

# City Engineer Memo

**To:** Mayor Fritz Haemmerle  
City Council Members

**CC:** Heather Dawson, City Administrator  
Roger Parker, Wastewater Division Manager

**From:** Tom Hellen, City Engineer 

**Date:** 12/13/2012

**Re:** WWTP Biosolids Preliminary Engineering

---

On December 12, 2012 Roger Parker, Jim Zarubica and I had a telephone conference with Haley Falconer and Mike Zeltner of HDR Engineering to discuss basic options for the preliminary engineering design work for a new biosolids handling facility at the WWTP. The purpose of this memo is to provide you with a synopsis of the discussion and to elicit any thoughts or questions on the discussion. The basic premise of the work is to eliminate the existing "green dome" sludge handling facility and replace it with a facility that dewateres the sludge and eliminates use of Ohio Gulch for sludge disposal. The benefits from this project include energy savings from not heating the dome, elimination of hauling costs and liabilities, safety for city personnel and meeting our Greenhouse Gas reduction goals.

There are two basic choices concerning the dewatered sludge; Class B or Class A. Class B sludge can be used as fertilizer on crops not intended for human consumption, e.g. alfalfa fields. Class A sludge is pathogen free and could be used widely as fertilizer, e.g. city parks or lawns. EPA and DEQ consider biosolids a beneficial resource and encourage the use of for land application as a fertilizer. HDR Engineering will be providing a preliminary estimate of the cost difference between the two options including capital costs, equipment choices and O&M savings.

A major portion of this project will be the construction of a new holding basin for the sludge prior to dewatering. The design of this basin and the equipment associated with processing sludge leads to a second decision point. Sludge removed from the wastewater processing (SBR) basins can either be thickened prior to entering the holding basin or can be pumped directly into the holding basin. Thickening ahead of the holding basin requires a piece of equipment but a smaller basin. Pumping directly to the holding basin eliminates the equipment but requires a larger basin and additional aeration equipment. Again, HDR will be providing a preliminary cost estimate of these two options.

HDR Engineering will be conducting a site visit on Wednesday, December 19. At that time we will further discuss these options and they will be collecting additional data on plant operation and verifying existing conditions versus the original plans.

I would also like to take this opportunity to update the mayor and council on current operations at the WWTP. In past winters we have had difficulty with filamentous bacteria that have led to problems with meeting our phosphorus, suspended solids and ammonia permit limits. Since mid-October we have been using a chemical named PAX-14 which targets the filamentous bacteria while leaving the good bacteria alone. The use of this chemical to eliminate the filamentous bacteria has been outstanding allowing for more efficient operation of the WWTP. As a side benefit we have also seen a drastic drop in phosphorus, suspended solids and ammonia levels much lower than the set limits in our new NPDES permit. However this has also led to an unintended consequence as the amount of sludge to be hauled has increased resulting in trips to Ohio Gulch 2-3 days per week instead of once per week.



Subject:	Kick Off Conference Call	Meeting Location:	City of Hailey WWTP
Meeting Date:	December 12, 2012	Conference Call Information	Call-in: (866) 994-6437 Code: 9436601
Notes by:	Haley Falconer/Mike Zeltner	Minutes Issued:	

**Attendees:**

- Tom Hellen – Public Works Director
- Roger Parker – Wastewater Superintendent
- Jim Zarubica – Asst. City Engineer
- Mike Zeltner – Design Engineer
- Haley Falconer – Project Manager

**Agenda:**

- Review of near and long-term biosolids management goals
  - Class A vs Class B
- Preference for dewatering technologies
- Needs for Council update

**Discussion Items:**

*The following items were discussed and agreements were made. Any additions or corrections should be sent to Haley Falconer within 3 business days after receipt or the items and notes will be assumed to be accurate as shown.*

