

**North Branch Fire District #1
78 Dorr Fitch Road
West Dover, VT 05356**

Website:<https://www.northbranchfiredistrict.com>

Phone: 802-464-7560 x 110

Fax: 802-464-3040

E-mail: nbfd1@myfairpoint.net

**THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the North Branch Fire District #1, Prudential Committee, November 15, 2018.

This Meeting, having been duly warned, was called to order at 11:57 a.m. by Chairperson, Cyndee Frere.

Members Present: Cyndee Frere, Edward Barber and Thomas Ferrazza.

Absent: Brendan Ryan and Karl Braunbach.

Also Present: Edward Floyd, Rebecca Snow, Bart Howes and Linda Holland.

Public Comment: John and Joseph Angeleri have signed the “Voluntary Request for Permit Revocations” and are requesting reimbursement in the amount of \$92,948.00. Ferrazza moved to reimburse the Angeleri’s \$92,948.00. Seconded by Barber. Passed unanimously.

State Meeting/Construction Update/Technicon P.C.: Floyd met with the State on November 9, in regards to the Holding Pond. As Floyd entered the meeting two Directors, Brian Redmond, Watershed Management and Eric Blatt, Facilities, left, so Floyd was not able to convey the Fire Districts concerns directly to those in charge. Floyd stated he felt the meeting was antagonistic. They, the State and Floyd talked about using the unlined pond going forward and they had a list of what would be required for them to consider that option. It was extensive; it would take months and likely be denied. The State wants a hydro study to determine pond exfiltration rate, an impact study of effluent impact on groundwater, installing a valve upstream of the dam to ensure the pipe within the dam was not pressurized, analysis of old plant records for unlined years, an analysis of expected flows and volume amounts and treatment history and projections including a scenario whereby only one clarifier is available. The State and Floyd also talked about over spraying and using the subsurface to the point of runoff without a connection to groundwater. The State insisted on the one foot of unsaturated soil for spray, turning off nozzles to keep spraying. The State also wanted a hydro study on the subsurface to show what could be done. Nick Giannetti said there are two ways a direct discharge would work; 1) as a permitted use and 2) as a 1272 Order. A permit is a long

process with a lot of Modelling. There is a public comment period in which environmental groups would object and a 30 day notice for a hearing. The 1272 Order is a temporary permit to pollute and has no public comment period and no public hearing. It can only be appealed by the applicant. The group decided the best way to proceed would be to try to avoid use of the Holding Pond by utilizing a three tiered approach:

1. Dispose of effluent at the agreed to accelerated rate, then
2. As needed and with notification dispose of effluent at a saturation rate meaning there is one foot in the spray field with nozzles shut off as needed and ponding in the subsurface field with no runoff to streams, and finally,
3. Pump or pipe effluent direct to Ellis Brook to keep the Polishing Pond from overflowing.

Howes stated that after the meeting summary, he contacted Floyd with the operation levels. To sum it up we have an effective storage capacity of 1,335,160 gallons. This is only a two to four day buffer with winter flows when there will also be times of extremely cold weather and snow melt that prohibits disposal.

On November 15, 2018 Bryan Harrington e-mailed Ed Floyd and Bart Howes stating, in part, that Mary Clark, Indirect Discharge Program, is writing a letter to the Prudential Committee regarding the meeting on November 9, 2018 as well as an internal meeting the State had yesterday with management. Bottom line, using an unlined lagoon for storage this winter is a no go. Also off the table is the direct discharge option. Possible contingencies discussed yesterday that we would be up to include constructing a small temporary lined cell for storage, and/or constructing a temporary leach field out in the field where the subsurface system is as a last resort after maximizing disposal. Clark will also be asking for submittal of an emergency operation plan. The State wanted the Fire District to truck water or send it to Cold Brook; this option is not even feasible. Ferrazza moved to line the Holding Pond, with no warranty, and pay \$4,500.00 per day plus materials and winter charges, work to start as soon as possible. Seconded by Barber. Passed unanimously.

Floyd stated the State wants an emergency plan and may only give us a few days to have it prepared. The Committee asked Holland to locate an Environmental Attorney and to put Attorney Giuliani on notice regarding our situation.

Howes and Floyd have applied for an amendment to our indirect discharge permit, applying for an additional 30,000 gallons per day for the subsurface field to do away with, permanently, a clause of not spraying at night, to get ourselves in a better position for the future. Also moving the water quality from the upper side of the bridge, on the Ellis Brook, to the lower side of the bridge like our special water study recommended. The application fee is \$3,653.72 and Holland will send letters to all the abutters about the additional discharge to the subsurface field. Floyd said the application form will also have to be changed. Ferrazza moved to pay the application fee of \$3,653.72 for an amended indirect discharge permit. Seconded by Barber. Passed unanimously.

Clarifiers: The equipment is shipped from Wisconsin, the poly set; (paint) is cracking so they are putting on two coats of their standard paint. The Committee stressed that Floyd

put pressure on everyone in regards to the project, the liner and the clarifiers. Floyd said we need to keep pressure on Kingsbury to get this done. Floyd stated that when the clarifiers arrive Kingsbury will have two crews here one for the clarifiers and one for the pond lining.

Executive Session: Ferrazza moved to go into executive session at 12:28 p.m. for personnel. Seconded by Barber. Passed unanimously. Ferrazza move to come out of executive session at 12:31 p.m. Seconded by Barber. Passed unanimously. No Decisions were made.

Frere moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:33 p.m.

December 4, 2018 Board of Abatement at 7:00 p.m.

December 6, 2018 Regular Meeting

December 14, 2018 Vote on using funds from the Reserve Account.

Respectfully Submitted:

Linda L. Holland,
Administrative Manager

cc: C. Frere, K. Braunbach, T. Ferrazza, E. Barber, B. Ryan, E. Floyd, B. Howes, H. Terhune, D. Facilla, J. Mahon, A. Pritcher, A. Palmiter, M. Himelson, L. Anelli, A. Levine, J. Flanagan, C. Helmstetter, Gray Ghost Inn, J. Desrochers, J. Gooch, Town of Dover, J. Densmore,, J. Redd, M. Garber, P. Fisher, R. Reed, S. Dupries, S. Meade, V. Czechorowski, Y. Strus, L. Fraser, A. Perkins, L. Newton, R. Rubin, C. Turpin, R. Parker-Houghton, G. Golet, S. MacDougall, L Harkawik, R. William, P. Fitzpatrick S. Joyce-Albano, R. Caplan, G. Henry, Deerfield Valley News and the Brattleboro Reformer.

Posted: North Branch Fire District #1, Wastewater Treatment Facility & Administrations Building. Dover Town Office.