

**LAGRANGE COUNTY REGIONAL UTILITY DISTRICT  
REGIONS B&F WASTEWATER PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES  
MARCH 10, 2021**

The LaGrange County Regional Utility District Board met in a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, March 10, 2021** at 6:00 P.M., in the Camp Lutherwald Hanes Lodge located at 2065 IN 120 Howe, IN.

**MEETING ATTENDANCE:**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Phil Malone,  
Kathy Miller, Secretary/Treasurer  
David Gunter,  
Gerry Turner, President  
Kenneth Hunn, Vice President

**GENERAL MANAGER:** Adam Sams  
**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR:** Jeanette Combs

**ADVISORS:** Steve Henschen, JPR  
Alexandra Vodde, JPR  
Daniel Byam, JPR  
Andrew Boxberger, Carson LLP

The hearing was called to order by Gerry W. Turner at 6:00 P.M.

Steve Henschen introduced the Board Members, management staff and professional advisors of LaGrange County Regional Utility District. He then briefly explained the format of the hearing and stated that there would be a question and comment section after the presentation.

Steve Henschen presented a Power Point Presentation to provide information about the proposed Region C Phase 2 Wastewater Project including its purpose, design, estimated cost and schedule.

Detailed instructions on contact information and methods of returning comments and time frame were provided at the end of the presentation.

**Gerry Turner then directed Adam Sams to open the hearing for public comments and questions.**

**QUESTION:** Gregory Harkuszewski – 1620 W 600 N – “So we are going to have a grinder every two homes, right? And an electrical pole about this high off the ground. So basically, we’re gonna have electrical poles all the way down the street, right? Very ugly

electrical poles. Why can't you make it more into the ground or inside a cover or something that wouldn't be so readily seen?

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “The safety aspect for us to go out and work on it and the water getting into an electrical connection in the ground, we see it more and more often. We have boxes and the gets into them, we try to seal them up the best we can, water always get into them. I don't know any other way to say it but if you're changing an electrical board and one of those grinder pumps and it's negative ten degrees outside you don't want to be down on your hands and knees in a foot of snow trying to change that electrical board out. I used to do it myself. That's where I started, on the service side of things. That's something that is the easiest way for us to maintain the system and that is what is recommended by the manufactures as well.”

COMMENT: Gregory Harkuszewski – 1620 W 600 N – “You realize how ugly that is going to look all the way down the street. All these 4x4 poles. I mean really, seriously, I take care of my yard I keep it really neat and clean. I don't want some eye sore and look down the street and see a whole bunch of electrical poles. I mean, it seems to me, you guys are engineers, that you can come up with something better than a 4x4.”

RESPONSE: Gerry Turner: “Just so you know I am in a neighborhood that has those poles every two houses. You don't see the posts. They are generally tucked in between the houses. You'll get used to seeing them. As Adam said you have the safety issue that basically overrides the esthetics.”

COMMENT: Gregory Harkuszewski – 1620 W 600 N – “I'm an electrician. I know about safety, water and all of that stuff. I'm not completely ignorant on it, but I also know that they could have a pit or something that they could possibly do it. You know? I'm just saying. I'm not an engineer though. But I'm just saying don't want to muck up the esthetics of my home. You know what I'm saying? I take care of it. I do a lot of work around it. I do a lot of landscaping and so forth and all of a sudden I'm gonna get a 4x4 pole you know, in the middle of, you know, just what I'm trying to say here.”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams - “One more comment. You can landscape around these things. You can paint them. I've seen people put a lighthouse over it so light on the lighthouse is actually the red light when it comes on. I've seen people dress them up and you can't tell that that 4x4 post is there. If you contact us and you want to put a white sleeve that, I've had people do that. Just so it looks more esthetics and matches their white picket fence that they have in their front yard. We are here to work with people. We may not put it in the same spot on every single person's yard so you can line them up at 10' of the right of way line so every one of them is going to be in a straight line.”

COMMENT: Gregory Harkuszewski – 1620 W 600 N – “I see one at the corner of highway 9 and 575. There's a house right there, they've got a pit, they've got a bout this wide of an electrical panels and stuff. Is that what you're, or is that something totally different?”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “The electrical panels are not at every spot. The electric companies will give us a flat rate for up to four grinder pumps on one meter base. So that way it’s not a metered rate. It helps us save cost. And then we need to put the electrical disconnects there so we can shut each one off in case someone hits a wire or something like that. There’re aspects that we’ve looked at over the years to see what is the most esthetic. We’ve tried turning them certain ways so they are not blocking views. I know it doesn’t look pretty. I have a lot of areas in Region B that’s been there for 25 years, a lot of the meter bases you can’t even tell now because they planted a vine next to it. It’s kind of hidden and grown to be a part of the spot. I know no one wants that in their yard. I get it.”

