



POST OFFICE BOX 71
HARRISVILLE, RI 02830
TELEPHONE: 401/568-6296
FAX: 401/568-9464

Burrillville Sewer Commission
Workshop of 08/28/2007
Board Room of the BWWTF

Members Present: Don C. Wolfe, Chairman
Wallace F. Auclair, Vice Chairman

Member Absent: Scott P. Rabideau, Secretary

Also Present: Walter J. Kane – Attorney for the Commission
William Skerpan Jr. – Beta Group, Inc.
John Martin III – Superintendent
Peg Franklin – Office Manager
Stacey Richard – Financial Aide

Mr. Wolfe opened the workshop at 9:00 A.M.

Agenda Item – Discuss RI Department of Environmental Management proposed amendments to Rules and Regulations for the Operations and Maintenance of Wastewater Treatment Facilities.

Discussion – Mr. Martin stated that one issue in the proposed regulations and amendments is the idea that DEM is inferring that the definition of a wastewater treatment facility now includes private collection systems and anything that conveys sewerage to a host wastewater facility. Mr. Martin also stated that if you apply that definition in the proposed regulations there is the potential for a lot of responsibility and therefore liability on the host for those private systems. Mr. Martin stated that it is his opinion that the Commission has little if any authority on private properties. Mr. Kane stated that it is unclear if processing is part of a facility. Mr. Martin stated that it is also unclear how DEM determines what systems are 10,000 per day. Mr. Kane suggested the Commission could draft an ordinance that applies to each private system, as the ordinance applies to the wastewater treatment facility as to the pipe and proportion of a facility. If the system has a pump station the ordinance would have to say the private facilities consists of pipe, and/or pump station and also that a plan for each private system shall be provided. This plan should be a duplicate of what the Commission's plan is to the state and failure to provide that will result in penalties being imposed. Mr. Kane also suggested that the Commission raise the amount of their penalties and that a new permit system should be developed for when the plans are approved. There should also be a section that states the Commission has granted the developer permission to tie into the

system and they will be subject to all of the rules and regulations as they exist within the system from time to time.

Mr. Martin stated that another problem with the proposed ordinance is that if there is a backup or overflow on private property, DEM feels that it is a public problem that the Commission needs to solve right away; however the Commission does not have the rights under the current rules to go onto private property. Mr. Kane stated that the Commission would have to do a modification to the facilities plan and there should be a subsection stating how private systems would be handled, what the proposed fines would be, and also to require them to periodically submit to the Commission what would be done in case of a backup and what kinds of reserves they have. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Commission needs to know what they have responsibility of and also are individual laterals and private systems their responsibility. Mr. Kane also suggested the Commission ask for clarification on facilities that have their own processing and how it relates to pretreatment. There was more discussion regarding the rights of the Commission concerning private properties and systems. The Commission directed Mr. Martin to send a comment letter regarding the items they had discussed to DEM. Mr. Wolfe asked if there was anything in this amendment that would affect the Commission changing the levels for BOD and TSS. Mr. Martin stated there was not. The workshop adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Stacey Richard". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Stacey Richard
Financial Aide