



BERRIEN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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BERRIEN COUNTY SEWAGE APPEALS BOARD

Approved Minutes April 06, 2022

Present: **Sewage Appeals Board Members:** Peg Kohring (Berrien County Board of Health), Dr. Gleiber (Great Lakes Scientific), Thaddeus Hackworth (Berrien County Corporate Counsel), Ezra Scott (Berrien County Commissioner)

Guy Miller, (Acting Health Officer) Nick Margaritis (Manager of Environmental Health, BCHD), Brian Murphy (EH Supervisor), Brian Chambers (Sanitarian, EH), Chris Nagy (Registered Sanitarian), Angela Reeves-Price (Program Support Specialist, EH)

10:30 a.m. Meeting called to order by Peg Kohring

Approval of Agenda: Peg Kohring made a motion to approve the agenda, a second was made by Dr. Gleiber, motion passed and approved.

Kohring: Any discussion? All in favor?

Board of Health: Aye

Kohring: Motion Carried.

Approval of 03/02/2022 Minutes: Ezra Scott made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Gleiber seconded the motion for approval of minutes. The vote is unanimous.

Introductions (1): Peg Kohring (Berrien County Board of Health), Dr. Gleiber (Great Lakes Scientific), Thaddeus Hackworth (Berrien County Corporate Counsel), Nick Margaritis (Manager of Environmental Health, BCHD), Brian Murphy (EH Supervisor), Ezra Scott (Berrien County Commissioner), Guy Miller, (Acting Health Officer) Nick Margaritis (Manager of Environmental Health, BCHD), Brian Chambers (Registered Sanitarian, EH), Angela Reeves-Price (Program Support Specialist, EH), Chris Nagy (Registered

Sanitarian) (Owner), Gary Kaiser (Kaiser Excavating) Mr. Dan Versaw (Owner Versaw Earthworks), Bruce Meyer (Meyer Septic), Steve (Building Contractor), Melissa Howse-Kurtz (Lake Michigan College), Joseph Taylor (Whirlpool/Observer and for Interview), Scott Dienes (Attorney Barnes and Thornberg Grand Rapids), Stu Kogge (Aquatic Biologist GI Consultants) Phil Merkel (Property Owner).

Kohring: There will be the owner/installer presentation, then the Berrien County Health Department presentation. Board members ask questions from discussion.

Owner/Installer Presentation:

Dienes: I am acting as an MC this morning. I am here on behalf of Mr. Merkel. We appreciate all the time and dedication of your staff that has worked on this project. With that, I will turn it over to Mr. Merkel to give you factual background then turn it over to Stu Kogge.

Merkel: Property was purchase 25 years ago and is close to 17 acres. It was the old Bass Island Park property. It had eight cottages, well house, reserve store, and ball diamond. When property was purchased, it has been neglected with overgrown vegetation. Bainbridge Twp. noticed the dilapidated building on the property. Bainbridge Twp. ensured us removing building would not affect our ability to build on the property at that time. We then cleaned up the property. We want to retire and build a small log cabin on the property. We understand wetland impacts and been working the Health Department hoping to get there approval to obtain permit to build the house.

Dienes: With that, we will turn it over to Mr. Kogge who will work his way through application materials you have.

Kogge: Like I said, I am a Wetlands Biologist retained by Mr. Merkel. Mr. Merkel asked me to do a wetland delineation for property. The property was mapped to show wetlands, areas to stay away from, and where to build. Looking at Figure 1 page 9, shows the Prism consultant work done at that time. This shows the approximate location where the proposed mound system was being placed.

Figure 2 and 3 shows soil borings we have done to one, help map the area due to overgrown vegetation and disturbed plants. Did many borings to

identify the area. Figure 4 is the generalized area to maximize ability to get out of wetland area. The rest of packet we will keep going through. Just want the board to recognize all the historical photos on appendix E, page 413 there was previous development that was out there before. Figure F again shows pictures of the store, campground, and use of the property. This is not just a vacant piece of property. It had use before; he cleaned it up and now just wants to make use these different areas with compliance from Nick and Chris. We can keep going through photos but I do not want to repeat myself and just want to keep things simple.