COMMENT: Gregory Harkuszewski – 1620 W 600 N – “I don’t want the telephone pole that’s in my yard. If you want to know the truth. Any ways I thought I’d bring that up.

QUESTION: Daniel Brewer – 4775 N 295 W – “I know you can’t tell us how much the monthly cost is going to be on a monthly basis for us. But we do know that the other phase that involves Cedar Lake and Howe is finished. How much are those people paying?

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “\$72 per month.”

COMMENT: Daniel Brewer – 4775 N 295 W – “As I understand it once the grinder pump is installed that takes you 6 feet from the line and it will be the homeowner’s responsibility do pay for the hookup how ever long that might be. Howe much does that cost?

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “It depends on how far it is. I know that one of the contractors that was doing it in Howe and Cedar Lake, I just heard today that the cost of PVC just went up because is a shortage of that around right now due to Covid. But that was \$1500 for the whole thing. So, from the house to the pit, the crush and fill the septic tank, and pump it. That was around \$1500. Also, if you have to go a little bit further, I’ve heard of them up to about \$3500.”

QUESTION: Daniel Brewer – 4775 N 295 W – “Is there any financing available for that?”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “Some banks will do a low interest loan. And the USDA, the United States Department of Agriculture there are programs. The loan program is based on need. There is also a program for senior citizens which is also based on need. The District will have that information when the time comes.”

QUESTION: Daniel Brewer – 4775 N 295 W – “One last thing, so there’s \$11,690,000 cost for the installation of the system and increasing the size of the waste treatment plant. When that \$11,000,000 is paid off does the rate go down for each one of the home owners.?”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “It would depend. Theoretically it could. There will likely be a couple of different amortization schedules in this project. One would be 20 years for mechanicals and things like that. The pipe will probably be 35 years because of the life. So, if 20 years from now no other project was done and no other improvements were needed in the system, or 35 years for that part, the rate could go down. But to be honest, things come up along the way and new projects are needed 20 years from now. It’s unlikely to be honest, but it is a possibility.”

QUESTION: Peggy Evans – 5625 N 190 W – “Once you come across a rate, say it’s \$75 or \$80 or whatever it is, will you try basically, is it your intention to stay at that rate for a long time or will there be incremental every year where you have...”

RESPONSE: Gerry Turner – “I will answer you with a couple of historical facts. This group came to the board after a group of board of directors who approached their business model very conservatively. We found some of financing for the District falling behind. We implemented a graduated rate increase for several years. Realistically we’d love to be able to level out those rates and say yeah that’s where we are going to stay. But the simple truth is bread cost more, gas cost more, everything cost more and things break. So, what happens is we look at it annually. It’s a serious process and we go through it in depth to see what our costs are and to see what we need to in the year ahead or two years ahead, or even up to 20 years. We do not look at a profit. All we want to do is break even over the long haul. So, if there is a rate increases it’s strictly for the purpose of better maintenance or improving capital issues and so forth. I hope that answers your question.”

QUESTION: Peggy Evans – 5625 N 190 W – “Yes, so basically you are going to try to stay where you are at but it could increase because of things you don’t know that are going to happen. The other question is in relation to the electrician that was up here. When might you know the grinder will actually be for each area?”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “That will be later down the road part of the final design process. What we did in the previous project is held easement workshops. Before we can set the grinder pump on your property, we are going to ask you for an easement. Normally we try to put it as close to the property line as we can. You have setbacks on both sides so you can go too close without getting a variance. It’s not a useable space for most people. We will go through and set them as close as we can. We will send out a questionnaire to everyone. You will fill out where your septic tank is and stuff like that. Then we will start setting them where we think will be the best. Then at the easement workshops we will go over things with each customer when you come in to sign your easement. So, they’re going to see where the grinder pump is proposed. At that time there is a possibility of making changes. One thing we are doing this time is actually have the home owner sign off on the location that you chose at this point. We had a lot of changes made after the fact in phase 1. We learn along the way. We have about 3800 of these. As everybody can probably tell I am young in this business. We have to make things better so we don’t have overages on stuff. And that’s the best way we can. We will share that information. You can also meet with me and we can come in have a one-on-one sit down

with you and go over. Then we will relay that back to the engineer to make sure it gets changed on the plans.”

