

MINUTES – TOWN OF HULL BOARD MEETING
COUNTY OF PORTAGE, WISCONSIN
HELD ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2014 AT 2:30PM
AT THE ANDERSON/O'BRIEN LAW FIRM
1257 MAIN STREET, STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

1. Call to Order: This meeting was called to order by Chairperson John Holdridge at 2:30pm at the Anderson/O'Brien Law firm at 1257 Main St., Stevens Point, WI 54481.

Present: Chairperson John Holdridge, Supervisors – Melvin Bembenek, Dave Pederson, Dave Wilz & Jan Way.

Others Present: Attorney Gerald O'Brien, Attorney Brent Jacobson, Stephen Gaffield-Hydrologist, Patty Amman-Clerical Staff and Barb Brilowski-Deputy Clerk.

2. Announcement by Chairperson Holdridge:
The following is a communication to Attorney O'Brien and Hydrologist, Stephen Gaffield –

With this communication I want to reinforce my view and I believe the view of the Town of Hull Board of Supervisors and Hull staff that the future impact of Well #11 has to be part of any reconciliation or settlement with the City of Stevens Point.

As I understand, Well #11's maximum capacity is about 13 million gallons per day but is limited at this time by the size of Stevens Point's treatment plant. Currently I believe the limit of 5 million gallons per day is based on the treatment plant's inability to process a greater number of gallons. Our concern is when the capacity gets to its maximum, what future impact will that have on the quantity and quality of Hull's water supply? We have heard rumors that the current Mayor has offered Well #11 water to entities including other municipalities. The city obviously believes they have a diamond in the rough with the ability to sell their water for municipal users or to provide economic development within the metro area.

As the Town of Hull looks to the future, town officials must ensure that Hull citizens have available a plentiful and clean water supply through a legal process or intergovernmental agreement. I hope you will take my thoughts in to account as we move forward with resolving the immediate issue of 29+ Hull households that have lost their water supply as a result of Well #11.

3. The Board will convene in closed session as per Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(1)(g), conferring with legal counsel and hydrologist regarding Well #11

Motion by Supervisor Pederson to convene in closed session. Second by Supervisor Wilz.

Roll call vote:

Holdridge: Aye

Bembenek: Aye

Wilz: Aye

Pederson: Aye

Way: Aye

Board convened in closed session at 2:45pm.

Discussion:

- Opinion/analysis from Stephen Gaffield, Hydrologist
- Review of well data received from the City of Stevens Point
- Legalities
- Review of information received from Hull citizens

4. Following the closed session, the Board will reconvene in open session as per Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(2) to take possible action regarding Well #11.

Motion by Supervisor Way to reconvene in open session. Second by Supervisor Pederson.

Roll call vote:

Holdridge: Aye

Bembenek: Aye

Wilz: Aye

Pederson: Aye

Way: Aye

Board reconvened in open session at 3:45pm.

Supervisor Wilz: The Board feels there is a strong case to be made that the Stevens Point Well #11 has done damage to Hull households. I move that in lieu of the facts received today, we continue our pursuit of a possible remedy for Hull residents and authorize our current legal firm to continue the process to investigate what the next steps might be from a legal standpoint.

Supervisor Pederson: Second

Roll Call Vote:

Wilz: Aye

Pederson: Aye

Way: Aye

Bembenek: Aye

Holdridge: Aye

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Adjournment:

Wilz: I move to adjourn.

Pederson: Second.

Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:00pm

Respectfully submitted:

Barbara Brilowski, Deputy Clerk
Town of Hull-Portage County, WI