

GUNNISON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BOARD
Scheduled Meeting and Public Hearings
AGENDA: May 26, 2011

**Planning Commission Meeting Room, Blackstock Government Center,
Gunnison County 221 N. Wisconsin, Second floor.**
All meetings are open to the public.

Anyone needing special accommodations please contact the Environmental Health Office, (970-641-5105), prior to the meeting.

- 1:30 p.m. Call to order; determine quorum;**
- 1:45 p.m. Approval of minutes from the February 17, 2011 meeting;**
- 2:00 p.m. Unscheduled Citizens;**
- 2:15 p.m. PROPOSED AMENDMENT to Section 8-102 of the Gunnison County INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM REGULATIONS—VAULT SYSTEMS. Discussion with possible action. The proposed amendments would provide for permission of vault systems if designed according to standards of the amendments. For a copy of the proposed amendment, please contact the office at 970-641-5105.**
- 3:15 p.m. Staff/EH Board report regarding:**
- 1. Water quality programs for Spring Creek, Coal Creek, Slate River and Tomichi Creek;**
 - 2. State of Colorado/EPA Pesticide discharge permit status.**
 - 3. Discussion of the Regional and Gunnison County Health Priorities Meeting of May 10, 2011. Discussion of Well Water and Public Health-Priority.**
- 4:15 p.m. Adjourn**

**GUNNISON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BOARD
SCHEDULED MEETING
MAY 26, 2011**

The Gunnison County Environmental Health Board conducted a meeting, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room in the Blackstocks Government Center, Planning Commission room.

Present Were:

Larry Parachini, EH Board Member, Acting Chairperson	Rodney Due, EH Board Member
Corey Bryndal, EH Board Member	Eddy Balch, EH Board member
Anthony Poponi, EH Board Member	Richard Stenson, EH Official
Michelle Spain, Admin. Assistant	

Absent Were: Lucinda Lull, and Steve Glazer

1:30 p.m. Call to order; quorum was determined.

1:45 p.m. Approval of minutes from the February 17, 2011 meeting. Minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes after corrections have been made by Poponi, 2nd by Due passed. Balch abstained.

Bryndal commenced to explain his absence due to his prior work related travel issues.

Poponi indicated his concerns that we keep having quorum issues.

Bryndal would be able to only attend sporadically.

Poponi indicated that he had a person that might be interested in filling a board position.

Parachini asked how many seated board members were needed and how many alternates were needed for this board.

Spain indicated that board members could call in and attend a meeting by phone.

Stenson discussed applying for board positions and renewal of the term with the BOCC.

Poponi asked when Bryndal's schedule would change. Bryndal responded he was unsure of what the future may be with his current schedule.

Chris Bergman will be contacted by Poponi to possibly sit in on meetings.

1:50 p.m. Unscheduled Citizens: None

1:50 p.m. PROPOSED AMENDMENT to Section 8-102 of the Gunnison County INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM REGULATIONS—VAULT SYSTEMS. Discussion with possible action. The proposed amendments would provide for permission of vault systems if designed according to standards of the amendments. For a copy of the proposed amendment, please contact the office at 970-641-5105.

Stenson commenced his review of the proposed amendment.

SECTION 8-102: VAULT SYSTEMS

- A. NEW VAULT SYSTEMS PROHIBITED.** ~~New vault systems, will not be permitted for use within unincorporated areas of Gunnison County shall be allowed only when the following standards can be met, in addition to all other requirements of these Regulations:~~
- 1. ENGINEER REQUIRED.** ~~Vault systems shall be designed by a Registered Professional Engineer, licensed in the State of Colorado. Vault sizing shall be designed utilizing calculations of sewage flows, section 5-106. An estimate of the response time, from time of call to pumping the vault, shall be included in the design.~~
 - 2. DOMESTIC EFFLUENT/DOMESTIC SEWAGE ONLY.** ~~Vault systems to be permitted for use in Gunnison County shall only be designed for the collection of domestic effluent/domestic sewage, and shall not be permitted for industrial or commercial effluent including, but not limited to grease traps or industrial sediment collectors.~~
 - 3. GEOLOGICAL SITE REQUIREMENTS.** ~~No Vault systems shall be allowed partially or wholly within a 100 year flood plain, or in areas subject to flooding, or on sites that are subject to specific geological hazards or unstable geological conditions.~~
 - 4. VAULTS NOT PERMITTED IN SPECIAL ISDS DISTRICTS.** ~~Vault systems shall not be permitted to be installed within the Crested Butte Watershed ISDS District or within the Marble Ski Area ISDS District.~~
 - 5. TELEMETRIC REPORTING CAPABILITY.** ~~The vault system shall include mechanisms necessary to provide telemetric communication to a Licensed Gunnison County System Cleaner.~~
 - 6. HIGH WATER ALARM.** ~~The system shall include a high-water alarm and year-round availability of an electrical resource to power it. The vault shall be designed to issue the alarm when there is remaining capacity within the vault sufficient to allow pumping and avoid overflow.~~
 - 7. YEAR-ROUND ACCESSIBILITY.** ~~The proposed system shall be accessible year-round to Licensed System Cleaner vehicles.~~
 - 8. PUMPING CERTIFICATES.** ~~Upon request, pumping certificates shall be submitted to the Environmental Health Official.~~
 - 9. MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT REQUIRED.** ~~As a condition of the permit, a permanent maintenance agreement carried with the title of the property shall be developed, and subject to approval by the Environmental Health Official. The agreement shall be developed between and signed by the applicant and a Licensed Gunnison County System Cleaner. Submittal of a copy of the signed agreement shall be a condition of permit approval. At a minimum, the agreement shall define a maintenance schedule, including pumping, to ensure that conditions that would cause the vault to overflow will be avoided.~~
- B. LEAKING EXISTING SYSTEMS TO BE REMOVED AND REPLACED WITH COMPLIANT SYSTEM ISDS.** ~~Existing vaults that are found to be leaking must be exhumed at the owner's expense. Thereafter, an approved vault system or other ISDS will be required. For existing vault systems, the Department may require that pumping certificates be submitted to the Environmental Health Office to ensure that such systems are maintained in an appropriate manner.~~

