

**SEPTIC TANK PUMPERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2009 MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

The Septic Tank Pumpers Advisory Committee meeting was called to order on November 20, 2009, at 12:18 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Conrad C. Eckert, Eckert Services;
John Hazen, GWWS, Inc;
Barbara Woodbury, Sanders County Sanitarian;
Kelly Brown, Brown's Septic Service;
Renai Hill, Montana DEQ.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Glen B., Superior Septic;
Doug Sparrow, Helena Big Sky Septic;
C. Eckert, Eckert Services;
Dan Bond, Roto Rooter, Inc

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE (CALL-OFF):

Don Heimbigner, Don's Septic Service.
Kenneth E. Wheeler, Kenneth Wheeler;
Jamie Hillman, Jim's Backhoe & Septic Service;
Wade Stout, Badger Pass Septic Service, LLP;

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Frank Laverell, Laverell's, Inc.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR September 11, 2009 MEETING

Conrad Eckert - Chairman asked for any changes to the draft minutes. A motion to approve the September 2009 minutes was made by John Hazen and seconded by Kelly Brown. The motion carried and the September 11, 2009, minutes were approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. ***Educating the Public*** – provide comments on draft guide, “**Homeowner Guide to Septic Systems.**” Members discussed the draft guide and found no problems with the document. A motion to approve the guide was made by Conrad Eckert and seconded by Kelly Brown. The motion carried and the guide was approved. Members requested that copies be provided to realtors. Members also wanted a class set up for the public during the tradeshow to discuss the guide and answer questions.

2. ***2010 Training Workshop Topics.*** Training will be held on March 25th and 26th. It will be a two-day event. Day one will be training and day two will be training, tradeshow, and demonstrations. Red Lion and Fairgrounds were proposed as sites for the workshop and tradeshow. Members discussed the price of booths verses size of booth; demonstration topics; training topics and vendors.

The following training topics were recommended for the two day workshop:

- New pumper training –pumper rules; disposal sites; types of waste; and AAR;
- Have Norm Mullen speak with the group on Septic Pumper Legal Issues;
- Have MACO give an update on the Lewis and Clark Program on pumping tanks;
- Have Joe Meeks also discuss the Lewis and Clark Program and have a booth to test well water;
- Installer Class;
- Septic System Inspections Training;
- Graywater Systems;
- Future of Land Application Sites, how to stay in business, what to do in the future;
- Financial Institution;
- Environmental Assessment Process;
- Slopes at Land Application Sites;
- Homeowner Guide to Septic Systems class for the public;
- Enforcement Program – Complaint History;
- Have an open forum to have pumpers discuss their experiences.

Renai Hill stated she contacted the Helena Fairgrounds and found that the food vendors would be required to pay \$40 and 18% of gross sales to the fairgrounds. Renai briefed the members on the requirements at the fairgrounds. Members decided not to have the food booths. It was also decided that until the number of vendors is known a venue could not be rented. Renai informed the members that she would need help to set up the workshop and trade shop. Members present were recruited to contact vendors and sign them up for the STP Tradeshow. Members will provide a list of vendors and points of contact to Renai prior to the January 2010 meeting. Renai will reserve accommodations depending on the number attending. Conrad Eckert – stated he would ask if any of those he contacted would be willing to sponsor one of the breaks. Conrad also stated that the tradeshow would be a project for the committee every year and may become their sole purpose i.e. recruiting and setting up the show every year.

3. ***SPAC Meeting Attendance.*** Renai asked the members present, “do we need a SPAC?” Members stated yes and began discussing what the SPAC has accomplished.

4. ***Enforcement Update.*** Discussed the enforcement cases on 3-pumpers operating without a current license. These are pumpers who have been licensed but did not renew their licenses after they expired on December 31 and continued to operate for 3 to 5 months without renewing the

license. The Department sends a warning in their correspondence regarding renewals however, this continues to be a problem.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *Confirm next meeting date*

A special meeting will be held on January 15, 2010, 12:00pm to 3:00pm.

2. *Agenda items for next meeting*

- 2010 training workshop/tradeshow.

Conrad Eckert adjourned the meeting at 2:23 p.m.