QUESTION: Peggy Evans – 5625 N 190 W – So, basically you will be letting us know by letter or phone?”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “Yes we will.”

RESPONSE: Steve Henschen – The general time frame if we move on this project schedule, we talked about we can be reaching out to you as soon as August of this year.”

QUESTION: George Scigouski – 1415 W 610 N – “I have a couple questions. Do you have a backup generator for this in case the power goes out?”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “For each individual grinder pump, the lift stations or the treatment plant?”

COMMENT: George Scigouski – 1415 W 610 N – “For the whole smear. The power goes out all the time. If you’re in the grid, right?”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “Yep. So, what we have done in prolonged power outages in the past is, since we do have the meter base right out at the road, we actually have portable generators that we can go around and fire each on up. We do that twice per day; once in the morning and once in the evening. There’s about 70-150 gallons capacity in that grinder pump station. So, we can go out fire those up a couple times a day. If it goes for a week, we will continue to do that for a week. We have done it in the past. There was a fairly big storm in the southern part of the county 2 or 3 years ago. That’s what the guys did every day. They took 2 or 3 generators in the back of the truck and fired up the ones that we knew were out of power.”

QUESTION: George Scigouski – 1415 W 610 N – “But that’s on the lift stations?”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “No. That is the grinder pumps. We go right to the meter base and we hook right up to the meter base and we power every one of them up that hooked into that meter base. We do have backup generators at every treatment plant and at every major lift station that we would have.”

QUESTION: George Scigouski – 1415 W 610 N – “One more question. I’m pretty far away from the street. I’m back maybe 100 yards. Where my house is, my neighbor his septic tank is on the other side. If we are facing this way, here’s my house, mine comes out here, his comes out to the left. They did it that way because of the well. Now how is that going to work if you think you have to have 2 houses for every grinder?”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “We try to do that with everyone. We know there are instances where we can’t get everyone to have two houses on one grinder pump. You

may have a single, they may have a single. Or maybe it works out with their other neighbor that we can share on that side.”

QUESTION: George Scigouski – 1415 W 610 N – “I think it’s everybody on that street. They are opposite of where the well is.”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams - “That’s part of the evaluation when we send the questionnaire out that helps the engineer staff a lot to know what side is this one, where is your gas line, where’s this. We will ask you to do a little sketch. We are not asking you to be an artist by any means. Just draw roughly. We don’t need dimensions, just roughly how far it is. Part of the process is when a contractor goes out to do this, they will actually have to shoot grades to make sure it has fall to where the grinder pump is going to be as well.”

QUESTION: George Scigouski – 1415 W 610 N – “So as far as the distance from, can you put it as far back as I’m saying? Close to where my septic tank is?”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “We are going to try our best to get this so it’s reasonable for everybody to connect. We can’t say that we can get it as close as we can.:

QUESTION: George Scigouski – 1415 W 610 N – “I’m just saying from the standpoint that is coming out 48” cause that’s basic. That’s what you have to be down on a sewer system everywhere because it will freeze. So, the grinder has to be deep enough, you know what I mean? So that grinder pump got to be deep enough, you know what I mean? Cause its gravity fed until that grinder up. So, if you’re far away from my house. I kind of know about sewer systems too.”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “I would have to look at it to see where you’re at.”

QUESTION: Robin McLaughin – 1345 W 610 N – “I was wondering if you can describe what the lift station is going to look like since it’s going to be pretty close.”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “I’m not trying to avoid this question. There is a different process we go through that we call pre-selection. What we do is ask vendors to give us their best quote on what we want to do. Then we grade them on things, more than just price. So, we want to make sure it’s something that maybe we already have on our system that we don’t have an odd ball out. There maintenance when we have to have them come out and other different aspects of that. We have not gone through that process. I have ideas in my head but we have not made that definitive that this is the way we are going to go. It kind of depends on how deep is has to be and certain aspects for that. It could be a flat lid with a control panel that looks like it’s stainless steel on it. Or it could be a little 6’ tall hut that is white or green. Most the time what we have been doing now with our newer lift stations is put in privacy slats in the fence so you don’t actually see the equipment there. We try to shield it if we have to, if it’s in a residential area we will have it in the contract that we have to put trees around it or something like that, just as long as it’s not over the pipes so we don’t have to dig it up.”

COMMENT: Andrew Boxberger – “If you’re online and you have a question, we will get to you. As soon as we get through our questions here, we will come to you online.”

