

CASTLE DANGER SUBORDINATE SERVICE DISTRICT  
SEWER RATE HEARING  
APRIL 16, 2019

The Annual CDSSD Sewer Rate Hearing was held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room, for the purpose of reviewing proposed sewer rates for 2019. Present were Silver Creek Supervisors: Greg Hull, Denny Moen, and Chuck Voss; Clerk Alison Oftedahl; Sewer Operator Mike Hoops and Town Operations and Facilities Manager Jody Reineccius.

Chairman Hull called the Hearing to order at 7:01 p.m. Sewer Operator Hoops presented the following CDSSD Recap and Annual Report.

**CDSSD Recap of Wastewater Operations**

Early in the year we were amazed by the lack of call outs for pump repairs. I believe that to be a result of changeover to the Extreme Pumps from E-One. During the summer we did have more failures of the older pumps requiring replacement with Extremes.

I was able to get a handle on the problems at Gooseberry Falls after several years. I was working on an assumption that it had been set up correctly by other employees. I'll try not to assume in the future,

Training during the year involved both the former as well as current employees. They attended pump repair training, MPCA training and had on the job training. This will continue into the next 2 years at which time we should be able to get more employees licensed.

We encountered unique situations all year which is normal for the system. Many were discussed at regular meetings. They all created learning experiences.

Annual inspections found some problems that were corrected at the time and some panels which will require an electrician in the near future. Most are the result of frost action on conduit.

This year, planned maintenance includes the panels and work on the duplex stations to allow water to flow back and forth between the compartments. This has been recommended by the pump supplier. It will require our full crew to expedite this. I am hoping to do about half this year and the balance next year.

On the whole, the system continues to operate with an extremely clean discharge. MPCA continues to be pleased with us and we do have capacity for future buildout in the district.

Mike Hoops  
Wastewater Operator

**CDSSD 2018 Annual Report**

January 26, 2019

Town of Silver Creek – Castle Danger WWTF  
MN Permit #0063908

During calendar year 2018 this facility:

Received 9.1788 million gallons of influent.

Discharged 14.985 million gallons of effluent through the drip irrigation system, between May 1 and October 15, 2018.

Nutrient loads met the requirement of the permit, with no monthly average out of compliance.

Problems that were encountered this year included:

1. Pre Discharge samples of effluent at certain times show Total Phosphorus to be over the limit, as allowed by our permit. This required the application of alum to the pond to precipitate out phosphorus prior to discharge by irrigation. Due to the slow discharge rate of the irrigation, at times a second application of alum is required to keep phosphorus within limits.
2. Water in the final pond was very clean this year which allowed for the growth of filamentous algae. Earthtec Algacide was used last year and this year. Control is great.

Monitoring of the slump discussed in the 2003 Annual Report continued with little movement.

Hydraulic loading of the site seems to be working.

No erosion occurred across the drip irrigation site.

No runoff appears to be taking place from the irrigation site.

Weed control and mowing were accomplished to maintain the pond site.

Work required during 2019 will include the following:

Checking all lines and fittings prior to irrigation. The site will be checked for erosion prior to green-up. All lines will be flagged as to location. Any breaks will be repaired.

Phosphorus mitigation will continue if needed, based on reissued permit.

The slump area will continue to be monitored.

Normal maintenance will be scheduled in timely fashion.

Filamentous algae will be controlled in the pond being discharged from to prevent unnecessary shutdowns in the irrigation.

If there is a need for more information than is provided in this report, do not hesitate to call me.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Hoops

Certification #C-5123

Motion by Moen, second Voss to accept Sewer Operator Hoops Recap and Annual Report as presented. Passed unanimously.

Total wastewater flow handled by the system was up 1.4% compared to last year, with commercial metered water use down slightly by 1.1%. With regard to finances, Supervisors considered that fact that the Sewer Enterprise Replacement fund currently has a negative balance. The group questioned anticipated expenses for the upcoming year. The amount of \$145,000, used to calculate the rates, was arrived at by taking the operating budget of \$135,000 and adding \$10,000 for deficit reduction. Pump repairs which can be a major expense, will be handled in-house this year. Reineccius reported that he and Thompson completed the set up of a test lab and attended training on pump repair. This has the potential to save thousands of dollars that would otherwise be paid to a vendor.

