

**MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT
COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, October 11, 2008
District Office 9:30 A.M.**

Call To Order – Commissioner Schmid called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

Roll Call – Karl Schmid (Commissioner) and Beverly Jacobs (Commissioner).

Absent – Chris Demers (Commissioner).

Visitors – June Soule, Sandy Schmid, Mike Bonanno, Joel and Annemarie Godston, and Thomas O’Conner.

Minutes of Previous Meetings (09.13.08 & 09.18.08) – Sandy Schmid requested clarification of the V.P. Steve mentioned in Section C New Water Sources. Commissioner Schmid stated that V.P. Steve McKenzie is from Dubois and King. Sandy Schmid, referring to the same section, asked if the use of the word significantly is accurate, relating to the higher cost of water for Mountain Lakes compared to Woodsville. Commissioner Schmid stated that yes it is accurate. We pay a higher percentage than Woodsville residents do. Sandy Schmid moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, 09.18.08, as written and the minutes from the previous meeting, 09.13.08, as amended with McKenzie from Dubois and King added, seconded by Mike Bonanno. Motion passed.

Old Business

1) Recreation Update

- a) **Oktoberfest** – Mike Bonanno summarized the times and activities scheduled for the Oktoberfest being held today, including the Pancake Breakfast held at the lodge tomorrow morning from 8am to 12pm. The fee is \$4 per person with children under 2 free. There is a soccer tournament this weekend so turn out may be low. Janet Bazzell will be playing in the tournament and Bonanno asked if Mountain Lakes would send her a letter congratulating her on her 100th goal. Commissioner Schmid stated that we could.

- b) **Halloween Party** – Mike Bonanno stated that Josh Puffer would be the DJ for the Halloween Party scheduled November 1st from 7pm to 11pm. This will be an adult event and everyone is encouraged to bring hors d’oeuvres.

Bonanno stated that plans include an adult holiday party scheduled for December 27th from 7pm – 11pm with Josh Puffer acting as DJ. There may be a \$5 per person fee with the money going into the Recreation Revolving Fund.

Bonanno stated that he takes personal offence to Don Drew’s comments relating to the comment Don Drew wrote in his report that the Recreation Committee refused to assist with clean up of the beach. A discussion followed. Commissioner Schmid closed the discussion by stating that there are communication issues and that Don Drew and Mike Bonanno’s expectations are not in line.

Commissioner Schmid requested that dates be set for opening and closing the beach and pool, which will help with the budget.

Bonanno stated that the Recreation Committee will be rescheduling their regular meetings so part-time people will have a better opportunity to attend. Joel Godston voiced his appreciation for the proposed change.

Commissioner Schmid stated that Bonanno had previously asked about options available for other people putting information and pictures on the web. Schmid gave a brief summary of wikis and blogs. Bonanno announced that the Recreation Committee hopes to have a website up next month. A discussion followed regarding the (1) advantages of having all Mountain Lakes information available from one website and (2) Bonanno's complaint that the Recreation Committee information and photos are not being updated on the Mountain Lakes website. Regarding the Recreation Committee updates, Commissioner Schmid stated that he has not received any recent updates from the Recreation Committee. After further discussion, Sandy Schmid asked if Bonanno would work with Commissioner Schmid on this topic, which Bonanno replied that he would. Annemarie Godston requested that this discussion take place some other time.

2) **Planning Board Update**

- a) **Zoning Applications** - Sandy Schmid stated that the Planning Board received one new application to build a house. The application came in at the meeting Thursday night, which didn't allow enough time to process it. The application will be in next month's meeting.
- b) **Zoning Officer** - Sandy Schmid stated that Stan Borkowski is our new Zoning Officer. He is also the Zoning Officer for three other communities and utilizes a book call International Building Code. Borkowski didn't submit a report this month because he is in the process of learning then new forms and what kind of report to submit. His knowledge base is extensive and he will be offering input for our zoning ordinances.
- c) **Master Plan** – Sandy Schmid stated that the Planning Board is working on Section VII: Utilities and will be followed by Recreation. Joel Godston thanked Sandy Schmid for all the hard work she has been doing.

3) **Water Committee Update**

- a) **Water Usage** - Commissioner Schmid stated the average daily water usage for September 08 was 41,306 gallons.
- b) **Water Report** – Commissioner Schmid stated that they had a very good meeting with Chuck Goodling. Goodling has done a number of studies for us in the past. Goodling brought the rules for surface water to the meeting. NH rules state they will not approve treatment of surface water for small water systems. We are considered a small water system as we have fewer than 1.000 residents. We want to get input from more than one engineering company regarding the best way

to proceed. Both engineers, Goodling and Metcalf have said that they will go through the analysis to help decide the best action to take. DES will advise us what we can do about our gravel well. Where it stands now Goodling is to email the Commissioners outlining the next steps to be taken. Metcalf submitted a list of next steps to the Commissioners with an estimate of \$29,000. Commissioner Schmid said the next step is to have a talk with DES but he would like an engineer present for the discussion.

Joel Godston volunteered to contact Lisa Crowe, a dowser from the Society of Dowzers out of Danville, VT. If the cost is minimal, it may be useful to have a dowser come out.

Commissioner Schmid stated that Don Drew discovered that the Martin house being built on Hilltop is not being built according to the plans submitted. They had backfilled the water line before Drew had an opportunity to inspect it and had connected to the water system to hook up a pump. Drew turned the water off, locked the connection, and sent a letter to the owner. Commissioner Schmid stated that Fenway Construction had been in to talk with them and reported that they dug up and rerouted the water line back to the original plan, and have complied with all requests. Joel Godston expressed his thanks that this issue was taken care of as it shows builders and owners that the community is looking out for the best interest of everyone.

Water Department Report submitted by Don Drew:

We are still working on the leak survey with Granite State Rural Water. To this point, we have done 106 homes around the district and found only a couple of leak issues, but have found a few more maintenance items that will be addressed later. Please take the time to check all outdoor water faucets and hoses, as they could be dripping or running, and if they freeze they could lose water without being noticed.

If anyone has questions or needs, a hand getting ready for winter please call the office and maybe we can help. For any questions or comments, please call the office 787-6180.

Maintenance Department Report submitted by Don Drew:

Not much to report for the maintenance dept. but we are still working on getting ready for winter and scheduling some mowing for the Lodge area and sliding hill. I would like to thank **Karl Schmid** and **Rick Blakeslee** for their volunteer help in getting some of the items out of the water and off the beach that required more than one person to do. I would also like to make a point to let the rec. committee know that I am very disappointed that they **REFUSED TO HELP** with any of the beach area cleanup and stated that it was my job and they would not help or volunteer. I would also like it let it be known that I myself have volunteered to help do things such as the wagon hay ride that was to be here this weekend for the Oktoberfest, the sliding party last winter and ***I DON'T EVEN LIVE HERE!***

4) **District**

- a) **Financials** – Commissioner Schmid stated that last month we talked about having to issue a supplemental water bill to cover the unanticipated extra expenses. We found out from the Department of Revenue Administration that we could use the fund surplus from last year so a supplemental water bill will not be necessary. This issue was the purpose for the special meeting held September 18th.

Joel Godston questioned the figures on line 4019 concerned that some residents are not paying their water bill. Commissioner Schmid stated that the figure doesn't reflect the amount outstanding; it splits the revenues by year, which is the way the accountant wants to see it. Joel Godston suggested that we should send a notice to the residents who have not paid their bill and then, if no response, turn off their water. Commissioner Schmid stated that these actions have already been taken and have proved to be effective. Joel Godston thanked the Commissioners for keeping up on the issue of the water bills being paid.

Financial Report submitted by Renee Cota:

I have positive news concerning the Water budget. We indeed will be coming in over budget this year and the commissioners had approved a supplemental water be to account for the \$13,400 projected overrun. We are not going to have to issue the supplemental water bill because we have been given permission to pay for the expenditures with funds from our unreserved fund balance. This is great news.

New Business

Joel Godston went to the North Country Council annual meeting and will give the Commissioners the membership services booklet.

Thomas O'Conner, property owner from Massachusetts reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting and a discussion followed regarding water meters, part time residents' inability to vote, and the distinction between bylaws, covenant and easements, and zoning ordinances.

Sandy Schmid moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Annemarie Godston. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:06 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle G. Chamberlain