

LAPORTE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

May 5, 2022

Time and Place:

The LaPorte County Regional Sewer & Water District held a public meeting on Thursday, May 5, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. Central Time, located at LaPorte County Complex Annex, Meeting Room #3, 809 State Street, LaPorte, IN 46350 and also by Zoom Meeting. Login:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88135256791?pwd=YzZ5dk4zZVV5MIE3Y1JoeVh5SW11QT09>,

Meeting ID: 881 356791 Password: 367825

Or Call in at +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago), Meeting ID: 881 3525 6791, Passcode: 367825

Attendees:

Meeting was called opened at 6:00 p.m. by John Carr, President. Marcella Kunstek and Amanda Lahners from the board were also present.

Presentation:

Ken Jones, President of Jones Petrie Rafinski (JPR) introduced himself and his company. Mr. Jones gave a 30-minute presentation followed by Questions and Answers from those in attendance. Anyone from the public that wanted to speak was required to sign in at the front door prior to the meeting.

What is this all about:

- Late in 2013 a small group of Hudson Lake residents took the initiative to consider the future of Hudson Lake as a community including the concern for the lake and the area's drinking water.
- They contacted Koontz Lake RSD to ask for advice and the board recommended they speak to JPR.
- JPR offered to assist the group by preparing a Preliminary Investigative Report.
- During that time, the Saugany Shores Homeowner's Association was contacted to gauge interest at Saugany Lake to complete a similar study.
- Those reports were completed in late 2014.
- Hudson Lake and Saugany Lake residents formed a planning committee and conducted community meetings in 2015.
- Planning was discontinued as the District completed the Rolling Prairie project.
- In 2021 the planning work was re-started when funds for the environmental work became available.

What is the current Status of the Plan:

- A Preliminary Engineering Report (P.E.R.) has been completed and an application has been made to the State Revolving Loan Program.

- The completed report provides a feasibility analysis for a community sanitary sewer collection and treatment system.
- An environmental study has been completed relative to impacts to sensitive natural resources within the planning area.

Purpose and Need: -

- The average American home generates 210-310 gallons of wastewater per day.
- At Hudson and Saugany Lakes, and assuming the lower value, approximately 233,000 gallons of wastewater are deposited into the soil each day.
- As the on-site septic systems in the community reach the end of their useful life the community will not have many viable options for appropriate treatment of human waste.
- Risks to health are real – along with risks to the environment are possible and impacts to the drinking water supply are expected.
- Preservation of housing stock and home values are key – the community is already experiencing challenges.
- Human encroachment can affect surface water quality over time. We are not aware of an acute issue at the Lakes – that is good news for now.
- It is likely that contaminants are finding their way to the Lakes through saturated soil or water table.
- There are a few actions homeowners can take on their own to protect and preserve the drinking and surface water resources.
- Working together can have a positive impact.
- Developing a sanitary sewer is one-way residents can do their part.

Household Septic Systems

- The first septic system was installed in 1874 and was the best technology available at that time.
- The concept was that the liquids would be absorbed by the soil and evaporate.
- Dissolved solids would stay in the soil.
- This solution was better than putting human waste on or directly in the ground.
- The best properly operating systems still have the potential to pollute the local soil and the groundwater over time.

Lifestyles Have Changed Since 1874

- Many 1800 and early 1900 people only bathed once a week.
- No automatic washers, dishwashers, water softeners, etc.
- Early septic households used approximately 50 gallons of water per day per family.
- Today's automatic washer can use as much as 25 gallons per load. We now have dishwashers, garbage disposals, water softeners, etc. This greatly increases the hydraulic and organic loading on the available septic system.

How Household Systems Work

- Waste flows from home to septic tank.
- Liquids and dissolved solids flow out of septic tank.
- Soil filters liquids.
- Liquid enters groundwater.

- Groundwater is the major source for wells and lakes/ivers.

Septic Systems & Lakes/Rivers

- According to health officials a gray water discharge from a properly operating septic system near a lake/river can create a hydraulic effect (apply a positive pressure) causing a discharge of contaminated septic effluent groundwater to enter the lake/river through a natural spring. This is due to high water or poor filtering capability of the available soil, a condition known to exist in the Hudson and Saugany Lakes area.
- Nutrients from septic systems feed and promote weed and algae growth. All lake/river area septic tanks contribute to the problem unless they are closed systems (holding tanks).
- Soil and water conditions around lakes/ivers make septic systems less efficient.
- “It is critical that the sewage disposal problems in these lake areas be addressed as soon as possible.” (Indiana State Department of Health)
- A septic system will never work better than the day it is installed. Its performance will only deteriorate. The typical life of a septic system under ideal conditions is approximately 20 years. Properly operating septic systems are polluting lakes/ivers. Consider the ones that are not operating properly.
- Direct or indirect discharge of septic effluent can cause:
 1. Excessive weed growth, especially by the shore.
 2. Raised bacterial level.
 3. Elevated counts of E. coli.
 4. Excessive algae.
 5. Cross connection to water wells.
 6. Elevated health risks to residents.
 7. Lowered Dissolved Oxygen – this is what fish breathe in the water. Healthy Lakes normally provide over 70% of their water column for fish habitat. Lakes/ivers impacted by reduced DO levels can have the depth range reduced by half or more during certain times of the year.
- Raised Total Phosphorus. This is the main nutrient contributing to vegetation growth in lakes/ivers.

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Project Area:

- The project area is located in Hudson and Galena Townships in the northeast corner of LaPorte County, Indiana.
- Hudson Lake is west of Saugany Lake and both lie just south of the I80/90 Toll Road and to the north of US 20.

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Community and Study Area Concerns and Facts:

- The study area at the Lakes includes as many as 1113 residential equivalents (EDU).
- The estimated population of the study area is estimated at just less than 2,750 persons.
- A majority of the soils within the study areas are rated “very limited” for construction and operation of septic systems (USDA, NRCS Soils Inventory). This translates to: reduced ability to filter and treat wastewater, risk of early failure and the need for costly “engineered systems”.

- Many (if not most) of the homes sites within the study area are under the minimum size as stipulated in the County zoning ordinance for use of on-site septic systems (min. 24,000 square feet, by ordinance), many are much smaller.
- Based on the density per acre, water well isolation, and system sizing as required by code cannot be achieved in most cases – this could lead to very high repair expenses, a holding tank requirement, use restrictions, or prohibited occupancy.
- The Indiana State Department of Health has advised that “it is critical that the sewage disposal problems in these lake areas be addressed as soon as possible”.
- Direct exposure to septic waste is a high-risk situation, long term, and indirect exposure can be risky as well. The United States Geologic Society (USGS) says that “in residential areas, effluent recycling can occur if wells are shallow or septic systems are improperly placed ...”

Health and Human Welfare:

- Indiana Department of Health Septic System Standards are also County Standards.
- 410 IAC 6-8.3-57 Separation Distances (b) Sewers shall not be located within fifty (50) feet of any water supply well or subsurface pump station line, except as follows:
 1. Sewers constructed or waterworks grade ductile iron pipe with titan or mechanical joints, or PVC pressure sewer pipe with an SDR rating of twenty-six (26) or less with compression gasket joints, may be located within the fifty (50) foot distance.
 2. In no case shall sewers be located closer than twenty (20) feet to dug and bored water supply wells, or closer than ten (10) feet to drilled and driven water supply wells or subsurface pump suction lines.
- Specification Distances chart is most disturbing for home private water supply sites. Most homes will have difficulty achieving the 50 feet radius.
- Another disturbing aspect is the Public water supply well, lake, or reservoir. This requirement is 200 feet. No septic systems are supposed to be allowed within that isolation area.
- Most homes are waterfront homes and would be measured from the high-water table.
- Other lake areas buy another property adjacent to the street to place their septic systems. In this community, there is nothing available and it is also very expensive to purchase additional property.
- R1A – Single Family Residential - Lot Area and Width Requirements for this County are 24,000 Sq. Ft. Minimum Lot Area-15,000 Sq. Ft. with sewer.
- Minimum Lot Width: 120 Ft – 90 Ft with sewer.
- R1B – Single Family Residential – Minimum Lot Area 24,000 Sq. Ft. – 10,000 Sq. Ft. with sewer.
- Minimum Lot Width: 100 Ft – 70 Ft with sewer.
- Home constraints put residents at Risk.
- R1C – Single Family Residential – Minimum Lot Area 7,200 Sq. Ft. – Minimum Lot Width – 50 Ft.
- R1D – Single Family Residential – Minimum Lot Area – 5,000 Sq. Ft. – Minimum Lot Width – 50 Ft.

- R1E – Waterfront Residential – Minimum Lot Area – 5,000 Lot Area – 5,000 Sq. Ft. – Minimum Lot Width – 50 Ft.
- This community should already be on sewer service by the size of the lots and the area availability of the width requirement but it's not.
- The County has not caught up to the residential requirements in this area yet.
- This is not the fault of anyone living in this area – but it's up to this generation to do something about it.
- 1019 Home sites – Homes that are 60 years old on average.
- Systems have exceeded their expected lifespans. Life expectancy is 20-25 years.
- If repairs have occurred, then no available area remains.
- A very low percentage of documented repairs or septic system when we did that research back in 2014-2015. Could be better now if the Health Department did everything they could to sustain their homes and overcome the limitations.
- We found 10% or less at Saugany Lake and 7% at Hudson Lake. This precedes the documentation requirements of the Health Department, and the systems are far beyond their life expectancy.
- In addition to the obvious concerns, there are several other factors that should be considered.
- Average home site needs to make space for home, garage, driveway, sidewalks, patio/deck, storage shed/building, initial septic system, replacement septic system and a 100-foot diameter (50-foot radius) isolation area for the water well under current standards.
- From review of the Laporte County GIS and the majority of the home sites in the service area are far less than half of the minimum size for home site without gravity sewer.
- Based on the average age of the homes in the service area, the existing on-site septic systems have matured to the point that on-site treatment will either become too costly for homeowners to replace or will not be possible at all.
- So the purpose of this project is pretty clear to the residents and it was clear back in 2014 and is even clearer now.

Comparative System Budgets:

- Various On-site System Replacement Costs were shown and discussed ranging from Gravity Trenches \$5,615-\$15,050, Flood Dosed Trenches \$5,840 - \$20,025, Elevated Sand Mound \$12,540 - \$29,025, and Aerobic System \$5,840-\$16,525.
- If you were going to go get a home equity loan through your bank to build that system at 4% today it would cost approximately a monthly rate of \$34-\$91 for Gravity Trenches, \$35-\$121 Flood Dosed Trenches, \$76 - \$176 Elevated Sand Mound and \$35-\$100 for Aerobic System.
- Annual operation and maintenance fees would be estimated at \$3.50 to \$187.50/month.
- Estimated Community Sewer Costs per home are \$75-\$95/per home.
- Back in 2014 it was about \$65/per home.
- Costs have gone up and continue to go up.
- The one thing that is good is that the funding it out there right now for these projects.
- Right now, across the board the rates are running at \$80-95/month.

- Those rates are possible with the partnership of the funding sources.
- USDA and SRF -

The Outcome:

- Home septic systems can be abandoned allowing homeowners more flexibility in the use of their land.
- The need for a public water supply is reduced, as the aquifer is no longer threatened by septic waste discharge.
- Historical data indicates that the property resale values normally increase proportionally to the capital cost of the sewer system for each home.
- Overall reduced risk to health and human welfare. Waste-borne pathogens are eliminated and wastewater is recycled to the highest degree possible and released back into the environment with no negative impact to surface or ground water resources.
- Asked on every project is the State will come along and mandate the septic illumination project – you can certainly wait and do that – but waiting will likely make it very difficult to own a septic system. You can tell by the higher standards of the septic systems.
- Those will continue to get more restrictive over time until as a homeowner you will not want to buy a home without additional land to replace the system over and over again or unless it is on a public sewer system already.

