East Haddam Water Pollution Control Authority
Municipal Office Complex

Regular Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2021

1. Call to Order

   Chairman Lord called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

2. Attendance

   Members Present: Edward Blaschik, Richard Fiala, Chairman Andrew Lord, Richard Pettinelli, Bob Casner
   Members Absent: John Russell
   Other Present: Zach Dutton, Jim Ventres

3. Minutes

   Minute's review – Under Item 3, changed to "Edward Blaschik noted the power issues was an Eversource problem in the access road." Under D. reappointments, added At the May 19, 2021 Board of Selectmen meeting was added to clarify the reappointments.

   Motion by Mr. Pettinelli to accept the minutes as revised. Second by Mr. Casner and unanimously approved.

4. Discussion

   a. Clean Water Ops Report and Bills –

      Mr. Dutton provided an update. The grinder pump at 21 Norwich Road flooded with some silts from the beaver dam that broke above the Shagbark store. It is a triplex unit, and all pumps had an issue, but it was addressed and then the pumps worked fine again. Mr. Dutton noted that the system is sound. Mr. Lord noted that Suffield had an issue with water infiltration but, East Haddam has not had any issues. Storm sewers do not flow into the East Haddam system, where that does happen in other systems.

      Discussion ensued related to the report and the amount of monies owed. There is a question on the amount owed, Mr. Dutton will double check and provide the WPCA with an updated invoice at the next meeting. The amount due East Haddam should be $2086.82.

   b. Banner Estates Emergency Fund Payment –

      Mr. Ventres shared the letter from Banner Homeowners Association. They do not have a generator on site to support the sewer system should there be an electrical outage. There was some question as to if the right amount of electricity was flowing into the panel. Eversource checked and verified that the appropriate amount of power is running into the box. Since there

is still an issue, the HOA had to hire an electrician to address the panel issue but, Mr. Ventres noted that that type of work requires a permit. Mr. Ventres will be checking to see that the electrician has pulled a permit to replace the panel, given that is the scope and extent of the work that the electrician did.

Mr. Lord asked if there is still a problem related to who is going to pay for the generator. Mr. Ventres noted that the HOA has to purchase a generator. At the time the system was first permitted, DEEP noted having a portable generator on site was acceptable. The connections are all there. Discussion ensued related to who was responsible for starting the generator in the event of an electricity outage. Mr. Ventres noted there is a management company that fixes items, and the management company would need to address the generator needs during a power outage.

Mr. Lord is getting concerned that the WPCA is getting dragged into the process, by the way of wanting to do the right thing, but that is not the role of the WPCA. The role is to step in and address issues if the permittee or the HOA cannot address items. Mr. Ventres noted the HOA needs to own and address the items as well as continue to pay back the terms of the loan that was provided (which they continue to do). The WPCA is really the backup agency to handle when and if there are issues with the HOA and permittee. The issue of a generator is really to be dealt with by the permittee. If there is sewage flowing down the road, then the WPCA would step in to fix the issue as that is a health hazard that requires fixing.

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Lord at 7:30. Second by Mr. Blaschik and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary