

April 26, 2018 6:00 PM

Yankee Springs Water Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** The April 26th meeting of the Yankee Springs Water Utility Advisory Board was officially called to order by Chairman Greg Purcell at 6:01 PM.
2. **Roll Call:** Board Members Alice Jansma, Todd Delamar, Richard Beukema Michael Peiffer, and Greg Purcell were present. Gun Lake Area Sewer & Water Authority Director Larry Knowles and Office Manager Tara Palandri were also present. Shane Vandenberg, Mark Englerth, Chad Kraai of Kraai Well Drilling, Carol Balkon and Regina Young of the Barry Eaton District Health Department were in attendance as well.
3. **Review Minutes:** Mr. Peiffer motioned to accept the March 22nd meeting minutes with Mr. Beukema supporting, the motion carried 5-0.
4. **Nitrate Discussion**
 - a. Ms. Balkon, Ms. Young, and Mr. Kraai were invited to speak to the board more about nitrates in the area. The board requested more information as to how the nitrates were introduced into the area, how widespread the issue is, and best methods for educating the public.
 - i. Ms. Young and Ms. Balkon explained how over the years, they encouraged members of Yankee Springs Township to test their water, especially in areas where high levels of nitrates were found. Mr. Kraai offered to work with the Township and possibly be a place for the public to bring their water samples to ship out for testing. After much discussion, the Advisory board recommends that the Yankee Springs Township creates a newsletter, with help from the BEDHD, to educate the public on how to test their water, where to bring samples, and how to read results.
5. **March Reports:**
 - a. Water Report, Water Income Statement, and Raw Arsenic Results were attached.
 - b. The MOR and reports have been sent to the DEQ.
6. **Well House Upgrade:**
 - a. Mr. Knowles explained that two HM Doors & Frames should be replaced and asked the Advisory Board for guidance. A motion was made by Mr. Beukema to recommend that Mr. Knowles pursue competitive quotes and consider replacing both doors. Mr. Delamar supported the motion, it passed 5-0.
7. **YST Action Required:**
 - a. Payne Lake Loop- Completion deadline given by the DEQ is December 2020. No action by the Yankee Springs Township Board yet.
 - b. Water Services Contract- received by the YST Board March 26, has been tabled twice. Mr. Vandenberg stated that there were some changes the Board is making to the proposed contract.
 - c. Documents establishing connection rates (Direct Fee, Indirect Fee, Tapping Responsibility by owner). Waiting for a copy of the signed resolution passed July 13, 2006 to update Municode.
8. **Training**
 - a. MRWA training scheduled for the Board is May 31st at 5:00 PM at the WWTP.

9. New Business:

- a. Mr. Delamar asked if the proposed Water Main Specifications were approved by the Yankee Springs Township Board. Ms. Jansma stated that the Board has had the specs since March 26th but has yet to take action on them- the proposed specs have been tabled twice.

10. Public Comment:

- a. Ms. Balkon added that residents should proceed with caution when purchasing water treatment systems for their homes. The companies that sell the equipment are not regulated and some have been known to sell the homeowner more equipment than necessary to make a large profit. She explained that there is such a thing as too pure of water if the PH level is too low or too high and this can cause major health and plumbing issues. She recommends that homeowners utilize information from the DEQ, American Water Works Association, or Michigan Rural Water Association to make an informed decision when buying water treatment systems.
- b. Mr. Englerth asked the Advisory Board for a list of their accomplishments and goals. He feels there has been a lack of communication from the Advisory Board to the Yankee Springs Township Board. Ms. Jansma replied that the Advisory Board minutes and agendas have been delivered to the Township Board members after each meeting. Mr. Delamar explained that the Advisory Board also communicates through their recommendations to the Yankee Springs Township Board and all recommendations to date have been tabled without feedback to the Advisory Board. After some discussion, Mr. Purcell volunteered to prepare a report of Mr. Englerth detailing the Advisory Board's goals and objectives.

11. Discussion: None.

12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM by Mr. Peiffer, supported by Mr. Beukema, passed 5-0.

Next Scheduled Meeting: May 31, 2018 at 5:00 PM (training session).