- Biosolids management
  - Class A – very low levels of pathogens; can be used without additional public contact restrictions
    - Resource recovery – biosolids used as compost or nutrient amendment to parks, golf courses
      - Limits purchase of additional fertilizer within the City
  - Class B – low levels of pathogens; restrictions on public access and crop harvesting
  - Long term, city wants Class A to remain an option
  - City would like to see a cost comparison between Class A and Class B technologies in the PER
    - Could have a Class A technology now or a Class B technology that could be converted to Class A later (composting)
    - Need to include hauling cost savings in analysis
      - Currently hauling 6-7 trips/day, 2-3 days/week
  - Potential End Use Alternatives
    - Continue landfill disposal (Do nothing option/baseline)
    - Agricultural Fertilization (Class B)
    - Public Parks and Recreation Areas (Class A)
- Preference for dewatering technologies
  - City: No preference, but likes slow speed screw presses, low maintenance.
    - Rules out belt presses and centrifuges
  - FKC Screwpress can add lime and steam to achieve Class A without composting
  - City: Consider thermal drying that creates pellets
  - Equipment alternatives to consider:
    - Class A
    - Class A “ready” with conversion in future
    - Class B
- Thickening
  - Allows for a smaller digester = less concrete, less aeration, less mixing
  - Equipment will need to be paid for by reduction in construction cost
- Other information required prior to site visit
  - Data sheets for existing blowers serve digester

**Decisions:**

- Class A should remain an option for consideration.