Based upon the User Charge System Ordinance, the following proposed rates were calculated.

**Residential Monthly Rates**

Sewer: \$55.00/month

Auxiliary habitable structures: \$17.00/month

**Commercial Monthly Rates**

Rustic Inn - \$801/month

Gooseberry Motel - \$263/month

Grand Superior Lodge - \$5,769/month

Gooseberry Cabins - \$206/month

Castle Haven - \$353/month

Gooseberry Falls State Park - \$1,853/month

Motion by Moen, second Voss to adopt the residential rate of \$55 per month with \$17 per month for each auxiliary structure. Passed unanimously. It was noted that the residential rate is the same as last year, since that is sufficient to collect the residential share of 23% of anticipated expenses.

Motion by Hull, second Moen to adopt the commercial rates listed above. Each commercial account's usage was multiplied by the new rate of \$16.50 per thousand gallons. The rate itself was up 5% from last year in order to collect the commercial share of 77% of anticipated expenses. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Hull, second Voss to approve the existing Late Payment policy in the Resolution (next page). Passed unanimously.

Motion by Moen, second Voss set the account transfer fee at \$ 25.00. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Hull, second Voss to set "Turn-on" and "Shut-off" Fees rates at \$100.00. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Hull, second Voss to approve existing access fees at \$8,000.00 for residential and \$6,331.48/100,000 gallons per year for Commercial. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Hull, second Moen to charge the following for trucked-in sewage: \$21.00/1000 gallons septage and \$6.00/1000 gallons domestic strength wastewater with plowing language as detailed in the Resolution. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Moen, second Voss to approve a penalty of \$100.00 per month for I&I coming from a connection as detailed in the Resolution, next page, until satisfactory repairs are made. Passed unanimously.

Chairman Hull then called for the adoption of Resolution 2019-2 "2019 Sewer Rates in the Castle Danger Sewer Area" based upon a unanimous roll-call vote as follows: Supervisor Greg Hull - yea, Supervisor Denny Moen - yea, and Supervisor Chuck Voss - yea.

**RESOLUTION 2019 – 2**  
**2019 SEWER RATES IN THE CASTLE DANGER SEWER DISTRICT**

**Residential Monthly Rates**

Sewer: \$55.00/month  
Auxiliary habitable structures: \$17.00/month

**Commercial Monthly Rates**

Rustic Inn - \$801/month  
Gooseberry Motel - \$263/month  
Grand Superior Lodge - \$5,769/month  
Gooseberry Cabins - \$206/month  
Castle Haven - \$353/month  
Gooseberry Falls State Park - \$1,853/month

1. Late payment fee:
  - Residential** – 1.50% per month on outstanding balance  
Late fees will be assessed 45 days from billing date  
Shut off notice will be issued at 90 days from billing date unless board votes to suspend it.
  - Commercial** – 1.50% per month on outstanding balances  
Late fees will be assessed at 30 and 60 days from billing date  
Shut off notice will be issued at 90 days from billing date unless the board votes to suspend it.
2. Account transfer fee: \$25.00
3. 3. Sewer turn-on fee: \$100.00
4. 4. Sewer shut-off fee: \$100.00
5. Residential Access Fee: \$8,000.00
6. Commercial Access Fee: \$6,331.48/100,000 gallons per year
7. Sewage-dumping fee for trucked-in sewage: \$21.00/1000 gallons septage and \$6.00/1000 gallons domestic strength wastewater. Ponds are not open in the winter. If dumping is needed, hauler shall be responsible for providing their own snow removal equipment in order to access the pond site waste.
8. In the event I&I is discovered or identified as coming from a connection, the Board shall have the option of assessing a monthly penalty of \$100.00 until satisfactory repairs are made.

Adopted this 16th day of April 2019.

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Greg Hull

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Dennis Moen

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Charles Voss

ATTEST:

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Alison Oftedahl

There being no further business, hearing adjourned at 7:19 pm upon motion by Voss, second Moen. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk