

Gunnison County Environmental Health Board

Agenda: February 17, 2016

- 1:15 p.m.** Call to order; determine quorum
- 1:17 p.m.** Organizational business
- Election of officers
 - Posting locations
 - Discussion of meetings for 2016
 - Discussion of training opportunities for 2016
 - Review of septic activity for 2015
- 1:30 p.m.** Approval of minutes from the October 7, 2015 meeting
- 1:35 p.m.** Unscheduled Citizens: A brief period in which the public is invited to make general comments or ask questions of the Board or County Staff about items which are not scheduled on the day's agenda.
- 1:50 p.m.** **Gunnison County On-site Wastewater Treatment System Regulation, proposed revision to Section 5-112: Calculation of Sewage Flow.**
- Revision to Section 5-112: Calculation of Sewage Flow, C. Single-family Residences and Mobile Homes. Possible change from 100 gallons/day/person to 75 gallons/day/person design flow.

Adjourn

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are conducted in the Blackstock Government Center Meeting Room at 221 N. Wisconsin Street in Gunnison, across the street from the Post Office. Anyone needing special accommodations please contact the Community Development Department (641-0360) before the meeting.

**Gunnison County Environmental Health Board
Agenda: October 7, 2015**

- 1:15 p.m.** Call to order; determine quorum
- 1:17 p.m.** Approval of minutes from the September 2, 2015 meeting
- 1:20 p.m.** Unscheduled Citizens: A brief period in which the public is invited to make general comments or ask questions of the Board or County Staff about items which are not scheduled on the day's agenda.
- 1:30 p.m.** **Staff-Gunnison County On-site Wastewater Treatment System Regulation**, work session/no action, Article 19: *Crested Butte Watershed OWTS District*, Article 20: Marble OWTS District.
- Old ISDS Regulations
 - New OWTS Regulations

Adjourn

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**GUNNISON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BOARD
OCTOBER 7, 2015**

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

Present Were:

Lucinda Lull, Chairperson	Crystal Lambert, Building and EH Official
Eddy Balch, EH Board Member	Charlie Dominguez, EH and Building Inspector
Steve Glazer, EH Board Member Alternate	Beth Baker –Administrative Assistant
Jeff Sallen, EH Board Member	
Rodney Due, EH Board Member	

Absent Were: Ed Bavouset and Larry Parachini

Other attendees as listed in text.

Call to order: A quorum was determined by Lull. The meeting was properly noticed and verified by Lambert. Steve Glazer as an alternate was seated as a voting member for the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Minutes from the September 2, 2015 meeting. **Moved by:** Balch, Seconded by Glazer to approve the September 2, 2015 meeting minutes as amended. Voting Yes; Board Members Lull, Balch, Glazer, Sallen and Due.

Unscheduled citizens: Glazer and Due updated the Board members concerning the Standard Mine at Mt. Emmons. Due said there had been a 2,400 gallon spill on October 6, 2015. There will be an EPA briefing with the Crested Butte Town Council concerning the spill. Due noted the spill did not appear to be dangerous although the PH level was determined to be higher following the spill. Glazer said the crew is back and working.

Lull requested clarification on the State plumbing code and the permitting of outhouses in the County. Lambert explained that outhouses are permitted but only when there is a “dry cabin,” with no running water to the cabin.

The Board and Lambert briefly reviewed the County regulations concerning pit privies.

Staff-Gunnison County On-site Wastewater Treatment System Regulation, work session/no action, Article 19: *Crested Butte Watershed OWTS District*, Article 20: *Marble OWTS District*.

- Old ISDS Regulations
- New OWTS Regulations

Lambert explained the staff had been directed by the Environmental Health Board to draft revisions to the Gunnison County OWTS regulations, Article 19: *Crested Butte Watershed OWTS District*, and provide information concerning the cost of various septic system treatment options.

The Board and Lambert reviewed the information prepared by Lambert. Lambert noted the State has approved eight TL2 type systems. The State has approved two TL3N type systems.

Lambert explained the approximate costs to the treatment systems;

- TL1 systems vary in price from \$7,000 to \$15,000
- TL2 systems vary in price from \$15,000 to \$25,000
- TL3 systems vary in price from \$25,000 to \$45,000

Lambert explained that staff had previously proposed the highest level treatment system available, that being TL3N. She has since reconsidered that recommendation. She noted the TL3N systems require access to reliable electricity and are very expensive.

Lambert has researched the available options and now recommends allowing at a minimum the TL2 systems or applying the current Gunnison County OWTS regulations- looking at the site, soils and requiring a permit.

