



BERRIEN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

better health. stronger communities.

BERRIEN COUNTY SEWAGE APPEALS BOARD

VIRTUAL MEETING (via Zoom & Streamed on YouTube)

1/6/2021 Approved Minutes

Present: Peg Kohring (Berrien County Board of Health), Judge John Dewane (County Corporate Counsel), Dr. Gleiber (Great Lakes Scientific), Ezra Scott (Berrien County Commissioner, District 9), Tom Oldenburg (Oldenburg Excavating, Representing Tobin Klint), (Brian Murphy (EH supervisor BCHD), Laird Willard (EH, BCHD), Saunya Bowie (EH, Program Support Specialist)

11:20 Meeting called to order by Peg Kohring

Approval of Agenda: Ezra Scott made a motion to approve the agenda, a second was made by Judge John Dewane, motion passed and approved.

Introductions: Ezra Scott: virtual from New Buffalo Twp.; Dr. Gleiber: virtual from Chikaming Twp.; Judge John Dewane: virtual attendance from the city of Palm Springs, California; Peg Kohring: virtual from Chikaming Twp.; Tom Oldenburg: Virtual from Chikaming Twp.; Brian Murphy, Laird Willard, and Saunya Bowie: physically present at BCHD office.

Approval of 12/2/2020 Minutes: Judge John Dewane made a motion to approve the minutes, a second was made by Dr. Gleiber, motion passed and approved.

Owner/Installer Presentation: Mr. Tobin Klint (not present; Tom Oldenburg Representing) Wee Chik Rd., Chikaming Twp., Section #12; 5.01 Acres; Tax ID# 11-07-0012-0005-01-1

Tom Oldenburg: Due to the soil conditions the Health Department requested backhoe cuts were done 10-12 feet deep on this property that showed 8→10 inches of top soil that would blend to yellow/brown clay. Proposing a 6 foot raised mound system with 1500 gallon tank with filter, no garbage grinder in home and 500 gallon dosing tank. Bed would be a 30ft x 40ft raised mound system 6 feet tall. Drain bed with 10 runs, perforated pipe, solid header, perforated footer, actual drain bed begins 4 feet above grade, using sand from our Nye Rd. pit, and topped with filter fabric in lieu of straw. Overhead view on printout with location specifying "600" in the northern middle section of the lot, where the house is going to sit. Concentrating on the Northwest corner for the septic system where a fairly flat spot is located. Drainage runs off from $\frac{3}{4}$ way up the lot on the Northwest side, cuts towards the middle and then heads on a steep Southeast decline. Print out of top section and side section of system for clarification.

Berrien County Health Department Presentation:

Laird Willard: Backhoe cuts were done, clay soils found 13-16 feet deep. Most of the backhoe cuts were done on the East side of the property, not the west side where the projected home is to be built. We would require 1500 gallon tank (for 4 bedroom home with no garbage grinder) and 1000 gallon tank, as well as a 500 gallon dosing tank with alarm. You would need to remove at least 1 foot of top soil and bring fill sand to bring back to grade and then use sand to bring to 4 feet above grade to begin system, reserving that top soil and using it for cover. We also require that there is no water softener discharge to the drain bed. Normal inspections will need to be done, sand quality, height of drain bed, sand slopes, which are all normal requirements of mound systems.

Oldenburg: Accepting of the proposed variation to the original proposed plan. As far as cover goes for system, the drain bed will run from 4 to 5 foot and I will have 1 foot of cover which will be sand and topped off with top soil. The addition of the second tank and 500 gallon dosing tank with alarm is acceptable as well.

Appeal Board Discussion:

Ezra Scott: Is there enough distance from the end slopes of the mound system to the adjacent property line, so no potential drainage will occur on neighboring lots.

Oldenburg: System total size is projected to be 124ft x 114ft with the 7:1 slope design. Confident that minimal distance from neighboring lot can be achieved.

Laird: We don't want to have a slope ending right at a property line, at least a 5 to 10 foot distance from property line would be appropriate.

Oldenburg: If board approves, we can change the original proposed 30ft x 40ft bed to a 20ft x 60ft to accommodate that distance from neighboring property line.

Laird: From BCHD standpoint, as long as 1200 sq. ft. is maintained as far as the size of drain bed.

Oldenburg: Having that as an option, keeping away from the property line would be more easily attainable if a 20ft x 60ft bed was approved.

Ezra: Where is the well located?

Oldenburg: Well is not drilled at this time, projected location will be $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up the lot on the East side to accommodate proper distance from septic system location.

Appeal Board Decision:

Peg Kohring: Motion to allow a 20ft x 60ft mound system with a 1500 gallon tank (for a 4 bedroom home), a 1000 gallon tank and a 500 gallon dosing tank with an alarm, no garbage grinder and no water softener drainage to drain bed. Removing top soil (save top soil for top of mound) and fill with sand to grade and build up to 4 feet above grade to begin system finalizing at 6 feet above grade, regular inspections and keeping at least 5-10 feet from neighboring lot lines. Dr. Gleiber motioned, Judge John Dwane 2nd, unanimous approval of all attending members.

11:41 am Meeting Adjourned