A lot of pictures I took back in June and in 2022 documents that there is upland and wetland out there and there is potential sites out there that are more acceptable to Nick and Chris in that regard.

The last document in the appendix are the designed drawings. This is where I will have to defer this and not my expertise. This is where our engineers do these systems out of Marquette office. They have had conversations with Nick and discovered a couple items that we still need to be added to the drawings to be efficient. We need to correct some errors.

Old plan had bigger mound then it was downsized. Baffles. Engineer thought it had to be permit drawings and exactly the way constructed. This can be resolved once approved. Baffle with oxygenator will be added. Engineer stated he could add those in there.

Kohring: Information is interesting. Can you just line it out for us?

Scott: I just had one thing here I wanted to be part of the minutes. Are you saying the packet you submitted is incomplete because it is different of what we are supposed to approve.

Kogge: There are two things missing from the plans that we feel need to be added to the plans. From permitting lines, this is what we submit to EGLE. As we were talking this morning, we found two items Nick's team would like included in this.

Dienes: The County has asked for more information, which we will provide. I would not call it incomplete, but we are more than happy to provide drawings that are more detailed.

Margaritis: So we evaluated the plans and made some suggestions. It necessarily does not have to be done that way, but up to the Board to hear the presentations, ask questions, hear comments, and see where it goes.

We had suggestions to improve some inconsistencies. It should perform more than adequately as designed and installed if approved.

Kohring: All this is fine, what are you proposing?

Kogge: Mound system on last page.

Kohring: Let's start from begging, where it starts, what are you proposing? Looks like one system here, another at ball diamond (looking at map). Give it to me simply, what are you doing?

Stu: In the house and upland location, there will be a three chambered system, septic tank, oxygenated aerobic tank, and dosing chamber.

Kohring: You mentioned three units, three different tanks. I just see two tanks on the drawing. What are you proposing?

Kogge: We are proposing a three-tank system. It is all part of the unit. So it comes out of house and into septic tank. The septic tank does not show baffles. We are going to add baffles into that. Then it goes into the second chamber tank that is an oxygenated tank. This will need added language how this will be oxygenated.

Margaritas: The type of aerobic treatment you will be using.

Kogge: Correct.

Margaritis: That is our suggestion. We will get to that.

Kogge: The third tank is the dosing tank that pumps it out to the mound system.

Kohring: How many gallons is the third tank?

Kogge: I could not tell you.

Margaritis: 500.

Dienes: It is indicated on the drawings.

Kohring: For us we would like a complete presentation.

Dienes: It is on the drawing.

Kohring: It's on the drawing, but we have people that do not have the drawing, we are open to the public so we want everything spoken out.

Kogge: The effluent gets pumped up from there to a manhole right next to mound system. The manhole then allows to gravity feed into the drain system perforated pipes within the system. This is a 30' X 40'.

Scott: Madam Chair.

Kohring: Yes

Scott: Usually we don't do this, we let them present, but as things come up, I have questions. This manhole is now x amount above grade. I see the discharge pipe is insulated with heat cable. Right?

Kogge: Right as shown on drawing.

Scott: The only question I have to that is where this is going to be located vs where the power for that is going to come for the home which is quite a long distance away. As you know in the county, we have power outages that go for many days. Are you taking this under consideration, because this could backup and freeze up.

Dis: That is a great point that is why it's heated and we will look at backup power. That's a great point.

Kohring: So you saying three chambers at the house, 1500 gallons with baffles, 1500 gallons oxygenated, and a 500 gallon dosing tank that is pumped to the manhole and is gravity fed to a mound that is 30'X40' with back-up power?

Stewie: Correct

Deenis: Yes

Kohring: Is there anything you want to add?