Sewer Collection Systems – Lower Pressure Sewer System:

- We studied 2 alternatives for the project and one was gravity sewer throughout the entire system and the other was low pressure sewer system.
- In the end low pressure won out so that we did not have to pave every street.
- The technology of Low Pressure Sewer Systems has been proven over and over again and that is what is recommended in the PER.
- 100% of the waste is transported by pressure through a network of small diameter pipes to a central treatment facility.
- Wastewater is treated to surface water quality standards then released back into the environment.
- Grinder pump station – 1 per home or every 2 homes – small diameter collection system – 1” – 6”. Usually placed somewhere on the homeowner’s property.
- We work with the property owners to determine where that grinder will be located.
- The advantages are it is at a lower cost to construct and can be installed by directional drilling. Reducing the impact on roads, trees, and landscaping.
- The disadvantages are the moving parts, requiring power connection for every pump and slightly higher operational costs.
- This project we have made a move to build a separate electrical power system for the grinder. The goal is to try and minimize the cost for the entire system and the electrical site for the property owner.

Proposed Project and Project Costs:

- 120,000 ft of Pressure Sewer.
- 746 Grinder Pump Units.

- 2 Main Pumps Stations Upgraded to Wastewater Treatment Plants.
- 24,000 ft of Force Main.
- Total Project Cost - \$33.9 M.
- Annual Cost of Operation - \$600K.
- Targeted Rate - \$75-\$95/month.
- Need funding sources to help get to that rate.
- Ongoing discussion will continue as the project advances.
- The goal is to take both funding resources and get the best monthly rate possible.
- Hudson Lake demographics are eligible for a grant and will share that with Galena Township.
- SRF will come to the table saying what rate they want the monthly rate to come in at for the property owners.
- If the funding is comfortable with the trustees then moving forward we would go with design later this year and bidding in 2023 and construction in late 2023 and 2024.
- Now the presentation is complete, and you have the opportunity to have public comments.
- You can also send them in writing to the District's website or the resource website on our website.

Typical Questions and Answers for this project:

- Question – Location and expenses of the Grinder Pump?
- Answer: We are recommending we place the grinder pump a maximum of 100 ft onto the property owner's parcel. That means that the cost is on the project is included in the rate everyone would pay. And as mentioned the electricity is paid by the District.
- Question – Maintenance and replacement of the Grinder Pump?
- Answer: 100% covered by the District and maintained by the District. So, if something breaks you call the hotline number on the panel and someone comes out and replaces it. Takes the one not working back and gets it repaired.
- Question – Hook up costs?
- Answer: Hook-up costs vary across the board depending on the various sites. Not sure how to estimate that other than saying it could vary between \$20-\$30/ per foot to make the gravity connection between your home and the grinder pump. Again, that grinder pump location will be located anywhere within 100 ft of the property owner's parcel to cut down on the cost for the property owner to connect.
- One thing that was allowed in the Rolling Prairie project was being able to use the remaining funds to help homeowners be reimbursed for their connection costs up to \$1,000. This is the first time ever it has been allowed by a funding source. Not saying it will happen again in the project but it would be a nice goal for the project if there are funds left over in the project.
- The cost of connecting the home to the grinder is borne by the property owner. There are some resources available from the USDA for a home improvement loan – partial grant and partial loan. It is for lower income homes.

