

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH WATER & WASTEWATER ADVISORY BOARD

Bob Walden, Chair
Terry Gorlick
Dan Tucker

Danny Noland, Vice Chair
Gina Jorgensen

Amanda Fleming
Matthew Midgett

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

December 11, 2024

MSB Assembly Chambers
350 E. Dahlia Ave
Palmer, AK 99645

2:30 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

This regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) Water and Wastewater Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at the DSJ Building at 350 East Dahlia Avenue in Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 2:34 p.m. by Mr. Bob Walden, P.E.

II. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Water and Wastewater Advisory Board members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. Bob Walden - present

Mr. Danny Noland - present

Ms. Amanda Fleming - present

Mr. Terry Gorlick - present

Ms. Gina Jorgensen – not present

Mr. Matthew Midgett - present

Mr. Dan Tucker – not present

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to adopt the agenda, by Mr. Gorlick with adding the handout “Resolution of the Matanuska -Susitna Borough Serial No. 02-060” to the Agenda under Informational Handouts and Communications XII.

VOTE: No objections. The agenda was approved with the addition of the handout noted.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Walden.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

A. June 12, 2024 (regular meeting)

Minutes for the June 12, 2024 (regular meeting) were reviewed by the Board.

Motion to approve the minutes as presented, by Ms. Fleming.

VOTE: The minutes were approved without objection.

VII. AGENCY AND STAFF REPORTS

A. City of Wasilla – Mr. Bob Walden, P.E., Public Works Deputy Director

The City of Wasilla (COW) is still going through the process for an update on the wastewater treatment discharge permit. The City is also working on a possible wetland discharge permit change.

B. City of Palmer – Mr. Matthew Midgett

The City of Palmer (COP) has no updates. They are still working on the booster station which should be online May 2025.

C. Matanuska-Susitna Borough – Ms. Amanda Fleming

Ms. Amanda Fleming commented on Talkeetna Sewer and Water. Received results back from a test location on the eastside of Talkeetna with arsenic levels below maximum contaminate level. Request for Proposal will go out for pursuing design for water treatment and water storage at this location.

Will be doing a water condition assessment study in May 2025 for the distribution system through Steph Engineering.

VIII. PRESENTATION

Mr. Bob Walden provided a presentation on the Palmer/Wasilla Water Connection Study.

The MSB initiated the idea for the COP's and the COW's water system to interconnect to improve resilience. The idea evolved after the 2018 earthquake when many public and private wells got damaged.

There are two alternatives to connect the two cities. Alternative 1 would be a connection on Bogard Road where the natural geological surroundings are beneficial for the construction and waterflow. Alternative 2, located south of the COW, would include more mechanical solutions since it comes in at the end of pressure zone 5 and would need to be boosted up into pressure zone 4. Since it is a shorter distance, it would be a less expensive alternative.

Please see attached presentation slides for additional information. On request, an audio version is available as well.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*Three minutes per person*)

None.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Update on water quality monitoring

Upon recommendation of the MSB Manager, Mr. Terry Gorlick requested Mr. Andrew Strahler's, Project Manager with the Public Works Department of the MSB, assistance with this project. A similar project had been worked on in 2002; Volunteer

Water Quality Monitoring Program, Resolution 02-060. Mr. Gorlick informed the Board, after inquiring with State and Federal granting agencies, of the availability of funding that can be applied for. According to Mr. Gorlick's estimation \$150,000 to \$200,000 will be needed, providing that testing instruments would be donated. Mr. Strahler and Mr. Gorlick will begin drafting a Scope of Work.

B. Update on COP's new booster station construction

Planning on having water running in May 2025. The MSB is forecasting water will be running to Colony Middle School and Colony High School in 2026. This or next year water will be running from the COP, along the Trunk Road.

C. Update on Talkeetna Sewer and Water additional improvements

Updates given under Staff Reports, Agenda Item VII C.

D. Update on COW expansion of their WWTP facilities

Updates given under Presentation, Agenda Item VIII, with the following additions mentioned under Agenda Item X A.

The goal is to get back into compliance with our permitting and to be accepted to go from 400,000 gallons per day to 500,000 gallons per day. New septage and headwater facility will be another upcoming project.

Wetland issues became easier to navigate, due to new laws within the last two years.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation about the Setback ruling (MSB 17.55 – Setback and Screening Easements) (if the legislation is being passed by the Assembly – Agenda date unclear at this point)

XII. INFORMATIONAL HANDOUTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Resolution of the Matanuska -Susitna Borough Serial No. 02-060.

Commented during Agenda Item X A.

XIII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Bob Walden: Happy Holidays.

Mr. Danny Noland: No comments.

