

Minutes of the July 20, 2011 meeting of the Tyler Creek Watershed Coalition

Carl Missele, who was filling in for Rick Poulton, called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m. Members present were George Kanagin, Rich Hirschberg, Karen Miller, and Carl Missele. Guests were, Karen Sherman, a TCWC member, and Geoff Petzel, executive director of the Friends of the Fox.

Absent were secretary, Kyla Jacobsen and vice president, Gary Swick.

Since there was no quorum, neither the minutes of the June meeting or the treasurer's report could be approved.

Old business The results of the July 13, 2011 Elgin City Council Meeting regarding the funding for the projects in Eagle Heights and Spring Cove were summarized. Funding for residents along Tyler Creek will be made available from the Tyler Creek Fund. The City will pay for half of the cost and the residents may borrow the other half from the fund.

There is still hope that Judson U. will receive the 319 Grant.

Since Kyla was out of town, it was decided that training for water sampling would be postponed until her return. There was a question about whether FRWRD would have to be asked to do fecal testing since the Water Department doesn't do that test.

New Business Geoff Petzel gave us an update on the Friends of the Fox discussions with the Village of Gilberts. The village's wastewater facility has the capacity to treat one million gallons per day (1 MGD). They currently treat between 300 and 350 KGD. Of the amount, about 50 KGD is infiltrated or evaporates. The remainder goes into Tyler Creek. In 2006, the village was permitted to treat up to 2.5 MGD but chose to build a 1 MGD treatment facility. The village has been asked by a builder to increase their capacity. Geoff pointed out that it's unnecessary since they have much unused capacity, since there is very little building forecasted, and current builders have contracts with the village for only 850 KGD. Expanding the treatment facility by 500 KGD would cost between \$7 and \$9 million dollars and would require obtaining bonds that would be paid down with builders' impact fees. It could be a long time before home building resumes and in the meantime, the current residents would have to bare the burden of paying down the bonds.

Geoff reported that the village has to reapply for their permit from the EPA. Because that process will take time, he feels we have 6 months to a year to keep negotiating with the village about the best way to proceed. Geoff suggested that there are ways to protect the Tyler Creek watershed and still allow Gilberts to expand their treatment capacity if they choose to do so. Geoff was asked to send us a summary of the plan.

The next meeting will be on August 17 at 4:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Carl Missele