Dienes: I think it is my expectation that Mr. Merkel will have backup generator on-site.

Kohring: With alarm?

Dienes: At this point, we do not, but we will work with staff and take notes from suggestions and work cooperatively. Want to cooperate and get this done.

Kohring: Thank you now is the time for Berrien County Health Department presentation.

Berrien County Health Department Presentation:

Nagy: We received application for a new home from Mr. Merkel. I met Mr. Merkel in September of 2019. We tested a couple of different spots. The first spot we found a muck type soil down to five feet with a water table at grade. Very wet soil. We moved to another location and found the same. It was very high seasonable water table. This did not pass the sewage ordinance #17. Therefore, a rejection letter was issued with the option to appeal or explore another area. I believe Mr. Merkel wanted to check another area and he and Nick went out.

Margaritis: We did more soil boring with Mr. Merkel and found sand fill covering muck and marrow. Those were not acceptable soils. This was a hard decision to make since there were structures present that were demolished we sympathized with Mr. Merkel. The structures were demolished so we had to consider it vacant land according to code. That why we could not issue septic permit.

(Margaritis property summary and discussion)

Possible solutions were made for this site due to the challenges to the site. Health Department was supportive of ideas that not only met code, but even at a higher degree. Aerobic treatment unit option was suggested since it goes beyond what the purpose of a septic tank with the cleaning of the water. Inconsistencies were found with dimensions, technical memorandum, baffles, and filter. Misunderstanding was made between Mr. Merkel engineering firm with the aerobic treatment specifics of the proposed tank. (Nick explains the oxygenating process of an aerobic designed tank. Oxygenated process, ANSI certification, proprietary unit, maintenance agreement). Proposed plan do not specify what type of aerobic unit is being used.

Merkel: Wasn't there a maintenance agreement in the package I gave you to give them.

Margaritis: There was yes. It just does not specify the type of aerobic treatment or anything like that. Therefore, that is the part we need to update.

Dienes: That is a third party unit, those are commercial.

Margaritis: Typically yes.

Dienes: Ok we will provide the design and information of the manufacturer.

Margaritis: But those are our comments and concerns on the design, it is a good design.

Nagy: To go that extra step and provide that primary treatment you are relying on the mound to dissipate the water and not relying on it to treat the sewage. So it is a good system.

Kohring: So the 30' by 40' is what you are recommending?

Margaritis: Yes for a three-bedroom dwelling that we are talking about. Yes more than adequate to handle that.

Kohring: Anything more to add from the Health Department? Ok now is the time for the Board-yes.

Glieber: Was there ever a time a septic system was out there?

Dienes: Yes, there had to of been.

Glieber: In the 20's or 30's?

Dienes: Right

Glieber: There is no sign of that. In 2004, the wetland boundaries were set. Then we have another map of 2019, the man here said that the lake level has changed during that time, so I assume the size of the wetland has changed.

Stewie: Yes, I was out there this March. We put in our plan our March delineation. It is pretty much what we had before but it is a little more.

Glieber: Did DEQ set the boundary back then and EGLE now.

Kogge: We set the boundary; I am a professional level scientist. I used to be in charge of the program of the State of Michigan. I used to be there statewide wetland biologist. I call more things "wetland". As of now, EGLE has not set the wetland boundaries. We will have to get a permit from them to put the line from the house under the wetland to get to the septic system.

Glieber. You mean the pipe that is going to take the treated effluent across the wetland?

Kogge: Yes from the three tank chambers will go through the wetland and buried. We are trying to go the shortest distance with a ditch wench.

Glieber: What kind of pipe does that have to be to make sure there is no breakage?

Kogge: Sealed pipe.

Dienes: There is information in the material that talks about that pipe. A PVC pipe does require state approval. We cannot obtain state approval without a permit.

Glieber: Ok

Kohring: All right, did you have any additional questions?