Ms. Amanda Fleming: Congratulation to the Palmer/Wasilla Water Connection Study. Out of own experience it works very well and will be beneficial to the community.

Mr. Terry Gorlick: Happy Holidays. New administration, new funding availabilities, stay close to representatives.

Ms. Gina Jorgensen: Not present.

Mr. Matthew Midgett: No comments.

Mr. Dan Tucker: Not present.

XIV. NEXT MEETING

- A. March 19, 2024, 2:30 p.m., MSB Assembly Chambers

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting, by Mr. Bob Walden.

The meeting was adjourned at 3.09 p.m.



Mr. Bob Walden, Chair

ATTESTED:

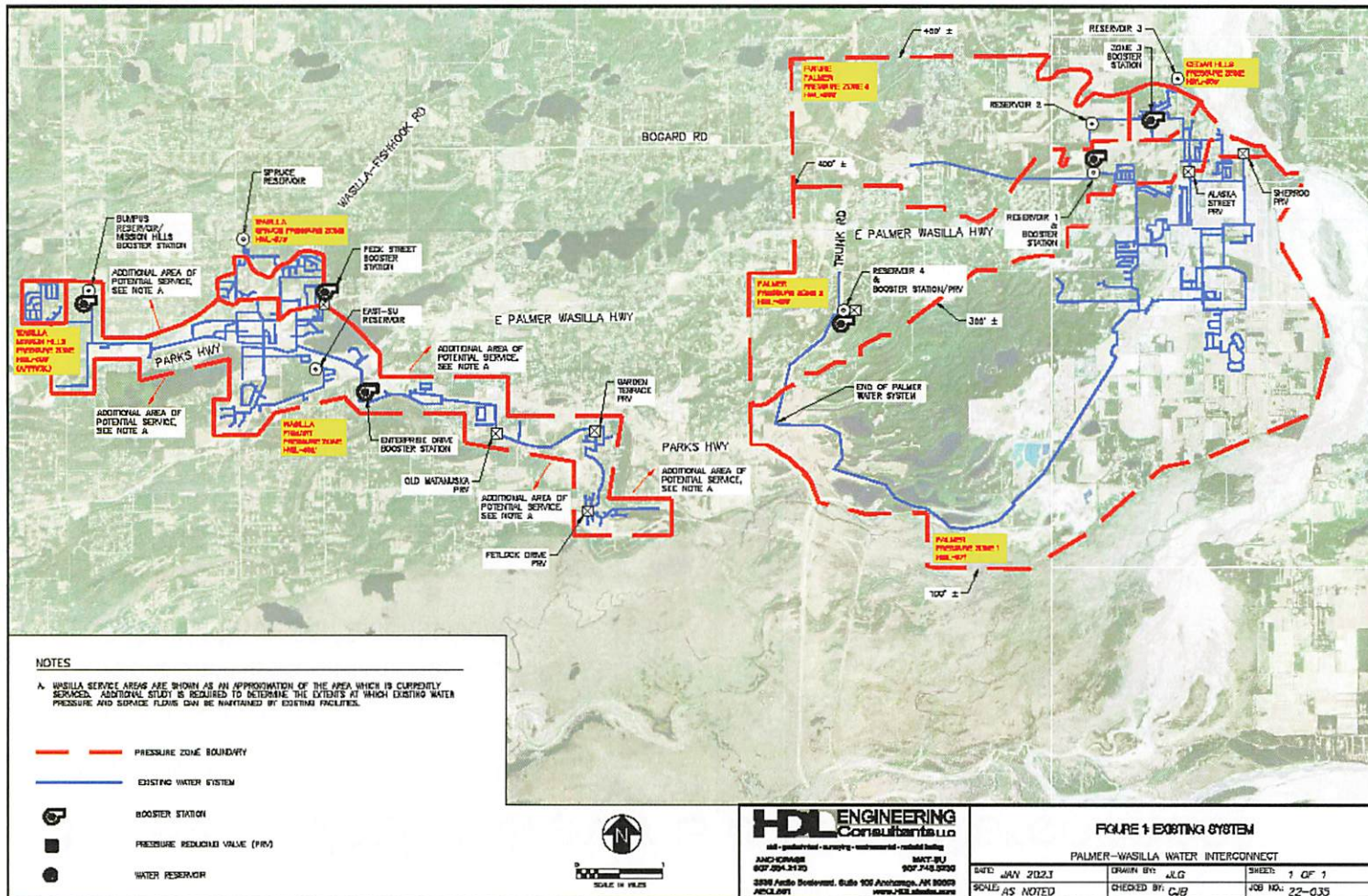


Christina Sands, Board Administrative Support

Palmer-Wasilla Water System Interconnect

Initiated in January-February 2023 by MSB

- Grant funds through the MSB from the American Rescue Plan past Assembly 3-7-23. \$1,924,468 design & construction \$2,142,045.
- City of Wasilla accepted and appropriated the monies and a RFP was issued in July and reviewed in August and awarded to HDL/Tutka LLC through council early September to continue the design connection & construct the Old Matanuska Road Booster Station.
- Meetings and evaluations in October and November has led us toward instead of the booster station leaning towards another water tower construction that would benefit the lower connection option.
- Continuing to model through the winter.
- Design/build water tower 2025 summer.



