

Mountain Lakes District Water Committee Meeting  
May 5, 2011

Status: Draft as of 5/8/2011  
Reviewed as of 5/11/11

Purpose of Meeting:

This was the standard monthly meeting of the Water Committee.

The major agenda items were:

1. Discuss the Upper Lake Spillway project and vote on a recommendation to the Commissioners on how to proceed.
2. Discuss the Well Drilling project.

The meeting was held at the District Office from 6:00 PM to 6:40 PM on May 5, 2011.

Attendees:

Mountain Lakes Water Committee: Ed Rajsteter – Commissioner (via phone), Don Drew, Peter Olander, Bob Long, Ken King

Guests: Laraine King, Dave Long

Background:

The Upper Lake Spillway is the part of the causeway that currently has a beach on the upper lake, the parking lot, the playground, and part of the beach on the lower lake. It was designed to be a grassy area which allowed the water to flow over it and relieve the pressure on the causeway dam in high water situations. The items such as the large rocks and raised bed for the playground channel the overflowing water into a small area and washes out the sand on the lower lake beach. This has happened several times, most recently last fall in a heavy rain storm and a few weeks ago during the high runoff from the melting snow. This is a dangerous situation and the state wants it corrected. The goal is to correct this while still preserving all of the recreational use of this area.

The Mountain Lakes water supply currently comes from two wells on our property and a feed from Woodsville Water & Light. The supply from one of our wells has been decreasing so there is a project to consider drilling that well deeper. This project is currently on hold while we perform more extensive testing on our other well. We need to design our water supply system to handle both current needs and allow for growth. Such planning is required by the state and we are working with them on this.

Meeting:

The meeting was started by Ed at 6:00 PM.

The first item was for Don to give a general update on the Water Department. He reported that the most recent water testing had indicated some bacteria were present. He had notified the state and there will be a series of follow-on tests.

The testing on our infiltration well was done but the results are not back yet. We tabled any further discussion of well drilling/water sourcing until the results are back.

The rest of the meeting was spent on the Spillway project.

Ed presented two alternatives that have been developed for the Spillway project:

1. Restore the spillway in its original location. This involves removing the rocks, adding swales for traffic control, relocating the playground, filling in the washed away sand and playground area with dirt, and seeding the filled in areas.
2. Same as above but moving the spillway area away from the district office and further up to the hillside. This would require closing off the hill road (Killer Hill).

As both approaches require moving the rocks and relocating the playground, the commissioners had decided to go ahead with this part of the work.

(Note: As of Friday, the rocks had been removed and the playground raised bed taken away. Drive down and take a look.)

Discussion of the two alternatives:

Don reported on the work he had done in collecting information on the costs of the two approaches. The initial excavation and filling part would cost about \$5,000 for Option 1 but more like \$14K for Option 2. These prices do not include engineering fees.

Option 2 involves shutting down Killer Hill. It is a town road so there would need to be a cul-de-sac put in at the stopping point. There are also unknown issues with the water pipe on Killer Hill and the pipes supporting the District office septic system.

In Option 1, we are restoring a spillway that was approved by the state. The state Dam Safety people have indicated they would approve such a plan and would work with us to get the approval of the state Wetlands people for the required fill and seeding. Option 2 would require additional engineering work and a new state approval which could delay the work for months.

The plan for Option 1 is to do it in two parts. Part One would happen this year and involve the rocks, swales, grading and seeding of the old playground area and the lower lake beach. The upper lake beach and parking area would remain as it is and work with that area would happen in Part Two.

Issues:

- Where will all the stones go? Does it make sense to move them twice? Six of them were moved to the mailbox area. Some may be moved to the Lodge area. It was important to show the state that we are serious about this.
- How can we make a real decision without knowing all of the costs for both options? The cost of Option 2 is much more and it will take longer. There are only 6 weeks until the Summer Recreation program starts. We need to make the best decision we can and move ahead.
- This decision is being made by a small group of people. Several people are very concerned about this area and would like to be involved in the decision process. The role of the Water Committee is to make a recommendation based on a number of meetings and discussions during the month of April and other activities over the past several months. The Commissioners will make the final decision based on the Water Committee input and the input from the residents at the next Commissioner's meeting and at the special meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### WC Recommendation:

Ed made a motion that the Water Committee recommend the district move ahead with Option 1 and implement it in two phases. The motion was seconded by Peter. It was voted on and approved.

#### Follow-on Meetings:

The results of this meeting will be presented at the Monday evening Commissioners Meeting at 6:00 PM on May 9<sup>th</sup>. There will also be a meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> at the District Office at 10:00AM to further discuss the spillway and water source projects.

#### Meeting Adjourned:

No other Water Committee business was discussed and the meeting was adjourned by Ed at 6:40PM.

#### Assignments:

1. Meeting minutes (this document) – Ken
2. Review draft meeting minutes – Ed, Don, Bob, Peter
3. Present results of this meeting to the commissioners - Ed