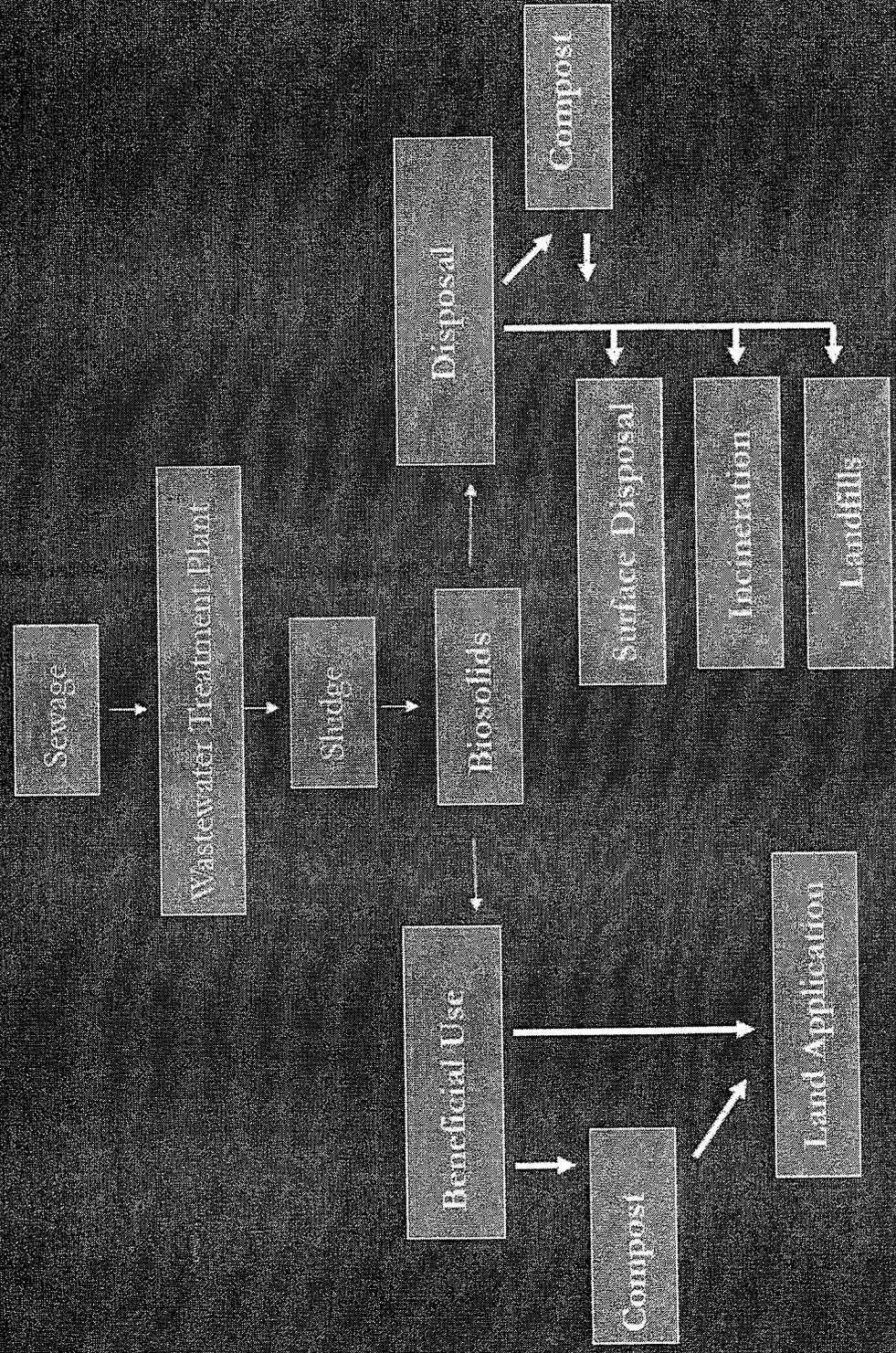
**Action Items:**

- Tom will give staff report to council highlighting our discussion about:
  - Class A vs Class B
  - Consideration for different equipment types to meet each class of biosolids
  - With a Class A biosolid, the City could make their own fertilizer
  - Energy savings by removing the dome.
  - Hauling and labor savings by reducing solids volume
  - Human safety issue with dome
- HDR will visit Wednesday next week

**Attachments:**

- None.

# Biosolids Beneficial Use and Disposal Flowchart





FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
Office of Energy Projects  
Division of Dam Safety and Inspections  
Portland Regional Office  
805 SW Broadway, Suite 550  
Portland, Oregon 97205

NOV 29 2012

In reply refer to:  
P-7016-ID

RECEIVED  
DEC 03 2012  
BY (MHE) JH HD

Mr. Thomas Hellen  
City Engineer  
115 Main Street South  
Hailey, ID 83333

Subject: Operation Inspection of Hailey Project, FERC No. 7016

Dear Mr. Hellen:

On October 3, 2012, Ms. Brooke Weeks of this office conducted an Operation Inspection of the Hailey Project, FERC No. 7016. You reported during the inspection that the generating unit was back online with the installation of a Singer Air Valve just upstream of the turbine. Based on observations made during the inspection, it appears that the project operators are operating and maintaining the project in a safe and acceptable manner. We have determined that the Hailey Project currently meets Commission dam safety standards and criteria.

Thank you for your cooperation relative to project safety. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Ms. Weeks at (503) 552-2705.

Sincerely,

  
Douglas L. Johnson, P.E.  
Regional Engineer



## Mary Cone

---

**From:** Rachel Wolfe [rachelwolfe@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 02, 2012 11:37 AM  
**To:** Mary Cone  
**Subject:** letter of resignation

Hello Mary,

I would like to submit my letter of resignation for my position on the Hailey Historical Preservation Commission. I believe I verbally gave my intentions of resigning at our August meeting, but said I could continue through November. It was a pleasure serving on the committee.

Thank you and let me know if you need anything further.

Regards,  
Rachel

### **RACHEL WOLFE**

RE/MAX of Sun Valley Sales Associate  
Resort and Second-Home Property Specialist  
Short Sales and Foreclosure Resource Certification  
Certified Distressed Property Expert Designation

[www.liveinsunvalleyidaho.com](http://www.liveinsunvalleyidaho.com)  
cell phone number: (208)-720-0010



DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE HAILEY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2012