COW and COP services

- CITY OF WASILLA

Water connection 1,750; 600,000 GPD

Wells 6ea for total production 2,200GPM

4 Reservoirs totaling 4 million gallons

487 Hydrants

2 booster stations

With 3 other wells needing treatment could bring online an additional 1,000GPM.

- CITY OF PALMER

Water connections 2,450; 900,000 GPD

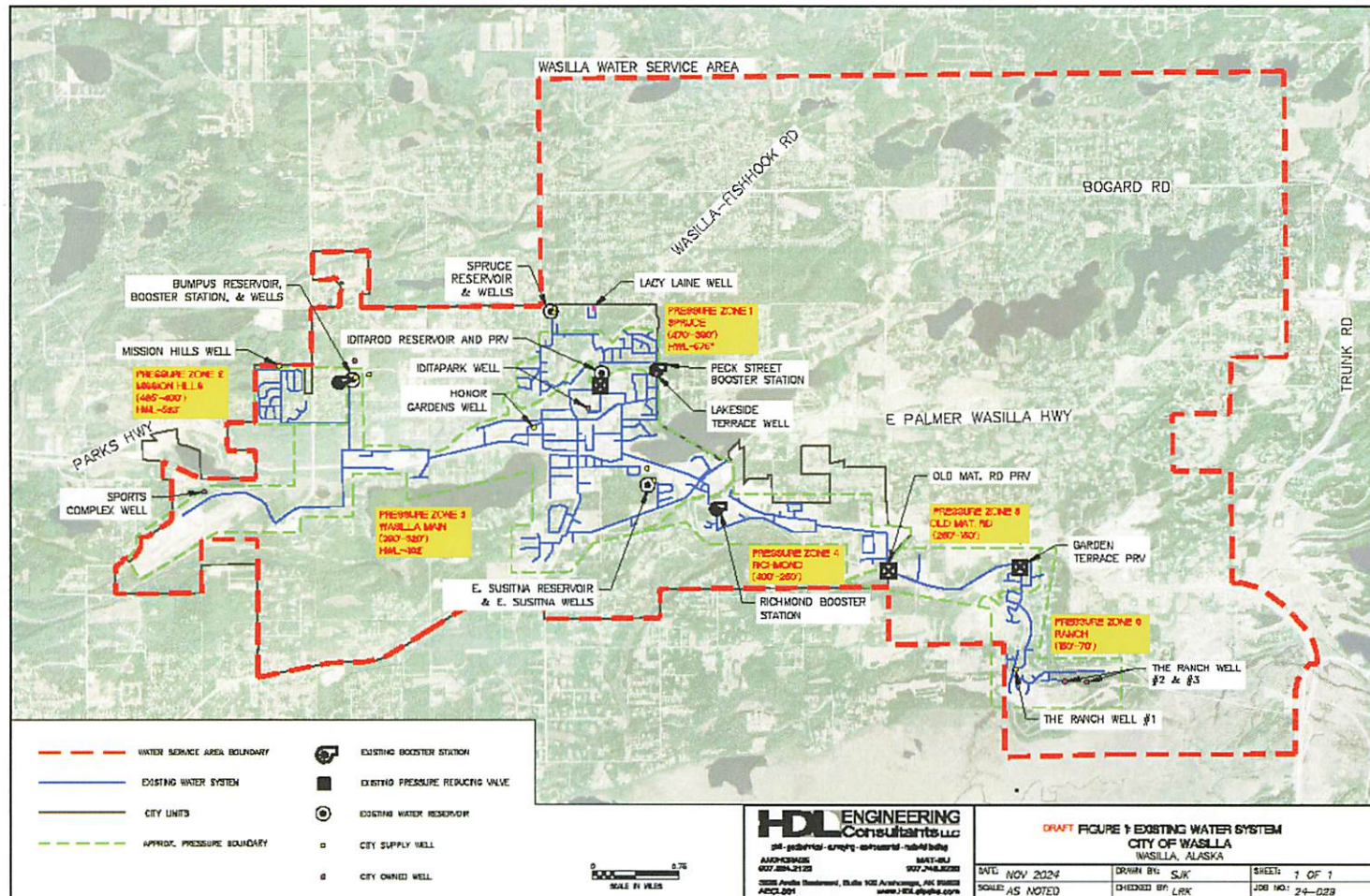
Wells 3ea total production of over 3,000GPM

