## WELLSBORO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

## **MINUTES**

## **JANUARY 19, 2010**

The meeting of the Wellsboro Municipal Authority was called to order by Ed Owlett in the Council Room of the John E Dugan Fire Station/Municipal Building on January 19, 2010. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

ATTENDANCE: Authority Members: Dennison Young, Ed Owlett, Grant Cavanaugh, Ron Gontarz and Robert DeCamp. Wellsboro Borough Supervisors: Mark Dieffenbach and Dan Brought. Council Members: Rudy Scharf, John Sticklin, Joan Hart and Terry Bryant. Solicitor Bob Cox, Secretary/Treasurer Sue Stephens, Moody & Associates Dave Anderson and Natalie Kennedy from the Wellsboro Gazette.

MINUTES: The minutes from December 15, 2009 were approved as written. Grant Cavanaugh made the motion to accept and Dennison Young 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed.

SCOTT BRAY: Scott has submitted the TRE for copper to DEP but he hasn't heard back from them yet.

There were two quotes received back for the proposals on the ferric chloride building at the sewer plant. Both of the quotes came in high. In a discussion with Mark Dieffenbach and Dan Brought, they are now looking at buying a shell and finishing it themselves. Scott needed permission to buy the shell. Grant Cavanaugh made the motion to purchase the shell for up to the amount of \$10,000.00. Denny Young 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed.

Bob Cox and Scott have developed a list of questions to present to the speakers for the Marcellus Shale meeting on Wednesday and had asked Sue to pass them on. The meeting will be held at the new high school with many of the municipalities planning to attend. An invitation was also sent to Jim Weaver. This meeting is at 6 pm and should last about two hours with a questions and answer period also included. Denny Young asked if there would be a meeting with the speakers before the meeting and Sue responded that there would not be a meeting. Sue will also hand out to the members of the Authority a list of the questions that Bob Cox and Scott had asked so that the members may use them. Sue had also e-mailed the information the Jan Fisher had put together on the history of the water sources and distribution, what was happening and the impacts seen or heard.

BOB COX: He has had contact from Endless Mountain Energy wanting to lease land from the Authority. They are a group of engineers that are 50/50 partners with the Equitable in Pittsburg. They were the successful bidders for the Phoenix Resources Antrim Landfill purchasing the lease. This land is within one mile of the properties

owned by the Authority. They are also an environmental friendly company. He told them about the meeting that would be going on and passed their information on to Robert DeCamp. Their e-mail address: Endlessmountainenergy.com. Most of them are Penn State graduates.

DAVE ANDERSON: The drilling crews have completed the two shallow piezometers even though the got stuck a little bit yesterday and have gone home. This is one of the things that the DEP has requested. There is another crew out there now pulling up the 12 inch outer casing and pouring in the cement in the annular space. They should finish it this week and install the test pump for the pump test. The grouting is a requirement for public wells from DEP. The test should be run next week. You should have received a letter from Larry Conrad. This letter was in response to the packet he sent to DEP. He had sent them three copies and Larry never got. Someone there had torn them apart and distributed them about. Larry found parts of it from the different departments. Dave is resending the packet to Larry. Once Larry get this packet and has had time to look at it, we should be good to go. Dave also talked about Mark's concern about the 5500 feet of discharge hose that will run the water up to the Muck Outlet. We will run the step test that will last about ten hours, then we stop for 48 hours, then start up the 72 hour test. They were concerned about leaving the water in the hose for 48 hours leading to freezing. Dave then approached DEP and the SRBC to just use a shorter piece of hose (around 200 feet) and let the water go over the hill to the Muck for the step test. While the step test was being done, the crew could lay out the 5500 feet of hose to prepare it for the 72 hour test. Right now he didn't think the test could be done next Monday. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of January he plans to have the crew up to run the step test and do the 72 hour test on February 1, 2010. He then apologized for the delays.

JOHN STICKLIN: John commented that we have heard several excuses.

RUDY SCHARF: He asked if Moody & Associates had insurance for delays to which Dave responded that they had professional liability insurance.

DAVE ANDERSON: Once we start the test only a couple things could happen. The first one would be if the hose breaks and discharges water somewhere else or if the generator shuts down. If the test stops, we have to shut everything downs and wait 48 hours before starting again. Sue asked if they would have a backup generator there. Dave said that he would make sure the generator has new filters, run, has lots o fuel. A generator costs about \$500.00 a week to rent. If the generator broke down, we could get another one in the time that we would be shut down. Ron Gontarz asked what constituted a shut down because the generator would have to be refueled. Dave responded that the pump would run 24-7. They would fill while running and someone would be there the whole time to record the pumping rate at least once an hour. They would have a tank there to top off the generator.

