

MINUTES OF THE GEORGETOWN SILVER PLUME JOINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT
COMMISSION

September 29, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT; Tom Bennhoff, Earl Ballard, and Jeff Best. Also present were Tom Hale, Mary Simms and John Curtis from the Town of Georgetown. Clay Brown, Barry Cress and Jarrod Biggs from DOLA were present.

The meeting minutes of September 7th were approved.

Jarrod gave a thorough presentation on his progress with identifying cost and how those expenses relate to the fee structure (see attached handout). The Commission had a lengthy discussion on what type of reserve funds should be included in the rate structure. The Georgetown staff will make some recommendation on how many funds, the amount in each fund and the uses of those funds at the October 19th meeting. Jarrod still needs to breakdown some numbers from the Broomfield plant to help validate the numbers he has so far. The problem that he is having is that the technology used in the new plant is fairly new and there are only six similar plants in Colorado. They are all relatively new so the data has not been validated over time. The additional variables for the revenue and expense model include what the final new EQR system for both towns is, and the cost of collection system maintenance.

A discussion of if the rate model should separate between the plant costs and line repair took place. Clay reported that the completion date for the new collection system in Silver Plume is still unknown. Depending on CDPHE approval and bidding the project may or may not be completed in 2010. The agreed upon approach will be to continue to calculate costs separately. Whenever the collection system is replaced, and the towns agree for common maintenance of the entire collection system the revenue will be in place to support such an effort.

Barry Cress, also of DOLA, made a presentation to the Commission on sewer rate models and how to establish a common sewer rate. Barry provided a handout comparing the Georgetown, Salida and Eagle EQR systems (attached). The group suggested several category changes and discussed for some more comparable models. Barry will continue his work and will report back on the October 5th meeting.

The future meetings are as follows;

Tuesday Oct 5: Final or close to final operating costs and EQR discussion

Tuesday Oct.19: Refinement of EQR system and reserve policy discussion

Two future meeting dates to be set will include the development of rates based on the EQR system and a joint meeting of both boards.

The next meeting will be October 5th at 6:00 pm in Georgetown.