- Will also encourage the District to consider an ICA Community Grant Program. Owner occupied homes – application and award and multiple communities providing grants to make essential improvements.
- Another option is for the District to work with local lenders for programs specifically for the project and pay over an extended period for the cost of the connection if they don't have it on hand. With a fairly reasonable interest rate and no lien on the home and is definitely doable for the homeowner to finance.
- Exemptions are also available as well – Exemptions were actually strengthened this year as well by recently passed legislation. If a property owner says their system is not failing and they want to prove it, it doesn't matter how old their system it, and if you can prove it under the criteria set out under the law, you are entitled to an exemption. It still has to be approved by the board.
- The trick to getting the exemption is somewhat complicated. Here are the steps.
 - When we file for the permit on this project a notice will go out to every single property owner by direct mail, and it will have all the information in there about the exemption filing and how to go about doing it. You will get that notification right in the mail.
 - The septic system has to have been new when it was put in – it cannot have been repaired.
 - It has to have been done under a permit by the LaPorte County Health Department.
 - It has to have been inspected by the LaPorte County Health Department when it was complete.
 - It has to be shown that it is not failing.
 - The inspector has to come out and verify that the septic is not failing – this is done at your own cost – not the Districts.
 - Inspector cannot see any wastewater on the ground.
 - You have to be able to show that your septic system is not polluting the ground water under your home or around your home.
 - If you are wanting that exemption all of those things have to line up. Then that package will have to go to the board.
 - The board would review at their monthly meetings. If approved, you would have an exemption for 10 years. After 10 years you would have to go through the process again and get another 5 year exemption and then again in another 5 years for a total of 20 year exemption.

Public Comments:

Megan Upheld – 7635 E Bell Avenue – First question, how was the service area picked – it seems odd that the West end of Hudson lake was not included in the service area.

ANSWER: The density of the homes of the next road to the west did not support the construction of a very expensive sewer connection. So, we went from the south side out through the little island and back up the west side of the neighborhood.

Next question, I have sufficient space for my septic and replacement area – why do I have to jump through hoops and spend money to prove it?

ANSWER: Because that is the prescribed methodology. That doesn't mean you can't come to the board and have a dialog but that is the current way to get the exemption. The service area is really drawn to maximize the benefit of the system.

Megan also asked about other homes and their septic's being eligible for the exemption, along with what the cost for connection might be.

ANSWER: All the homes within the project would be eligible for the exemption process if they follow the exact same process. Costs for the connection are not known at this time due to the project being new and construction being unknown at this time and we will learn it together.

Brian Gray – 8828 E 700 N – Per your numbers you are looking at moving 233,000/gpd. Is that being pumped away? What is that going to do to ground water levels for people's wells in the area? Because if that water table drops then a lot of people are going to be putting in new wells.

ANSWER: We don't have any information on any of the sewer projects we have worked on that there has been any impact on the water table because of the addition of a sanitary sewer project. I don't think that you are depending on your septic systems to keep your aquifer charged. I think if you google it and do the math, and know the size of Hudson, Hudson probably losses 7-10 times that number every day in evaporation already. The lake is tied to an exposed aquifer.

If we follow the process for the exemption and have plenty of room for a new system – can they still deny our request?

ANSWER: No not under the current rules. If you follow all the process and timeline, then you can't be denied.

The projected monthly cost that you guys threw out is contingent upon how many grants we can and cannot get. So that number could vary a little and it could vary a lot. If you were to file your exemption and get it approved, and for some reason in 10 years from the now your septic went out, and you were going to hook in then are you responsible for any back charges from the time the community sewer was put in and your septic failed?

ANSWER: On that topic the new rules also address that and we are trying to figure out exactly what the new rules mean and what the property owner would be responsible for. To serve your home for the project we would need a grinder pump – if you are granted the exemption then we would not set out the grinder pump for your home. So, what we would be looking at as some kind of a connection fee plus a no net cost to the District. So that means you would have to procure the grinder pump and have it installed as required by the District's ordinance or guidelines. So yes you would have an exemption to the sewer but the cost would definitely be different if you connect later. Some Districts will then take on the grinder pump after you put it in and some District's will make you be responsible for the grinder.

In another District they seek bids for the homeowner and go over them with the owner and then they charge you based on the lowest bid. That cost has been anywhere from \$8-16K depending on how complicated the connection for the home was.

Can you be charged for the months when you were not connected:

ANSWER: No you cannot be charged for the months you were not connected. Even if there is a connection fee it is controlled by the legislature now. Essentially you paying for the grinder is

you catching up with all your neighbors for the money they have been paying all the months you have not been paying. The goal is to get everyone on the system to be equal owners of the system by either paying in or buy later buying their own grinder. You are making up for it later by adding infrastructure to your property that could have been built previously during the construction of the project.

