporary access road and site restoration. Mr. Hewitt's contractor has submitted a quote for \$29,995.00 to build this system. This is 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 George Hewitt in the amount not to exceed \$29,995.00 to build his septic system.

- F. William Wolfinger Additional Costs: This item was pulled from the agenda
- G. Robert Exum Additional Cost: Mr. Exum's project was previously approved for \$29,965.00. During construction the engineer requested relocation of the footing drain and some additional fill material to lessen the severity of the lower taper of the absorption field. The contractor has requested an additional \$2,091.60 to complete these items. This cost has been determined to be reasonable and justified. This will bring the total construction cost to \$32,056.60. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse Robert Exum in the amount not to exceed \$2,091.60 for additional costs to build his septic system.
- H. Erika Wei Additional Cost: Ms. Wei's project is located in the Town of Hurley. Her project was previously approved for \$26,064.94. Upon completion, Ms. Wei's engineer requested some additional work to prevent erosion from compromising the new system. Additional fill, a swale, some rip-rap and further site restoration are required to prevent the bank from eroding. The contractor has requested an additional \$1,092.65 to complete this work. This cost appears to be reasonable and justified. This will bring the total project cost to \$27,157.59. The committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse Erika Wei in the amount not to include \$1,092.65 for additional costs to build her septic system.
- I. Steven Lombardozzi Additional Costs: Mr. Lombardozzi's project is located in the Town of Prattsville. During construction Mr. Lombardozzi's engineer request and additional 20 linear feet of schedule 40 piping and a cleanout. The contractor has requested an additional \$325.00 for this work. This cost is below the Schedule of Values. This will bring the total project cost to \$29,685.00. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse Steven Lombardozzi in the amount not to exceed \$325.00 for additional costs to build his septic system.
- J. Septic Cluster: There is one system in the hamlet of Clovesville that has been determined to be likely to fail. The owner is Richard Solomon. The Town of Middletown has expressed interest in the Septic Cluster Program. Since the 1996 and 2011 floods and the buyouts since, there is not much left of Clovesville. There was discussion about the cost effectiveness of connecting to the Fleischmanns treatment plant. There is room to build an on-site system at the Solomon property. There are no funds in this program for operation and maintenance. Alan will talk to the Town about the program.

- K. Septic Maintenance: Tim and Leo discussed proposed program rule changes. Some of the changes are “housekeeping changes including dates, and deleting Septic I and II, etc. Leo proposed a cap on pump out costs. Costs have been creeping up. During discussion it was brought up that homeowners lay out the cost then apply for 50% reimbursement. They have incentive to obtain reasonable costs. Disposal is a problem for pumpers. There are already safeguards in place. The program pays only reasonable costs. If a request is particularly high it can be brought to the Committee. The entire Committee decided against a cap on pump out costs. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to make the “housekeeping changes” in the Maintenance Program Rules.

Larry Kelly reviewed activity in this program with the Committee. Response has been steady this year. 24 homeowners were reimbursed for pump outs last month. This brings the total for this year to 101. At this time last year 70 homeowners had been reimbursed for pump outs.

- L. Update: Leo reviewed activity in the Septic Program with the Committee. 29 septic system repairs/replacements were paid for last month. 67 repairs/replacements have been paid for this year. This is 11 ahead of last year. Leo expects the numbers to go up.

III. The next Septic Committee meeting was scheduled for August 2, 2016.

V. The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 AM.