Kogge: In 2004, the department did verify boundaries in 2004. They needed a permit to expand on one of the wetland areas. To go back to your question, nothing has been verified today, but that will be done in hope approval will be granted. The next step is to go to EGLE to get permit for wetlands. The department will not look at permit applications until they know that the system is approved.

Scott: Total height is 6'?

Dienes: Yes

Margaritis: 6.5 feet finish grade yes.

Scott: We have a 6:1 slope?

Kogge: 7:1

Dienes: It is 6:1

Scott: For the septic mound system (pointing at map), it shows 6 feet high, 6:1. For the area that happens to be the best area on the property, right below that grade, we are looking at what water table level? As we all know water seeks its own level. I am concerned with that getting into the ground water and getting into the lake.

Margaritis: So we consider the seasonable water table at grade in that area. We do not evaluate fill soil. We are not allowed by our code to evaluate that type of soil. Having the septic tank and aerobic tank acting as a pretreatment for the sewage effluent, it will clean it up faster and then having that sewage effluent percolate through 4' of soil on top of existing grade not including the fill. It is our opinion it will not contaminate the groundwater.

Dienes: I think the point is by the time the waste makes it to the mound, it already has been treated.

Margaritis: To a certain extent.

Scott: To a certain extent

Dienes: No, to a much greater extent. It is an extra step that they recommend.

Margaritas: The final treatment is always at the drainbed area. You are starting with cleaner water so nature does not have to work so hard to treat.

Dienes: Another point on that. Are you aware of any system on Pipestone Lake like this?

Margaritis: No

Dienes: There are septic systems all around the lake that are doing what you are describing. This system is a step beyond that.

Scott: My thought process on that is "never say never". If this system fails, then what are we talking about and how will we know about the failure. Because we are proposing to approve something that could have years down the road a way of failing, then all sudden then we are hurting the ecological effects of the lake. Then this board would be part of that. That is the main purpose of what I'm thinking of. I have high concern from the wetlands and lakes for the record.

Kohring: Attorney Hackworth any questions?

Hackworth: You mentioned some discrepancies with the technical memorandum and drawings. Are any of them aside from the aerobic treatment and would they be relevant the system drawing?

Margaritis: Yes, dimensions of the drainbed on some of the pages. The figure 3 it specifies a 60'X40' mound. On figure 4, it specifies a 30'X60' mound.

Hackworth: But if we specify the mound size in the approval that should be part of it.

Margaritis: Yes, absolutely.

Hackworth: Are there other discrepancies that would be relevant to the approval?

Margaritis: On the plans it is the F1 filters and baffles on the septic tanks.... and the actual aerobic treatment like the and brand, and the size 40'X60'.

Hackworth: If we were to make the approval contingent the aerobic treatment unit meeting the NSF ANSI 40 or 41, would that be acceptable to everyone.

Margaritis: Yes

Kogge: Absolutely

Hackworth: Looking at plans there were some boundary lines that were drawn that were confusing. Just for the record, any approval we make here would not be of acceptance of the boundary lines shown on the drawings.

Dienes: Those boundaries that go into the right away are accurate. He owns to the center of the right away, those are highway by user roads, those are not platted roads.

Kohring: Is the department recommending a reserve site?

Margaritis: There is no reserve site. If a repair were needed to be made in the future, all the pipe and stone need to be removed, the boundaries of the wetlands would not dictate us to allow a reserve area. We would not be supportive of putting a reserve in the wetland area.

Kohring: So there is no way to put a reserve area on the ballfield area.

Margaritis: No

Kogge: There is more room to the left based on when they downsized mound area there was more room.

Margaritis: I am looking at the delineation of the wetlands-

Kogge: I thought when they downsized the field this provide more room.

Margaritis: No, because we were concerned about maintaining a certain isolation distance from the wetlands. That is why we recommending when the original 40'X60' was designed, it could not meet that setback from water's edge and wetland edge. We typically maintain a 50' isolation distances from the system and any body of water.

The original design of the 40' X 60' was coming too close to the edge of the wetlands. The 30'X40' can barely meet the 50' distance all the way around. With that said, you are more than welcome to show it on a scaled print.

