### DATE: November 5, 2008

# Special District Meeting of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District 11 Howard Street, Town of Boothbay Harbor Selectmen's Meeting Room

#### PRESENT:

Alden Jordan	Jim Stormont	Bruce Engert, Sr.
Jonathan Draper	Lisa Kristoff	Martha Cowdery
Chris Higgins	Mark Allenwood	Michael Tomko
Mary Lee Brown	Linda Draper	Bruce Engert, Jr.
Julia Latter	Ernest Carver	Vickie Carver
Sue Hepburn	Fred Hutchings	Albert Greenleaf
Rob Latter	Marc Brewer	Sharon Grant
Bill Hamblen	Janet Reit	Michelle Farnham
Gary Farnham	Merle Farnham	M. Robert Barter
Gary Wells	Bonnie Wells	

#### Call to Order:

Alden Jordan called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Alden thank everyone for attending and introduced himself as Chairman of the District, Chris Higgins as Superintendent of the District, Mark Allenwood, Brown and Caldwell (introduced as from Weston and Sampson), and introduced Jon Draper, Treasurer of the District.

Alden turned the meeting over to Chris for a brief overview of the proposed Project. Chris welcomed and thanked everybody for attending. Chris explained that a centrifuge is being proposed to replace the belt filter press. The main reason is to achieve a higher dryness to save money for disposal. Chris explained that after discussion, a motion to favor or not favor the authorization of the Trustees to borrow up to \$450,000.00 for the design, purchase, and installation of the centrifuge would be sought.

Chris turned the meeting over to Mark Allenwood to provide a more technical discussion of what was proposed. Please see the attached sheet for a brief overview. Mark started the discussion by giving a brief synopsis of the history of centrifuge technology. Mark went on to discuss current operation costs and trucking costs. He also discussed the trial that took place last spring. Mark went on to explain the cost benefits of the Project. He also explained that the Project would be funded through the state revolving loan fund (SRF). Mark turned the meeting over to open forum for questions.

Mary Lee Brown asked if the sewer use fees would increase because of the Project. Chris responded that the savings observed with the centrifuge would offset the debt retirement caused by the installation.

Robert Barter asked about the level of the District's existing debt. Chris responded that he thought the District had between 2.6 and 2.8 million dollars in outstanding debt. Chris went on to explain that the District's debt limit per charter was 8.5 million.

Mike Tomko asked if the centrifuge was common technology today. Mark Allenwood responded to the question. Mark advised that centrifuges are now common specification for plants our size with secondary sludge. Mark went on to explain that other plants with a blend of primary and secondary sludge could utilize screw presses and centrifuges.

Bruce Engert asked if the cost analysis included inflation. Both Chris and Mark responded that the analysis did include a 5% inflation rate. Bruce also asked if the savings would be cash in hand. Mark responded that the savings would be realized through operational savings and the payback would increase over time.

Martha Cowdery asked what the life expectancy of the centrifuge would be. Mark responded that the typical design life is 20 years, but also stated that the unit, if properly maintained, would last longer. Mark also responded that centrifuge parts typically need replacing after ten years. This proposal includes the replaceable parts.

Ernie Carver asked if the District looked at replacing the belt press with another belt press. Mark responded that the cost of a new belt press was more than the centrifuge unit. Chris added that additionally, the disposal costs would still increase, but that a belt filter press discharge would still not be dry enough to cut disposal costs.

Alden asked if any new installations were installing belt presses. Mark responded no, that new installs were either screw presses of centrifuges.

Bruce Engert asked if any new personnel would be required if the centrifuge was installed. Chris responded that specialized training would be administered to existing staff and that no new staffing would be required. Chris also told Bruce that he was familiar with centrifuges and that he has operated such units.

Bill Hamblen asked if there were any side benefits to the installation of the centrifuge. Chris responded that fugitive odors should be reduced because the dewatering process is contained within a structure and that fugitive emissions from the open process utilized by the belt press would be greatly reduced.

Ernie Carver asked what would happen if nothing were done at this time. Chris responded that the District would continue existing operations and current disposal costs of \$45,000.00 would continue to rise. Chris also stated that odor issues from dewatering would have to be more aggressively addressed.

Martha Cowdery asked if the District was looking for other means of disposal. Chris responded by explaining that the District used to have a land application program and that the District still maintains licenses on three fields. However, the DEP requires that sludge be applied early in the growing season. Higgins explained that the District does not generate enough sludge during this time and that field stacking would be required. There is a limit on the number of days (30) that sludge can be field stacked. This would require the District to construct a stacking house at each field. This was the primary reason, and the increased regulations, that the District decided to compost sludge.

Ernie Carver asked about the payback timeframe. Chris responded that this Project would provide a 5-year payback.

Chris asked if there any more questions. There was none.

Chris asked the audience for a motion. Robert Barter asked for the body of the motion. Chris responded that the motion should be, "Do you authorize the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District Board of Trustees to borrow up to \$450,000.00 for the dewatering replacement project?". Mary Lee Brown made that motion. Ernie Carver seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was 26 "Yes" and 1 "No". The motion carried.

## Adjourn Meeting:

Alden Jordan made motion to adjourn meeting. Jonathan Draper seconded motion. Vote to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Alden Jordan, Chairman

As As

We, the undersigned, do hereby waive notice of the above special meeting and do agree to the business transacted.

Alden Jordan, Chairman

Jonathan Draper, Treasurer.

Jim Stormont, Clerk