<b>Statistics Report</b>	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Last Year 2011</b>	<b>% change</b>
Patron visits	8563	8483	1%
Circulation checkout	6555	6222	5%
Total new patrons	73	61	20%
Computer Users	1070	1033	4%
Items added to collection	401	295	
Items deleted	59	89	
Ebook circulation	64	n/a	
Email contacts	1576	1375	
Website hits	935	n/a	
<b>Money Collected</b>			
Book Fines	\$843.40	\$553.00	
Debt Collections Fees	55.00	60.00	
Lost Books	83.00	262.99	
Paid Memberships	594.33	438.67	
Computer (printing)	307.37	165.45	
Over/Under	-2.20	3.10	
Lost card replacement	8.00	n/a	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,888.90</b>	<b>\$1,483.21</b>	

**Programs:**

- Five Story Mania programs were held in October with 58 kids and 34 adults in attendance. A special Halloween safety presentation was given by Sgt. Gelskey of the Blaine County Sheriff's Office on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. Other topics included scarecrow, pumpkins and bats.
- Andrea Scott of the Idaho Buckaroo Project held an Open House at the library. Twenty people were in attendance.
- The 'Let's Talk About It' book series kicked off in October. Laura Zuckerman spoke on the book "Born in Africa" to a group of thirteen.
- Lyn Drewien assisted Susan Fierman from the Advocates with a 'Skills for Success' resume writing course. The class was held after hours in the library with nineteen in attendance.
- John Vladimiroff and Brad Gelskey presented the second part of the Food, Food, Food series. The topic was jerky and twenty-five were in attendance.

Page 1/3

- Halloween Hoopla was another great success. The library counted **1,657** participants as they tromped through the library to receive candy—Trick or Treat!! Thanks to Hailey

Police Chief, Jeff Gunter and City Councilwoman, Carol Brown for their donations to the candy supply.

- Ten people took advantage of the Open Computer Lab. Lab hours are Wednesdays and Fridays 2-3pm. Various topics were covered including email, downloading photos and Excel.

### **Staff:**

- I completed the required Communications and Teamwork class offered through Northern Kentucky University. I missed only ½ point and received an A+ and a Certificate of Excellence.
- The library was closed on Columbus Day which is now an observed holiday within the city. Staff appreciated the extra day off.
- Kevin Tomlinson, Idaho Commission for Libraries, offered staff training on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>. He spoke on privacy within libraries, Freedom to Read, and the importance of library work within our communities. He also fielded numerous questions from staff.
- Cathy Neumann attended a seminar 'Strengthen Your Storytimes' in Boise sponsored by the Idaho Commission for Libraries. She returned with some great ideas and energy!

### **Technology:**

- The Idaho Commission for Libraries received funding for Tumble Books. This service will now be offered to any library in the State of Idaho. Hailey Public Library is proud to offer this new service for kids. Please check out our website for the link. This is a really fun and engaging program.

### **Development:**

- Nancy Gurney and I have completed the training with Boise Public Library for the acquisitions module within the Horizon system. This took four months to set up but we are excited that it is now in place. Patrons and staff can now place items on hold as soon as they are purchased instead of waiting for them to be cataloged. This lifts a burden from staff. It also makes it so that our purchasing is in compliance with the City's purchasing policy. I can also track our purchases better and monitor exactly where funds are being applied.
- I have been working with Micah Austin, Community Development Director, to establish and positively promote the Hailey Holiday Square. A press release and email blast went out to library patrons announcing the road closure to accommodate the square and the fun activities planned.

### **Building:**

- I contacted Windy City for a quote regarding the window films for staff office windows. This was at the request of the board president and the mayor who would like to see downtown beautification continue. I will follow-up when I receive more information.

**Other:**

- Ramona Duke, Board President and I attended a class at CSI geared at nonprofit boards. We both picked up some good suggestions and enjoyed working together during the class. This was the first of three classes offered. The next class is in January 2013.
- The library will be a drop off location for the Holiday Baskets sponsored by the Sun Valley Board of Realtors. We will be collecting new, unwrapped books.

LeAnn Gelskey  
Director  
Page 3/3