GRANT CAVANAUGH: Grant asked where the line would run. Dave will meet with Mark around 7:30 tomorrow morning and show them where the hose will go. It was then asked if there would be any road crossing and Dave responded only across Sue's

driveway. Sue reminded them that they should also check with Bill Miles to see if he has anything going on.

RON GONTARZ: He asked Dave what the next step would be. Dave responded that a letter would be written that the well was grouted and the logs for the piezometer readings would be included. On Friday this will be done and he will send the letter to Larry Conrad. Then he will have everything he needs to give his approval. After the test, all of the data from the monitoring sites will be submitted to both SRBC and DEP. SRBC for ground water withdrawal approval. This is an approval for so many gallons a day. We will have to get a public supply permit from DEP. The permit will include how the well will tie into the existing system, how it will be chlorinated and how the chlorination is going to work for sufficient chlorine contact time. This will be an engineering question. Once the pump test is done, we will know that we are designing for this many gallons a day, they could be writing their report up and the design work could be done so that both of these reports would go into DEP as part of the permit application. The geologist and the engineer would have to sign the application.

GRANT CAVANAUGH: He asked other than flows cause and effects, is there going to be chemical test being done. Dave responded that at the end of the test there is a sample taken that will be extensively tested as part of the DEP requirements. DEP will also do a microscopic particulate analysis. During the last hour or so of the test, DEP will hook up a cartridge filter and run so many gallons through this. They will take that filter and look at it under a microscope to determine if it is surface or ground water. This will determine whether it is filtered or chlorinated. The SRBC require temperature ph and conductivity in a surface source and temperature and conductivity for ground water. They are interested in the wetland area where the celery used to be planted and that is why we had to put the piezometers in. Grant asked about the initial test that were done that when they ran in excess of 300 gallons per minute there was some turbidity problems. Dave said that the step test would be around 250 gpm. which will be about 390,000 gallons a day. This is better that any well that we have. Depending on the results, it would be probably be better if the well was turned on 24-7 and then make up the rest of the water from where ever you might need. This would take the load of the sand filters.

RON GOTARZ; There is a concern about trichlor coming out of the well. The response was that this was one of the things that it was tested for when it was first drilled. They will test for 24 and 48 hours to make sure trichlor or ditrichol is not in the system. We are coordinating efforts with the Ground Water Sciences who are doing the work at the Dresser site. This will be an advantage to both Haliburton and the Authority to document that there is no interaction between the two sites. They are doing some extensive monitoring in conjunction with our testing and they are shutting down their recovery well so that there is no noise between our pumping and theirs.

RUDY SCHARF: He asked about the permitting of all the wells.

DAVE ANDERSON: One of two things could happen, they will not approve the Keck Well until the applications have been submitted for the other wells and intakes. They

also could make it a condition of approval that over a period of time you will need to submit the applications. Before we submit this, he and some of the members of the Authority should go and talk to the SRBC and show them the system. The worse case scenario would be that the make us do a pump test on each of the wells. Dave had estimated that there would be around \$32,000.00 in application fees (for all wells & intakes) and this did not included engineering fees. The SRBC is concerned about the impacts on withdrawals. We are not grandfathered in under the SRBC.

SCOTT BRAY: We need to know the results first, if the well is real or not. If we have to put in a whole different treatment facility down there it may not be worth it.

DAVE ANDERSON: He also suggested that we narrow down which wells to be permitted. Then try and negotiate some kind of deal to permit one well each year.

BOB COX: He had talked to an environmental attorney at Rhodes and Sinon that had worked with DEP for several years before going into private practice and he said that the question is coming up all over the United States was that what rights the SRBC had to claim that you were no longer entitled to be grandfathered in. This will become a big question somewhere in the state. Dave said that the SRBC sited him chapter and verse that they could and he still didn't understand it.

MARK DIEFFENBACH: He said that at one point and time we had 37 wells. DEP sent a letter that told us to pick and chose what wells we wanted to retain. All of the other wells were given back. Couldn't we tell them that we gave those wells back?

DAVE ANDERSON: Some of the other communities have tried that and they have come back and asked them for the last five years of historical use.

BILLS: Scott Bray \$1,657.50 ½ water and ½ sewer

Moody & Associates \$15,071.23 Keck Well

Sue also asked the Authority to move \$20,000.00 from the exploration account to pay the bills. Bob DeCamp moved to accept and Ron Gontarz 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed

The appointment of officers was table until the next meeting. They asked Susan Stephens to make up a proposal slate of officers.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Minutes prepared by Teresa Marshall