Kogge: No that is fine.

Glieber: Is a reserve area required with an aerobic tank? You also talked about removing material if it was ever contaminated. Can you continue with that Nick?

Margaritis: So according to our code we are required to have a reserve area of equal capacity. So a lot of times when we are dealing with small lots we can specify that the original and reserve area are the same. What that means for the property owner is that in the event of a failure of a system they are "out of bullets". They will have to remove the old system, replace it, and rebuild it for a new system. This gets costly. They must remove the plugged up soil, stone, and pipe and haul it to a landfill that accepts that material. It has been done before. We support this system because it is larger than a normal three bedroom home system. There is more of a safety factor built into this system.

Glieber: How is it enforced if it's not the original property owner that is putting in the system?

Margaritis: At that point, we will make that a part of the specification-

Glieber: -For the new owner-

Margaritis: for part of the new system that needs to be installed.

Nagy: The permit we would write if approved, would stipulate that the reserve area and the new system are the same. We made it clear if the system fails that area would be re-worked.

Glieber: Thank you.

Scott: When we do the motion on this that has to be specified in it. Like the boundary lines shown here. We are not approving this. That is not part of the approval process. Since there is no reserve area, the owner are made aware of that, they are also aware of the consequences and what they have to do. At that point, of time, if system fails they have to come back before the county for a new application, falling under the title rule of existing.

Margaritis: Correct.

Scott: Right now were dealing with a vacant land.

Margaritis: Correct.

Scott: Ok, just wanted to make that clear. It should be put in the minutes that the owners are aware of the reserve discussion we had here and the rules and regulations that follow that.

Glieber: Are anti-buoyant tanks required, does that need to be stipulated here?

Margaritis: Yes, that is standard, yes absolutely. Not only anit-boyouant but also water tightness.

Glieber: Is that for the aerobic tank as well?

Margaritis: Yes all the tanks. The problem is the engineer does not show grade of where the tanks are installed. So this depends on the elevation of the house placement. Tanks are installed dry and empty for at least 24 hrs. for us to check the tanks are not seeping with water. All this can be part of the specifications.

Kogge: That was part of the plan they showed the wings to indicate anti-buoyancy and water tightness are on plans as well.

Scott: Is the manhole supposed to be waterproof also?

Margaritis: Correct.

Scott: Ok

Margaritis: That is why we like to see drawings that address these issues so there are no discrepancies between a worded motion.

Kohring: Garbage grinder included?

Margaritas: Yes. The system has enough capacity.

Scott: Are you ok with what has been proposed today without seeing the other drawings.

Margaritis: No, we would like to see complete drawings.

Dienes: We do not mind that contingency, we will prepare drawings.

Amended Resolution:

Kohring: I'd like to make a resolution that we approve a system for a three-bedroom house with a garbage grinder. There will be a three-chambered

system with a 1500-gallon tank with baffles and an effluent filter. A 1500 gallon oxygenated aerobic certified system approved by the Health Department with a maintenance contract. This will be an NSF/ANSI 40 or 41 standard. The three tanks will be anti-buoyant, watertight, and inspection process that the tanks are installed dry and will be checked within 24 hrs. For waster leakage. The effluent is pumped the shortest way into a manhole that is sealed and waterproof. This will be gravity fed into the drainage area that is 30'X40' with backup power provided to the site with an alarm if there is a failure. A completed site plan is required so there is one place with everything together. A reserve area would consist of removing current site and reserve area will be the current site of a mound. A heated pipe will be required that is pumped to the mound system.

Kohring: Anything else to add?

Hackworth: I would just like add we are talking about a 6' mound with a 6:1 slope.

Kohring: Ok.

Scott: What about property lines? I would open up to public comments or anyone else.

Glieber: Will this have distances from wetlands etc.?

Kohring: Is this part of code and need to be specified?

Margaritis: It is part of code but we can specify.