QUESTION: Laura Debs – 5845 N 210 W – “You mentioned the amount of waste that would be collected there and when it would be picked up. Is there a certain time frame that it’s picked up by volume, and in regard to, I think you said it leaches out, not the solid waste, but the liquid. I know there is the river there. I’m sure you’ve done all the studies there and I’m wondering how often the solid waste is picked up. Odor, because I know in the past these places usually have an odor and I’m concerned with that when it comes to the solid waste.”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “Good question because this is what I really excel at. I love the actual biology part of the wastewater treatment plants. Every wastewater treatment plant has two different sections. One you want to get solids out, the other you want to get clear water out. The clear water goes out continuously. It’s monitored on a daily basis for a couple of things. Ph, dissolved oxygen, and things like that. Three times a week we have to do a more extensive testing which is like BOD’s, TSS, Ecoli between April and October 31<sup>st</sup>, and a bunch of things. Your biosolids question, that sludge has been digested for roughly 30 days. That beats your time criteria for your biosolids. In layman terms, it’s cooked. It’s done. So, then we put it into a bag, then it dewater. We’ve done it one full cycle now and the bag only raised about a foot. At this rate right now, it could be two years before I ever have to get the biosolids out. Even the liquid sludge that we have land applied at other places there is not much odor. It is more of a musty dirty smell. That is how you can tell if the plant is actually working well. It almost smells like dirt.”

QUESTION: Laura Debs – 5845 N 210 W – “In regard to the 2 houses is there a specific amount of population per house that determines whether or not it should be one or shared?”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “No. We don’t ask for fixture counts, we don’t ask how many kids you have. Nothing like that.”

RESPONSE: Steve Henschen – “They are designed to handle full households.”

QUESTION: Laura Debs – 5845 N 210 W – “You’ve said you learned some lessons from previous, can you share any of those lessons? If it’s not today maybe we can reach out to you to get those written down. Or how can we get those? I think every body here has these questions that can’t answer, but certainly what you’ve learned in the past. Are there a few that are on top of your...?”

RESPONSE: Steve Henschen – “One thing that we are doing at the District is a better job of documenting the actual discussion with the home owner. That’s why we have a form to sign that we all agree that this is where the grinder is going to go. That is probably the number one thing that there have been some miscommunications or misremembrances on how things were set to be. If you’re under construction and that grinder pumps in and you

come and say I want it moved. We can say, look, we have the form here where we all agreed that this is where it's going to go."

QUESTION: Laura Debs – 5845 N 210 W – "What if you do not choose to go with the grinder pump?"

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – "You mean to not connect to the system at all?"

COMMENT: Laura Debs – 5845 N 210 W – "Yes."

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – "Under Indiana Law if your home is within 300 feet of a main line, or if you are on a body of water, if your property line is within 300 feet, you must connect to the sewer system. There are two exceptions. There is a newer septic system exemption, where if your septic system is less than 10 years old you can apply for an exemption from the District, and the health department has to sign off on it. You will all get a letter explaining your rights to and the process for applying for those exemptions. The exemption is you have to have 10 acres and also per the health department have a big enough leach field. But the most common one is I have a brand-new septic system I just put in; do I have to connect?"

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – "We only had one who did that in the first phase of Region C".

QUESTION: Bergstedt, James T & Pamela J – 3265 W SR120 – Also representing Lima Church at 6900 N 450 W – "You guys are bringing to the county. From about 300 and on West we have about Amish. I chose to live at my grandparents' house. We have 17 acres. I don't know why this is coming out."

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – "If you have 17 acres you may not have to use the system."

QUESTION: Bergstedt, James T & Pamela J – 3265 W SR120 – "What about the church? We have a parsonage and a church. It's a small church. You guys are going to bankrupt people. This is a very underprivileged area and you guys are coming out here into the county bringing this out and people are having problems putting food on the table. You guys want to charge us \$70 to poop. I don't understand why this happening in the country. I've got a couple things with paper write up that said that soils are not conducive to septic. A&B Excavating, Akins, I work for sand and gravel, we've got Miller Excavating, and they said this is the best area out here to have septic. Sandy Loa Gravel, these are the best septic's we've ever seen. We got 320 W, a little subdivision, none of them got papers. You're counting on people to read the standard but people don't read papers anymore. They never got papers about his meeting."

RESPONSE: Jeanette Combs – "I'm not familiar with there that is. I will have to look at the map. Maybe they are not in the project, I am not sure without looking."



