

**Wastewater Solutions Forum
Working Group
BSW&S Conference Room
July 31, 1 p.m.**

Minutes

In attendance: Ron Edwards, Scott Hammond, Jon Holtzman, Ryan Kulesza, Tony Povilitis (American Wildlands), Shawn Regnerus, Bob Sumpter, Devon White; Alexis Mante (Lonepeak Lookout).

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. Minutes for June 26, 2007 were approved as submitted.
2. Comment on non-agenda items: Shawn Regnerus noted he had met with the state Board of Environmental Review and the board extended the deadline for moving forward with the ORW proposal. Shawn noted the Board was “impressed” with the progress the Forum was making in addressing issues relating to protection of the Gallatin.

Shawn also reported he would be leaving American Wildlands to study at MSU toward an education degree leading to math and science instruction at the high school level. He introduced Tony Povilitis who would be joining the Forum as AW’s representative. He also noted AW was going to be dropping all of its water programs with the exception of involvement with the Forum.

3. Proposals for a canyon area wastewater study were delivered by two engineering firms, HKM Engineering and Great West Engineering, both of Billings. Copies of the presentations are available for review at the Big Sky Water and Sewer District offices. Both firms demonstrated strengths the Forum considered important to the project.

Presenting for HKM was Ray Armstrong, project manager, Ross Waples, soil scientist and Karen Fagg, president. Presenting for Great West was Dave Aune, principal in charge and Terry Threlkeld, project engineer.

The group liked HKM’s technical proposal and was impressed with Great West’s understanding of the grant process and the importance of community involvement. In the end the technical side and understanding of the District’s current capabilities won out.

Scott Hammond moved and Ryan Kulesza seconded awarding the contract to HKM Engineering. The Forum approved the motion unanimously.

4. Jon Holtzman reported initial communication with potential members of the Community Oversight Group had gone well (too well in fact in that each potential member received at least three copies of the e-mail). The Big Sky Weekly edited the initial report and ran it as a signed editorial. The Lonepeak Lookout planned a version this week. Jon reported all feedback received thus far had been positive with respondents reporting an interest in participation.
5. Shawn Regnerus reported The Greater Yellowstone Coalition would work to raise \$5000 to contribute to the funding required to complete the study and American Wildlands had committed to the same goal. Bob Sumpter said he thought the developers could come up with a similar contribution.
6. The next meeting will be August 28 at 1 p.m. at the BSW&S Conference room. **(Ron, can you make the reservation?)** The agenda will include: an update on the canyon wastewater study (Ron); an update on the status of private fundraising (Shawn or Tony and James); open discussion on other activities the Forum might consider. Please forward suggestions for additional agenda items to Jon Holtzman.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

Jon Holtzman, chair
Wastewater Solutions Forum