Kohring: Ok so maintain distances from wetland. So that is our motion.

Appeal Board Decision:

Dr. Gleiber seconds the motion, motion approved for the property on old Bass Island Park.

11:32 a.m. Meeting Adjourned

Minutes Submitted by B.Murphy 04/06/22

11:36 a.m. Meeting called to order by Peg Kohring

Kohring: There will be the owner/installer presentation, then the Berrien County Health Department presentation. Board members ask questions from discussion.

Installer/ Owner's Presentation:

9206 Hagar Shore Rd Tax I.D. # 11-21-0012-0010-10-0

Meyer: I am proposing installing a 1500-gallon septic tank with schedule 40 to a raised mound drain field, which is 30'X30', 7:1 slope. Top of the bed would be 6'. (Looking at drawing). The entire outer perimeter of mound would be 114'X114' and tapered to a 30'x30' for the bed. There would be 10 lines at 30', all 3 foot on center.

Hackworth: It is not 72'X72'?

Meyer: It is 30'X30'; we are coming up 4' with the sand. By the time the cover is on and everything it would come out to 114'X114'.

Kohring: You are proposing one 1500-gallon tank?

Meyer: Yes.

Kohring: It's a straight parcel. One rectangle. Anything more for your presentation?

Meyer: No.

Kohring: The Health Department presentation.

Nagy: Yes, I had done boring in April of 2021, and found seasonable high water table in the upper 24" of soil. Found heavy clay down to five feet in all areas. I mentioned if you want to pursue this, a backhoe is recommended. In February this year, we did four test pits in four different areas of the property. The property slopes. We chose higher areas for the backhoe pits. Mr. Meyer did the test pits and went down to 12' and hit blue clay. At that point, I explained it did not meet the sewage ordinance #17, and next option would be an appeal hearing.

Kohring: You heard the system proposal, what is the Health Department perspective?

Nagy: I'm not sure based on grades and exactly where the drainbed will be located. There are no elevations on here if gravity can be achieved due to the height of the mound he is doing. That is a concern of mine. The 30'X30'

is adequate, but if he doesn't show slope on here and using 7:1, it does not add up to what is on drawing.

Meyer: What does it add up to?

Nagy: You have 114' in each direction.

Meyer: That is what I have.

Nagy: Your map shows 72'X72'

Hackworth: That is what I have.

Meyer: That is before we went up two more feet.

Margaritis: I do not think anyone resubmitted that plan to us.

Kohring: We do not have that.

Margaritis: There is no specification on where this is located on the property. So that is a concern with dimensions and elevations as Chris was mentioning where the system is.

This is a split from the original parcel. There was only one spot that passed before the split.

Kohring: So we are talking a two-bedroom home with a 1500-gallon tank, with a raised mound 30'X30', with a 7:1 slope. Prior to approval, the elevations need to be put in the drawing.

Meyer: Can we just put a dosing chamber in the system?

Margaritis: You can propose that. Our concern is if the system is going to be put in an area where you are going to have surface drainage.

Meyer: No, it all falls to the east.

Margaritis: I cannot tell with the dimensions.

Kohring: So you are saying you need elevations on a map to show it is not in a drainage area?

Margaritis: Yes.

Kohring: The septic tank with baffles and effluent filter? Would the dosing tank make a difference?

Margaritas: The most important part is the system is not located in a low area where there might be an issue.

Kohring: Reserve area?

Margaritas: I cannot tell from this print, there are not dimensions on the map. Typically, we would have a map with dimensions and setbacks.

Kohring: Any questions?

Scott: We cannot hold the property owners and contractors to task on this if they are not specified in the appeal process of what they have to provide.

Margaritis: It is not our job to tell them what they have to provide.

Scott: In a way it is. We have to decide on a decision based on an unknown now.

Margaritas: I would recommend not making that decision then. We rejected property so we can advise them but not controlling what they submit.

Scott: If we are going to charge \$600, and then deny them because they were not made aware of what to provide the board, it does not seem right.

