

**SEWAGE, WASTEWATER, AND SANITATION HEARING BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Members**

Matthew Buehler, Chair  
Kenneth Lund, Atty  
John Adams  
Frank Kurnick, Jr.  
Chad Carnes, P.E.  
Matt Smith – Alternate  
Ronald J. Anderson, P.E.– Alternate

**Thursday, May 5, 2022  
5:30 p.m.**

**Washoe County Administration Complex**

**Washoe County Caucus  
1001 East Ninth Street  
Reno, NV**

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**5:30 p.m.**

**1. \*Roll Call and Determination of Quorum**

The following members and staff were present:

Members present: Matthew Buehler  
Kenneth Lund, Atty  
John Adams  
Chad Carnes, P.E.  
Frank Kurnick, Jr.

Staff present: Dania Reid, DDA  
Dave Kelly  
Ellen Messinger-Patton  
Josh Philpott

Members absent: Matt Smith, Alternate  
Ronald J. Anderson, P.E., Alternate

**2. \*Pledge of Allegiance**

Those present pledged allegiance to the flag.

**3. \*Public Comment**

As no public comment cards were presented, the public comment period was closed.

**4. Election of New Chair**

Dave Kelly thanked the new and existing SWS Board Members for their time and service. Dania Reid, DDA requested the board nominate a new chair. A motion was made by Mr. Carnes “Motion to nominate Mr. Buehler as the new Chair.” Second by Mr. Adams, motion carried.

**5. Approval of Agenda – May 5, 2022**

Chair Buehler moved to approve the agenda of the May 5, 2022, Sewage, Wastewater, and Sanitation Board (SWS Board) regular meeting. Second by Mr. Adams, motion approved.

**6. Approval of Draft Minutes – September 3, 2019**

Since the only board member present on May 5, 2022, was Matt Buehler and staff, Mr. Kelly created an agenda item to confirm staff verified the minutes to be accurate. Mr. Buehler moved to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2019, Sewage, Wastewater, & Sanitation Board (SWS Board) regular meeting. Second by Mr. Adams, motion approved.

**7. Hearing - Variance APN 230-101-07- Section 0.0100**

Staff Representative: Ellen Messinger-Patton

Ms. Messinger-Patton provided an overview and stated that the Health District recommends the Sewage, Wastewater and Sanitation (SWS) Hearing Board support the presented Variance Case H22-0001VARI (M&T Land Holdings LLC) to allow the approval of portions of a septic system (WBLD21-104161) with less than the required 25' setback to a drainage channel. The variance requests a building sewer line be allowed to cross a storm drainage channel. The building sewer will be sleeved with 6" SDR35 pipe, anchored with concrete and installed 1' below the lined drainage channel. She further stated that none of this protrudes into the drainage ditch (below) and that WCHD has allowed this in the past with variance and will be recommending it be allowed when the regulations are updated.

Mr. Adams stated his company has done this exact system before with 4" SDR in 6" SDR35 pipe. He recommended installing warning tape at least one foot above the 50' sleeve for these crossings. Suggested clean-out green markers even though nobody wants to see markers.

Michael Vet, Engineer for the crossing project stated they would be extending a 25' sleeve on both sides so probably 60 feet total. This may address your concern as the crossing is five feet underneath the driveway and will require an engineer sign off for the septic system. Crossing will be underneath the drainage pipe. This is in a flood zone and everything is already elevated so all water is being directed away from the project.

Chair Buehler expressed concern about future changes. Dave Kelly stated as-builts are required with any changes and WCHD has 98% of records on all Washoe County properties. EHS runs into this frequently. Last two variances were similar and crossed irrigation ditches. Intent of reg changes will be a minor risk to public health and larger issues will still come before the SWS Board.

**Conditions of Approval**

1. Any instances of system non-function must be reported to WCHD for review and shall be repaired immediately. In the event of failure to maintain or lack of system function, WCHD may require sampling and/or impose restrictions on the property based on the functionality of the septic system, up to and including removal of the drainage channel crossing.
2. Require recording of the variance to the parcel to ensure proper public records notification in the event the property is sold to any other person or entity. Recording may not be removed without Health District approval.

Motion made by Chair Buehler "Move to present to the District Board of Health a recommendation for approval of Variance Case H22-0001VARI (M&T Land Holdings LLC) to allow the approval of a septic system as proposed, including all recommended conditions which includes DTAC tape over the entire 50-foot surrounding area." Second by Mr. Carnes, motion approved. Chair Buehler closed the public hearing.

**8. Hearing - Variance for APN 222-073-04 section 040.100 Table 2**

Staff Representative: Josh Philpott

Mr. Philpott provided an overview and stated that the Health District recommends the Sewage, Wastewater and Sanitation (SWS) Hearing Board support the presented to update and provide any direction from the Board on the Environmental Health Services Division's (EHS) review of the submitted variance application for your decision to recommend or deny approval to the District Board of Health (DBOH) a variance for APN 222-073-04 which is owned by Michael & Julie Dianda. The variance requests the allowance of a building sewer line to cross an existing hard piped storm water drainage channel. The building sewer line would be concrete encased from the point of crossing, extending to 5 feet on both sides of the crossing. The building sewer line will run above the drainage channel with a minimum vertical separation of 6 inches.

Discussion and questions with Ryan Simms and Roy Haliburton with Q&D Construction regarding other options considered. Currently has SDR35 PVC pipe for lot drainage (rain only) so no possibility of debris blockage. Pipe is in a non-traffic load area.

Mr. Adams stated that it is one pipe over another like the first variance reviewed earlier in the agenda. No further concerns or discussion.

**Conditions of Approval**

1. Any instances of system non-function must be reported to WCHD for review and shall be repaired immediately. In the event of failure to maintain or lack of system function, WCHD may require sampling and/or impose restrictions on the property based on the functionality of the building sewer line, up to and including removal of the storm drain crossing.
2. Require recording of the variance to the parcel to ensure proper public records notification in the event the property is sold to any other person or entity. Recording may not be removed without Health District approval.

**Motion**

Motion made by Chair Buehler "Move to present to the District Board of Health a recommendation for approval of Variance Case H22-0002VARI (Michael & Julie Dianda) to allow the approval of a septic system as proposed, including all recommended conditions which includes DTAC tape over the entire 50-foot surrounding area." Second by Mr. Adams. Motion approved.

Chair Buehler closed the public hearing.

**9. \*Public Comment**

As there were no public comment requests, Chair Buehler closed the public comment period.

**10. Adjournment –**

At 6:10 p.m., Chair Buehler moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mr. Lund, motion approved.