Solid waste BOD was discussed. The state does allow this type of vault system. Odors were then discussed with these types of systems.

Due then asked what type of use these vault systems would be allowed for.

Well permits are based upon recharge. An over appropriated watershed could stop this type of system.

Section 4 of the proposed amendments were discussed. No variance can be granted at this time due to our current regulations.

Poponi asked why we prohibited these systems to begin with.

Stenson answered that the regulations were changed in 1995. These systems were not being pumped properly, and the waste was leaving illegally.

Poponi asked Parachini how many times he had witnessed this happening.

Balch indicated that current septic systems were not being pumped and maintained properly.

Poponi asked if this board could make a maintenance schedule mandatory for the owner.

Parachini asked if the department could handle the additional paper work associated with mandatory pumping that the owners would produce for maintenance records.

Parachini asked where these applications would come from. He indicated Pitkin, Ohio City, Irwin.

Stenson indicated that White Pine, Tincup were other areas that would be able to use this system.

The Town of Pitkin does have a mandatory maintenance reporting policy in place.

Stenson then read each item of the proposed regulation.

Parachini indicated the design factor. Limitations must be scheduled in these permits. Pumping trucks have a limited hauling capacity.

Due wanted to see a mandatory annual inspection by licensed pumping contractors.

Stenson then read the State of Colorado's regulations on vault systems.

Balch questioned occupancy vs. total days of use. Failed systems on very small lots, could this vault system help this owner?

Balch reviewed the White Pine location.

Enforcement issues were discussed. Technology has enhanced our ability to monitor many items. Dumping issues were discussed. Septic tank pumping issues were discussed. Permit fees were discussed.

Expense of operating a vault system was discussed.

Bryndal discussed absentee owners and the rental population that may be using these systems illegally.

Due stated that permits would at least monitor these items.

Parachini asked why not a portable toilet for failed systems.

Stenson replied that this is not a legal use for a long term situation. He would have to enforce the current regulations.

Year round access to properties was discussed. Annual pumping between certain months would be specified so that pumping can be completed during certain months.

Balch discussed annual inspection, pumping, telemetry for each vault system owner.

Break 3:00p.m.

Reconvened 3:10pm

Parachini requested that they address each item and then review this issue at a later date.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE ADDITIONAL THINGS TO ADD TO PROPOSAL

- 1) Language suggesting that these items only be used if other treatment systems are not viable. Time for response time of call to pumping vault needs to be spelled out in exact time. (Days vs. hours). Tanks size 1500 gallon max.
 - a) Barn use
 - b) RV useIf the site has an adequate foot print for an ISDS system, a vault system would not be approved.
- 2) Store and haul for non domestic uses. Grease taps were discussed. The language is fine for residential systems as it is written.
- 3) OK
- 4) Or other special ISDS districts if created. Unless explicitly restricted.
- 5) OK
- 6) Vault capacity remaining (response time max 48 hours).
- 7) See a and b for further discussion Year round access needs to be reviewed.
- 8) OK
- 9) OK

Questions for Stenson on how these new proposals will work for his office. Stenson felt that more discussion and possible amendments could fine tune this proposal.

Due stated that this is a very narrow scope and the hypothetical things that could happen are enormous.

Poconi and Balch want to see costs for pumping calculated into each application.

Poconi suggested that we talk to the Planning Commission and then the BOCC for review and input.

Balch stated that this did not need to go to Planning Commission and BOCC.

4:15 p.m.

Staff/EH Board report regarding:

1. Water quality programs for Spring Creek, Coal Creek, Slate River and Tomichi Creek were discussed. Spring Creek went before Planning Commission several months ago. Number of septic systems on the stream. 118 to date. Many are old systems. Consideration of density before the new subdivision was issued. Surface water and well reviews need to be monitored. One sampling has been completed. 3 others will be done this year. High e-coli samples in this area. Money is the issue for further studies. Coal Creek meeting is coming up. Coal creek, Tomichi creek updates given by Poponi.
2. State of Colorado/EPA Pesticide discharge permits status was reviewed.
3. Discussion of the Regional and Gunnison County Health Priorities Meeting of May 10, 2011. Discussion of Well Water and Public Health- Priority.

Stenson gave a brief synopsis of this meeting. A request for reviewing of water quality of the private wells in Gunnison County was brought up. Testing for radium and fluoride is expensive. Water quality for private wells is a main concern. Achievable goals for this committee would be continued education.

4:15 p.m. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Poponi, 2nd Bryndal. Passed.

Next meeting June 16, 2011 1:15pm