Susan Lowery – 5692 E 800 N – Is there a chance that this sewer system doesn't happen? If that was the case what can a fan of the sewer do to help?

ANSWER: Yes, there is a possibility it won't go forward. The board is going to have to be satisfied that they have done the best they can for the cost of the homeowner in order to go forward. Ken Jones indicated that in his career he hasn't had one that didn't go forward but looking at the cost for the present day these projects have just accelerated – but on the other side the funding has accelerated. There is a window of opportunity for this project, but it will ultimately depend on how comfortable the trustees feel about what the customers can bear relative to the cost. That is what I have heard that is what their focus is on. As far as you can do. Keep doing what you are doing and come to the meetings and show your support for the board and what they are doing.

One other question – has water been considered? Or is it providing water a lot more expensive and be something down the line?

ANSWER: Yes it would be as expensive and think about what the City of LaPorte has to do to provide water. That is a constant business with well, towers and connection all the homes. It's just as complicated as what we are talking about here today and would double the obligation. I have seen some scenarios where water came first and that was on the other side of Elkhart, and they had some pretty bad issues. Mostly it had to do with cross-contamination issues and it couldn't continue so they had to put the water system in first because they needed to get people drinking fresh water. In this scenario, we haven't engaged in any testing, but it could happen 10 years from now.

Final thought – people who don't like something are louder. Maybe you have heard negative feedback and I can only represent myself and I know others that are excited about the potential sewer project.

Kathy Lane – 8246 E Lakeview – Understand the water situation – she is retired, and they all have a limited income. For the number of people in Hudson Lake that is an extreme amount of money, especially right now. Gas is up, food is up, utilities just went up 23%. Now we have all these electrical grids and substations – it looks like an armpit. I understand progress – but people on the lake – I have seen the homes I have been here for 40 years, and they are building new homes across from me and how are they getting by? They should be coming up with special mound systems for these places – can you try that first? What happens if I go \$4-\$5K to put it in and then another fee to hook it up and then another on top of it – then \$60/\$80/month then it will go up another year just like our utilities are. How much can one person take, especially right now how our economy is right now for a retired person on a limited income with a little bit of pension? Now I'm going to be faced with another \$400/month? And every year it will go up and up and up. I am on a half-acre. I am almost 80 ft between my well and septic. I have soft water

and reverse osmosis system and are you saying I have been wasting my money and that can't correct some of the water issues maybe? Culligan tells me I have 99% free water. I'm so frustrated because will a bank give a loan to a retiree who is no longer working? Seriously, because I was told by my financial guy that I may want to take out a home equity line a year before I retire because if there is an emergency banks are not going to want to give you a loan. I understand that people on the lake are just crammed in there – but where are the engineers that we are paying for that are going to school to come up with good financial issues? I can tell you right now that some of those houses down by the lake are terrible. They are falling in and we do not even have code enforcement. Then you are talking about down at the lake at the big beach area – how many cars can you park down there – 5 or 7 maybe? Then more Chicago people are coming in which is fine, but they are taking over. Then you got people that can't even put a peer in because they can't. If you could I would have done it years ago. Single people are doing it – putting peers up to prevent other people. I'm confused because it's about our health but we have all lived down there a long time. I thought the lake waters are tested all the time for the kids to go in there and swim. So is this because of the farmland – I understand if the houses are sitting right on top of each other then engineers should come up with something better. Now we are at 2022 this is not a new thing. I wanted to live here and I'm from Illinois. I like the small town but it's getting ridiculous. Why go through this expense person by person when you look around. Look at houses falling in – isn't that more important to get that cleaned up? I understand this issue here but there are a lot of questions you can't answer right now. Why does it cost a person \$5,000 to put in pipe to hook up? That is just the first year you know that we are not all idiots.