Due said that a TL2 would be the better option. He added that allowing a TL1 would be going backward. Balch agreed with Due.

Balch asked if there were currently any TL2 systems in the Town of Irwin; Lambert said there is one permitted, but the owner does not have a certificate of occupancy yet.

Lambert said the TL2 requires a site specific design and a monitored maintenance program. It is the owner's responsibility to have the system inspected every six months if there are mechanical parts; once a year if there are no mechanical parts.

Lambert explained there will now be required inspections of existing systems in the CB Watershed. They will be conducted on an annual basis, no later than September of each year.

Moved by; Due and Seconded by Balch to accept the staff recommendation of the Revisions to the *Gunnison County OWTS Regulations, Article 19: Crested Butte Watershed District*- to include the insertion in Section 19-104A1, a minimum of TL2 or better. Replace the date August 15, 2014 in Section 19-105A with the date August 20, 1996. The motion passed unanimously, with Lull, Due, Glazer, Sallen, and Balch voting Yes.

The Board of County Commissioners will review this recommendation of the Environmental Health Board, in a public hearing conducted at a later date.

Moved by Balch Seconded by Sallen to adjourn the October 7, 2015 meeting of the Environmental Health Board at 2:30 P.M. The motion passed unanimously with Lull, Due, Glazer, Sallen, and Balch voting Yes.

/S/ Beth Baker
Community Development Services Manager
Gunnison County Community Development Department



**Gunnison County Community
Development Department**

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February 17, 2016

**TO: Environmental Health Board Members
Russ Forrest, Community Development Director**

FROM: Crystal Lambert, Environmental Health Official

**SUBJECT: Proposed Revisions to the Gunnison County OWTS Regulations, Section 5-112:
CALCULATION OF SEWAGE FLOW**

A. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this item is to address the designated daily design flow per person minimum required by Section 5-112: CALCULATION OF SEWAGE FLOW of the Gunnison County OWTS Regulations and to propose a revision that would reduce the daily design flow per person amount to the State OWTS Regulation minimum. The size of soil treatment areas have increased significantly since the adoption of the Gunnison County OWTS Regulations, on August 15, 2014, compared to soil treatment areas designed previously using the Gunnison County ISDS Regulations. The proposed revision to Section 5-112 is intended to provide for reasonable and adequate wastewater treatment without requiring the applicant to provide for an oversized treatment area.

B. BACKGROUND:

Under the previous Gunnison County ISDS Regulations, the calculation to determine the size of a proposed soil treatment area was based on a design flow of 75 gallons per day per person (g/d/p) and included an extra 50% buffer for assurance of adequate sizing. In reviewing the State mandated OWTS Regulations, it was observed that the 50% buffer was absent from the calculation to determine the size of a soil treatment area. In order to account for the apparent loss of the safety factor, a daily design flow increase to 100 g/d/p was elected. It has been discovered that the safety factor is not deleted from the calculation but is hidden in reduced long term acceptance rates. Using a minimum daily design flow of 100 g/d/p, instead of the State recommended minimum of 75, has resulted in excessively large treatment areas which is negatively impacting designers, contractors and property owners through the additional costs associated with larger treatment areas and challenges of site placement of larger systems.

The chart below compares the soil treatment area size, in square feet, for a 2 bedroom residence using the previous ISDS Regulations and 75 g/d/p, the current OWTS Regulations at 100 g/d/p, and the OWTS Regulations using 75 g/d/p.

	Loamy Sand	Silt Loam	Sandy Clay	Clay
ISDS Regs 75g/d/p (previous until August 2014)	334 sf	472 sf	783 sf	974 sf
OWTS Regs 100g/d/p (current)	500 sf	667 sf	1,143 sf	2,000 sf
OWTS Regs 75 g/d/p (proposed and State recommended)	375 sf	500 sf	857 sf	1,500 sf

C. STAFF RECCOMENDATION

A daily design flow of 75 gallons per day per person provides for reasonable and adequate on-site waste water treatment systems without burdening an applicant with excessive and expensive additional treatment area sizing. There may be times when a daily design flow of 100 g/d/p is appropriate for the design of a system and it would be important for the regulatory agency to have the discretion to require an additional design flow amount. Staff is recommending the following changes to Section 5-112: CALCULATION OF SEWAGE FLOW, C. SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES AND MOBILE HOMES.

C. SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES AND MOBILE HOMES. To calculate the sewage flow for single-family residences and mobile homes, a figure of two people per bedroom or four people per residence shall be used, whichever is greater. The design flow per person shall be ~~100~~ 75 gallons per day. The Environmental Health Office may increase the wastewater design flow per person to 100 gpd where justified.