QUESTION: Bergstedt, James T & Pamela J – 3265 W SR120 – “Well they are East of us so their all in it. You put it here that you are protecting the rivers but we have an Amish neighbor, nothing against Amish, but we have a culvert and they spread liquid manure six times a year and it goes into the river. The kids have gotten sick out of it. You have different problems. You guys are saying the septic is going in the river and the lakes. That not the only thing that’s in there.”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “Fair enough but that’s what this entity does, it’s sewers. The Health Department sounds like they need to be contacted.”

COMMENT: Bergstedt, James T & Pamela J – 3265 W SR120 – “They are.”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “Okay.”

QUESTION: Bergstedt, James T & Pamela J – 3265 W SR120 – “The state is involved in it but there’s really limited things because we live in an Amish community. The Amish might tell you they only have outhouses, but they have septic. They can’t afford this. Are you going to have them hooking up? I know from this place on you’re looking at three different Amish houses.”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “If there is a sewage producing structure within 300 feet of the line then yes, they will be required to connect.”

QUESTION: Bergstedt, James T & Pamela J – 3265 W SR120 – “You got to make it fair for everybody and I just don’t think a lot of the farm community wants this. And like I said, a small church, \$70 when we haven’t had church in a year, will bankrupt people. This is really sad that you guys are doing this. I know COVID has affected everyone but you guys are not seeing the big picture of a community that is not a wealthy community. I understand lakes and want to protect them, I do not understand why you are coming out in the country. We chose to live in the country. That’s why we wanted it. We didn’t want this stuff. And now you’re saying yeah.”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “450 W, I don’t believe that is in our service area. So, if you got a letter for the church...”

COMMENT: Bergstedt, James T & Pamela J – 3265 W SR120 – “Yes we did. And it’s on 600, 600 turns to 650, that goes to 700.”

COMMENT: Unknown – “They aren’t going out that far.”

COMMENT: Bergstedt, James T & Pamela J – 3265 W SR120 – “The church got a letter.”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “It could be a clerical mistake on the church. We met with the health department and Al Garcia gave us a few areas of concern. One of them was that area where you are living. If there is 10 acres there you can go through a process to

file for an exemption. We will explain that as Andy stated previously in some future documents that we will be sending out.

QUESTION: Bergstedt, James T & Pamela J – 3265 W SR120 – “What about people that have 20 acres, but they have 3 houses on that.”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “It’s a 10 acres parcel. Are you saying 3 different homes on one 20-acre parcel?”

COMMENT: Bergstedt, James T & Pamela J – 3265 W SR120 – “Yes.”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “I haven’t had that question before but off the top of my head they could be exempt if they meet certain standards.”

QUESTION: Tony Gunthorp – 2685 W SR 120 – “I know someone that wants to purchase more land so they will not have to hook up to the line. Is it true that if own 10 acres of land that you will be exempt from hooking up?”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “You could be. That is the first standard you have to meet. You have to have 10 or more acres, you have to have sufficient area for a leach field, and the health department has to determine that the system is sufficient. So, if somebody wants to buy 10 acres just to be exempt from the system that’s a gamble. You want to make sure that it’s going to meeting the standards. But if somebody wanted to do that and they met all the standards, certainly they could possibly be exempt.”

COMMENT: Tony Gunthorp – 2685 W SR 120 – “Either that or you could put a new septic system in and meet the requirements, but that would be expensive.”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “It would be expensive and it would have to be done quickly before we start our project. There’s pros and cons with that. When I send out the letter, I always say you may be exempt but 10 years from now when your exemption expires then you are going to have to connect. The numbers Adam was throwing around earlier, guesses, \$1500-\$3000 to connect 10 years from they are not going to put the grinder in, you will have to put in the pit. The homeowners going to have to do all of that. So, if you use the exemption now, which is your right, it may cost you in the long run and might save you money to just connect now.”

COMMENT: Jeanette Combs: - “I just wanted to say that if you own a vacant parcel in the service area and received a letter it is because we may need an easement from you at some point. All parcels in the service area should have received a letter, even for vacant parcels.”

COMMENT: Andrew Boxberger – “To follow up on what Jeanette said, what I said about the 300 feet, you have to have a sewage producing structure. If you own a vacant lot you obviously don’t have to connect to the sewer. If you have a structure on that lot producing sewage then yes you have to connect if you are within 300 feet.”

