

ON-SITE WASTEWATER SYSTEM TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD MEETING
Planning and Development Center
4700 Elmore Road
Anchorage, Alaska

January 30, 2019
11:30 a.m.

Technical Review Board members Present:

Name

Donna Mears
Mark Swenson
Kyle Brown
Jeff Garness
Kurt Sauers

Also in attendance

Name

Representing

Deb Wockenfuss	MOA/Development Services Department (DSD)
Rebecca Carroll	MOA/DSD
Ross Noffsinger	MOA/DSD
Bill Rieth	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Travis Weaver	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Roy Robertson	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Chris Pletnikoff	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
James Crewdson	Crewdson Engineering, LLC
Tom Varney	Anchorage Tank & Welding Inc.
Steve Pannone	Pannone Engineering

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

Staff called the meeting to order at 11:38 a.m. A quorum was established. Mark Swenson arrived at 11:40 am.

Board members and staff agreed to minor changes to the agenda so the elections of chair and vice-chair could take place.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Elections

Staff called for nominations for Chair. **Mr. Brown nominated Donna Mears for Chair. Jeff Garness second. Unanimously Approved.**

Chair Mears called for nominations for Vice Chair. **Mr. Brown nominated Mark Swenson. Jeff Garness second. Unanimously Approved.**

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Minor changes were made and hearing no objections, the agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES March 21, 2017 & April 24, 2017

Chair Mears called for a motion on the minutes. **Mr. Brown motioned to approve both sets of minutes. Mr. Swenson second. Unanimously Approved.**

Chair Mears welcomed new board members Jeff Garness and Kurt Sauers to the board.

Mr. Varney requested to speak, Chair Mears agreed. He asked why Mr. Garness was allowed to be on the board as he is a competitor with everyone in this room. Chair Mears noted if there are concerns he can recuse himself. Staff noted other boards and commissions do the same. There was a lengthy discussion and it was concluded - it was the municipalities' administrations prerogative to appoint whomever they wanted to the board. Chair Mears commented the board has two open positions available, they are Homeowner north of Northern Lights and the Health Professional/Hydrologist/Real Estate professional position. Mr. Crewdson replied he would like to apply for one of the positions. Staff will forward the link to him.

b. Priorities

1.) Tank options for 15.65.205H

Staff noted the tank options is the highest priority as the new tank code requirements go into effect May 1. We haven't had a lot of proposed new tanks but we do have an approved concrete tank and Anchorage Tank has submitted proposed changes for their steel tanks to comply with code. We are expecting a submittal for another concrete tank. It was asked if anyone is proposing one for ground water applications. Not at this time staff noted. We wanted to let the board know it's coming soon and we don't have a lot of options. It was clarified and discussed that the tank coating and riser requirements were added to 15.65 by the Assembly.

Mr. Garness asked about the man-hole riser insulation and options. Staff replied they were looking at each company to propose what their plan is. We are okay with two (2) inches up through the ground; however, code says four (4) inches and we can't waive code but we can look into changing it when we take up changes to 15.65. Discussion continued for several more minutes.

2.) Changes to 15.65

Since its adoption a number of things have been brought to our attention that don't make sense or could be better worded. Staff has a catalog of those concerns and will also request proposed changes from industry engineers and installers. Staff will compile the list of changes to bring forward at the next meeting.

3.) 15.55 Water Wells rewrite

Chair Mears stated she would like not to see the same process as the wastewater rewrite. Are there things moot, not working, and are there things we need to look at; do we need to send an invitation to the Water-Wells Association. Mr. Brown commented he would be attending the next meeting and would talk to them about recommended changes.

Chair Mears asked if there were any more priorities for the board. Mr. Crewdson asked how industry would be notified about clarifications, etc.... Staff noted there are handouts and policies on the department's website; we send out notices through Constant Contact and we do post them to the website for review and when they are approved.

6. OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMATIONAL/STAFF REPORTS

Chair Mears commented she has been asked did anything happen to wells with the earthquake. It was believed there are more issues out in the valley than in anchorage. Staff replied they know of three (3) tank-only concerns from the earthquake and the wells, we've heard from well professionals that they are really busy. Mr. Varney noted he is putting together a brochure for those that do not have remote monitoring and they had very few major issues due to the earthquake.

a. Reminder of ethics policy

Staff noted this was a reminder of the member's responsibilities to the new members and clarified the Disclosure forms had to be completed by new board members only.

Mr. Varney asked if there was a best practices manual as mentioned at the last meeting and if there is none; should there be one. Staff replied at this time there is not and if it is desired, there would either need to be funding for it to be done by someone other than staff or staff could work on it over time but it would be a lower priority. After a lengthy discussion, Chair Mears noted it would be put on the list of priorities to look into.

The next meeting dates were discussed and it was noted it should be in late March. A Doodle Poll will be sent out.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.