Margaritis: Are we designing the system for them?

Scott: We are talking about setbacks, height of property, have no idea where that is on this property.

Margaritis: That was communicated to them.

Kohring: Two different approaches. Approve a two-bedroom house, 1500-gallon septic system with baffles, effluent filter, and alarm. This would be contingent on a map showing elevation of property that there is a grade between house and drainfeild. Also a map showing there is no drainage area where the house is to be proposed with an area for a reserve system with setbacks. Or rejection.

Scott: My motion is to deny this, but not charge them another \$600 to come back to give us this information. I am making a motion not to approve this. Then when they do come back to us not to charge \$600.

Margaritis: We had discussion with the owner, it would have been helpful if the as here today.

Scott: I will make a motion to deny the appeal.

Kohring: I support that.

Amended Table Resolution

Hackworth: Just to propose another possibility. What if we table this issue so we can pick it up again when we receive the amended plans and specifications.

Scott: I amend my motion to the table then. Table this application until further information is brought to the appeals board.

Kohring: I second that. Would you just run that from top?

Appeal Board Decision:

Hackworth: Motion is to table this application until such time an amended application is provided to the Health Department that meets the map specifications with dimensions of mound placement on property, the elevations that would allow approval of locations on property as well.

Dr. Gleiber seconds the motion, motion approved for the property on 9206 Hagar Shore Rd.

11:51 a.m. Meeting Adjourned

Minutes Submitted by B.Murphy 04/06/22

11:52 a.m. Meeting called to order by Peg Kohring

Kohring: Introductions.

Mr. Dan Versaw (Owner Versaw Earthworks), Mike Genola (Genola Construction).

Installer/Owner's Presentation

Property Tax I.D. # 11-02-0023-0005-05-0

Versaw: The property did not pass Health Department code requirements. The property is clay soil with gentle slope. The southeast end of property

pools water. The proposed house will be on high ground with good drainage. Mrs. Taylor is proposing Mr. Genola to build a three-bedroom house. Well has not been installed yet. We are proposing to install a 20'X45' septic field with 7:1 slopes. Finish grade will be 6' Allegan type mound. The end of slope will be 20' from the property line. There will be two 1000-gallon septic tanks with a 500-gallon dosing chamber. Reserve area will be designated and plotted on site plan. The house will be a primary residence not a rental.

Genola: The house will stay in the family.

Kohring: All right, the Health Department presentation.

Chambers: Application was received for the parcel. The file review from the previous backhoe cuts that were made by Laird Willard and backhoe on September 14, 2018. Those cuts revealed topsoil loam to 12", followed by grey clay to 10', with a seasonable high water table 1' below grade.

I did three soil borings spanning 300' from east to west. All borings revealed a clay loam topsoil to 6", followed by grey clay to 5'. Seasonable high water table to about 6", 10", and 12". Standing water observed on the two west borings at 16" and 28". Based on the soil conditions, it did not pass our code for new construction.

Kohring: What is your reaction to the proposed specification?

Chambers: I would agree with the 7:1 Allegan mound at 6'.

Kohring: And you are satisfied with the two 1000-gallon septic tanks, baffle, and effluent filter, with dosing tank and alarm.

Chambers: Yes.

Margaritas: We do have a concern with the drainbed. It is on a sloping ground. We lose a lot of height. This is not reflected on here. So building this mound on a sloping site, you have 4' here but how many on the downslope. It is up to the board to decide.

Versaw: We make sure the slop meets stone would be minimal. We do not have a problem adding to it to accommodate slope.

Kohring: Is that acceptable?

Margaritis: Sure, yes.

Kohring: Anything more from the Health Department?

Margaritis: No.

Kohring: Questions or comments from the Board?

Scott: Who printed this off?

Margaritis: Mr. Versaw.

Kohring: I am going to make a motion to approve the three-bedroom house. It will have two 1000-gallon tanks with baffle and effluent filter. One 500-gallon dosing tank with alarm. The mound would be a 7:1 Allegan style mound. This mound would accommodate the slope and additional material brought in. There will be a reserve area and will be a 20'X45' system. Garbage disposal is allowed.

Hackworth: I will make amendment. In your reciting, 20'X45' is the dimensions of the drainfield, not the slope.

Kohring: Ok. I take that amendment.

Scott: I support.

Kohring: All in favor.

Board: Aye.

Kohring: Opposed. Motion carried.

12:00 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Minutes Submitted by B.Murphy 04/06/22

12:01p.m. Meeting called to order by Peg Kohring

Interview

Kohring: Vacant position for board of appeals. Sewage appeals board recommends to the board of health the candidate we approve. We have two individuals that have put in application to serve. Individually present to us why you would like to serve on this board.

First, is Mellissa Howse-Kurtz, please introduce yourself and why you are interested in this position.

Kurtz: I used to work for Dr. Glieber. I am a biologist and wanted to serve somewhere locally to get more involved with community.

Kohring: What specific skills do you bring to this position?

Kurtz: I do not think I bring specific skills, I have a PhD. In science education and masters in biology, not much background in Geology.

Kohring: Any questions from Board?

Scott: We always want to protect the environment, and do not want to damage anything down the road. We do the best with the information we have. Usually Versaw does special Waterloo systems. Just wanted to know if you enjoyed yourself with what you might have to do possibly?

Kurtz: I read all policy and procedures. Interested in biology and geology part. There were some dry moments from my perspective.

Kohring: Any other questions.

Hackworth: Is your job permitable to attend meeting like this.

Kurtz: It will vary semester to semester. I do not think once a month will be a problem.

Kohring: Do you have any questions for us?

Kurtz: No.

Kohring: Thank you for coming and applying. The next applicant please. Mr. Taylor welcome.

Taylor: Thank you for having me. I am Joseph Taylor.

Kohring: We will ask same questions. What skills do you bring this position?

Taylor: I was member of the Benton Harbor area school board for ten years. I was in chair position for 5 years of that time. I was also past president of Benton Harbor sunrise Rotary, all kinds of community organizations, first robotics helping students for 17 years. Degree in Water and Wastewater Management from Bay mount Community College. Worked at Benton Harbor treatment plant, water plant, and worked at the wastewater treatment plant as an operator. I work now in engineering for Kitchen Aid, so I am a technical person. I know everything from design and drawings and recognized the lingo that was used today. I am versed in it.

Kohring: I will turn to Commissioner Scott.

Scott: Did you enjoy yourself?

Taylor: This was easy meetings. I had been in record breaking long meeting with the State with not so nice people. It was nice hearing Commissioner Scott talking about the integrity of the future. Very good insight and questions.

Kohring: Meeting are the first Wednesday of the month. Does your schedule accommodate that?

Taylor: Yes, Whirlpool is flexible. We love community service and people that serve on the Board so all you have to do is say the word and it gets put on the calendar.

Kohring: Does anyone have question? Ok, thanks for coming up. Our counsel has suggested we write our choice on a piece of paper and give it to Mr. Miller. He will tally and let us know the recommendation.

Votes recorded and collected by Guy Miller.

Kohring: We make a recommendation to the Board of Health. The Board of Health then makes the decision on the person who would be considered and ratified.

Miller: Consensus is for Mr. Taylor.

Kohring: Mr. Taylor welcome. The first meeting is the first Wednesday in May. The Board of Health will considered your application to be appointed. Meeting starts at 8:00 A.M.

Scott: (Confirms Mr. Taylors' email address).

Appeal Board Decision:

Scott: I'll make a motion to recommend to the Board of Health to appoint Mr. Taylor to the Sewage and Septic Appeals Board.

Kohring: I'll second that. All in favor?

Board: Aye.

Kohring: Opposed?

Motion Carried

12:15p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Minutes Submitted by B.Murphy 04/06/22