QUESTION: Claudia Hedeem – 6060 N 160 W- “Some of the housing and lots are really tight back there and are odd shapes. We looking to potentially put-up garage and we are already confined by an easement that goes to the next property that will never be used. How would putting in the grinder stations and the pipes effect such a thing?”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “When a grinder goes in there is an easement, 7.5 feet on each side. So that would be the area that could not be built on top of.”

QUESTION: Claudia Hedeem – 6060 N 160 W- “What I am getting at is there is already an easement on one portion of our property but there no traffic, no lane, no anything. Would you be using that section or potentially for your grinder station because it’s not used for anything else.”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “It sounds like someone else has the rights to that.”

RESPONSE: Steve Henschen – “You would have to find out who owns the rights to that. Those are all things that we are glad to work with you on to decide the grinder pump placement. We will to the best of our ability be working around your existing structures, but if you have plans for another building, we will try to work with you on that if we can find a spot to fit it. Sometimes we can’t always do that.”

QUESTION: David Miller – 5319 N 290 W – “I just put a new septic in last year. You are saying if I have a new system, will they reimburse anything or how does that work?”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “Again, if you have a new system, the health department has to sign off on it, you could be exempt. Assuming you meet all the standards it’s 10-year life, and two 5-year extensions. So, you could have a septic system up to 20 years until you would be required to connect to the system.”

QUESTION: David Miller – 5319 N 290 W – “When would I have to connect to the new system?”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “In 19 years if you meet all the requirements.”

QUESTION: David Miller – 5319 N 290 W – “The pump and everything would be there?”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “No. You have to do it yourself 19 years from now.”

QUESTION: David Miller – 5319 N 290 W – “So I’m better off hooking into it then?”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “It’s your call.”

QUESTION: David Miller – 5319 N 290 W – “We have a walk out basement and there is a bathroom below. Do I have to pump it up to the grinder pump?”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “Do you a pump pumping it up now?”

COMMENT: David Miller – 5319 N 290 W – “Yes.”

RESPONSE: Adam Sams – “Then you would have the same thing in there and we would set our pumps, cause our pumps only pump about 11 gallons per minute cause it’s a grinder, it would be set to be a delay for the red light because an injector pump would probably overwhelm ours and the red light would kick on every time your pump came on. So, we would put a delay timer in there to take care of that.”

COMMENT: Andrew Boxberger – “Does anyone online have any questions?”

No response

QUESTION: Mike James – 5765 N 210 W – “My question is about the treatment plant and the expansion of it. The numbers you’re seeing are guaranteed at this point or it remains to be seen.”

RESPONSE: Steve Henschen – “That’s a great question. We are being conservative right now in our planning. As engineers we like data, and lots of years of history of flow coming to a treatment plant. Unfortunately, we don’t have that with Region C Phase 1 because it’s only been online a little over a year now. We are moving forward as if we need to do the treatment plant expansion. We are going to request funding for that. We may back off on needing to do the treatment plant expansion. Several factors for that. Not that it’s going to be undersized, but there was some growth built in to that Region C Phase 1 plant. We had estimated flows from the travel plaza, and in reality, we were conservatively estimating 50,000 gallons per day based on flow records they had. We have found out that that may have been an inflated number. Right now, they are only generating about 10,000 gallons per day. We are also in the middle of COVID, so we don’t know how much flow reduction is because of that or if that’s their real number every day. We want to get through this summer season, where we have been online for a full year, then we can evaluate that. Then we can determine if we can eliminate the treatment plant expansion and maybe only do the sludge drying bed or maybe a smaller EQ tank or something rather than the full doubling of capacity.”

QUESTION: Tom Atwater – 5450 N 300 W (owns farmland on west side of 290) – “Will I be consulted if you come on my farmland?”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “There is road right of way, I assume, if there is, we will deal with the county. If we come on your property absolutely, we have to talk to you. We can not come on your property without your permission.”

QUESTION: Unknown – “Tom owns all of the farmland on 290. I assume he’s going to get paid if he has to give up easement rights?”

RESPONSE: Andrew Boxberger – “We will always try to go on the road right of way and stay off people’s property. If we have to come on your property, we cannot do that without an easement. We will send you a letter explaining all of your legal rights to you. Most of the time, many times, you could be entitled to compensation. There are other factors that play into that. But if you own the property and we need to come on it we can do anything unless you say so.”

COMMENT: Adam Sams – “Any other questions? Comments?”

There were none.

Gerry Turner concluded the hearing inviting everyone to stay, look at the maps and ask any further questions.

The hearing was closed at 7:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette Combs  
Recording Secretary