

## Coolin Sewer District Regular Meeting Minutes June 4, 2025

The Coolin Sewer District Board of Directors met on June 4, 2025, at the Coolin Civic Center. Those present were Paul LaCasse, Jim Morse, and Jake Copeland. Josh Christensen was not present. Also present were Chris Morris, Skyler Day, Jordan Brooks, Thad O'Sullivan, Kyle Meschko (Keller Associates), and Katy Baker-Casile with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ). See attached sign in sheet for community members present. Jake called the meeting to order at 4:01pm.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Paul motioned to approve the May meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Jim and carried.

Paul motioned to approve the bill payments and treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Jim and carried.

The Board directed Jordan to send an invoice to Bonner County Road & Bridge for reimbursement of the Storro Excavation bill (excavation required to raise valves in E River Rd prior to paving).

Kyle stated an amendment to the Wastewater Facility Plan (WWFP) was completed and submitted to IDEQ in March of 2025 after 18 months of calibrated flow data had been recorded. On May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, IDEQ responded with comments to the amendment. Kyle said the two comments causing the most concern were:

- A. Idaho Wastewater Rules, IDAPA 58.01.16 establishes as follows: *The average day flow is the average day flow as the average of daily volumes to be received for a continuous twelve (12) month period expressed as a volume per unit time. However, the average day flow for design purposes for facilities having critical seasonal high hydraulic loading periods, such as recreational areas or industrial facilities, shall be based on the average day flow during the seasonal period (IDAPA 58.01.16.010.03).*
- D. The facility plan amendment states that if DEQ utilizes the Priest Lake weather station to develop the reuse system's irrigation water requirement, the system would be undersized. Please note, DEQ will likely use the Priest Lake weather station in developing the irrigation water requirement during the next reuse permitting cycle. Please plan accordingly.

Kyle stated using average day flows for the peak season vs the entire year consumes more of the capacity. He addressed Katy, asking if there would possibly be a middle ground with IDEQ and the District to continue allowing LID connections only. As things stand, any Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) submitted to IDEQ within the District would assumably be denied until improvements are made. The intent would be to continue allowing the minuscule amount of LID connections annually while the District prepares for and makes improvements. Kyle also discussed the change in weather stations (for data), stating that the Priest Lake weather station is a wetter and cooler location which means more reuse area and winter storage would be required. He also noted that the District has been trying to make improvements for the last 18 months by getting an approved facility plan in place and doing upgrades where able to, but this takes time. The plan would be to start scoping the pre-design for what the improvements look like at the lagoon and reuse area. Katy stated this situation is unfortunately not unique to Coolin, it's very common across the whole region. She said now that the Priest Lake weather station has been collecting and producing accurate data for long enough, IDEQ is giving a heads up that the change is going to be made upon permit renewal in 2030. Katy said there would probably be some flexibility with LID connections, she couldn't give an absolute answer, but there would need to be a solid conversation about how many connections were expected each year going forward. IDEQ would need to have confidence that improvements are being made in a timely manner.

The Sewer Service Application was discussed. The Board tried to determine the best process to follow for reviewing applications and receiving IDEQ approved PERs. No decision was made, and the matter was tabled for future discussion.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Paul motioned to approve the building location permit sign off for Brian & Sandra Gump. The motion was seconded by Jim and carried.

Jim motioned to approve the building location permit sign off for Sam Helms. The motion was seconded by Paul and carried.

Paul motioned to approve the building location permit sign off for Charles Kearny. The motion was seconded by Jim and carried.

Jim made a motion to approve the building permit sign off for Mike Schoff. The motion was seconded by Paul and carried. It was also discussed that Mike's tank is installed but not fully connected. The Board stated the installation needs to be completed as soon as possible.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Kyle said Keller Associates could draft a letter to IDEQ with the number of anticipated connections over the next few years as well as historic connection data. The letter would be a request to continue allowing LID connections under the current moratorium with the anticipation of there only being a few annually.

Kyle stated Keller Associates would get a scope of work drafted for a Preliminary Engineering Report for treatment and reuse improvements. The PER would coincide with documentation needed for the IDL lease renewal in 2026.

### **MAINTENANCE REPORT**

1. Vince Erickson – breaker tripping, pulled pump, over amping, replaced with new pump
2. One blower at the lagoon has been leaking – in the process of getting new high heat gaskets
3. Belles – rerouted service line
4. Cadagan – checked out a sink hole, no sewer issues were found
5. Consolidated quote for valves at lagoon
6. South lift station mixer pump wasn't working – RC worst is trying to warranty the pump
7. Battaglia – boat house sump pump replacement (at owner's expense)
8. Bohlman/Koorennny – tank relocated & line rerouted (at owner's expense)
9. Irrigation to start next week – didn't irrigate in May due to weather – lagoons about 80% full

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Paul motioned to enter executive session under Idaho Code §74-206(1)(f): To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. The motion was seconded by Jim. A roll call vote was taken, Paul – yes, Jim – yes, Jake – yes. Executive session began at 5:52pm. Paul motioned to come out of executive session at 6:59pm. The motion was seconded by Jim and carried.

Jim motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:59pm. The motion was seconded by Paul and carried.

Submitted by,

Jordan Brooks  
Clerk | Treasurer  
Coolin Sewer District

# Coolin Sewer District

Meeting Sign in Sheet

6/4/25

Print your first and last name below. Thank you!

1. Mike Shoff
2. Dave & Pam Watts -NLHB
3. Chae Kenny
4. ~~John Shoff~~
5. MIKE BUDIC
6. Dennis Ballg
7. Katy Baker-Casile
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