ANSWER: Don't know that I can answer every question but my mother is a retired widow but she lives in an area where they should have had sewer a long time ago. She just put in a septic system that cost about \$16-\$17,000. The USDA actually paid for it through the program we are talking about – she probably couldn't have gotten a bank loan but she did qualify for that program. As you know when he introduced me he said CFO so you know I know about the economy and inflation and we just made significant increases to employees based on such. So I get it as we are both employees as well. One of the things I notice a lot when I drive through the projects years after these projects are built is that there is so much improvement in these areas from people improving their homes slowly and over time. The hitch in that is that you can qualify for that assistance because it's not owner occupied. So, there is a lot of landlords in those communities. So I do know that there are programs out there for property owners and for you particularly you said you lived on a half-acre so you sound like someone who has all their ducks in a row, but you probably could put this off until a future date. I live on a well and septic too and I do know from what I do that all they are a future payable that I don't know when it is going to hit. I know I'm going to try and prevent it and pump it every 3 years.

Diane Kuhl – by zoom – 7393 E Tulip Lane - Hudson Lake - As homeowners we are all for this and have one of those old septic systems that are working just fine but one day it won't. My other question is we belong to and I'm the treasurer of the Hudson Lake Mennonite Church and monetary will they be paying the same as a home owner the \$80/month plus the hook up fee? And does this come like a bill shows up or is it in your property taxes? Their congregation is only about 20-30 people.

ANSWER: This comes as a monthly invoice and the non-residential customers are in a different class and like in the house of worship, we do an analysis as to what the facility would produce on an average day and then that is used to calculate the EDU and that is attached to the property. So that could be the same as a home or it could be the same as 2 homes. It would be an individual analysis.

Janice Collins 7877 N Pine Lane – Hudson Lake – Possibly money to help out monthly from the grants. Once the money from the grants is gone it would be gone, correct?

ANSWER: Correct – it would not be a monthly subsidization it would be a one-time grant and once its gone then it is gone.

Noticed lately that there is a problem with the electric going out – the grinders are electric, right?

ANSWER: They are hooked to the same grid that you would be hooked to so if the power goes out it goes out too. The grinder comes back on once the power comes back on. What were hoping is that there are homes that have home generators that most do not.

You talked about loans – are you talking about a loan to get it hooked up and putting the thing in the ground?

ANSWER: Correct. There is a program available through USDA that has a loan and grant attached to it and then what I mentioned in some cases we have had a local jurisdiction work with local banks to set up a program to help specific to help for the connection with a low interest loan for specific time.

Gene Mark – 7858 Marsh One Blvd – We have furnace to install new sewer and septic and very close to the installation.

ANSWER: Are you in the process of installing a new septic system? Then you would be one that qualifies for an exemption. So as that system is going in you would want to hold on to those records – you will be notified by direct mail later and you will be notified how to apply for that exemption. It sounds like you are in that process right now so this board would not want you to delay what you are currently involved in.

In 2-3 years you will be in the construction of sewer project. Will the pipe go in from neighbors?

ANSWER: We will accommodate you if you still want to connect once the system is constructed if you want that available to you for future use. If you want to install a septic system immediately then we can't help you with that – we won't be ready for 2-3 years. If you can wait then wait, if you can't then you have to install a septic system. Then you can be exempt if you don't want to connect. If you put in a new system, you will certainly qualify for the exemption.

Joe Thomas – 7662 N Mulberry Lane – Hudson Lake – No question and I have been involved with tracking this for a while and am very excited about the project.

Tom Lode – 5522 E. Winona Lane – Saugany Home Owners Association – I know the majority of the homeowners out in Saugany Lake are for the sewer system and are anxiously awaiting its arrival. Thank you.

Leah Davis – 8432 E 700 N – The RV Park is one resident address how are you going to handle the 300 people who have a residence there?

ANSWER: So, they will be a special class of customers. And what we do there is what we do with the church is try and equate the average flow per day per unit and so we would compute that out. Is it a campground or an RV Park?

ANSWER: So, they are afforded some special treatment under the law. They could say we want to be metered and be one of the only customers that is entitled to the metered rate. There would be a base rate and then a metered rate.

No further public comments made – Public Comments Closed.

Adjournment:

Marcella Kunstek made the motion to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. Seconded by Amanda Lahners. Roll call taken; all in favor. Motion passed.