4 Reservoirs totaling 2.5 million gallons

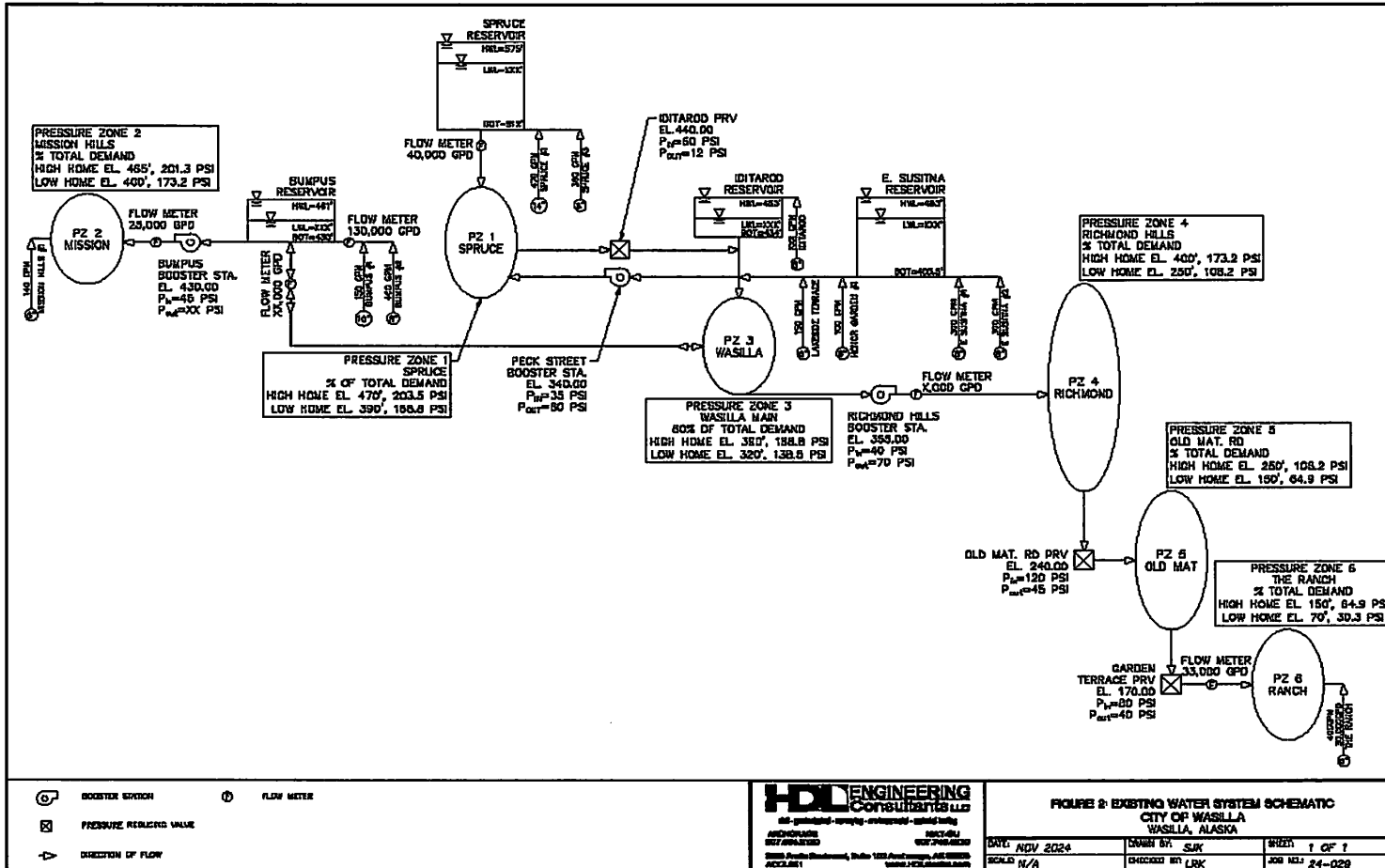
453 Hydrants

2 booster stations

COW Existing system w/ concept water service



Existing system in node diagram with Elevation



Introduced: 07/16/02
Adopted: 08/06/02

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 02-060**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA VOLUNTEER WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 20307, AS FUNDED BY THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION.

WHEREAS, over the past decade the population and economy of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has grown tremendously; and

WHEREAS, over the past decade there has been a corresponding increase in the use of the borough's water supplies; and

WHEREAS, the availability of non-polluted water is important to the economic vitality of the borough; and

WHEREAS, a volunteer-based water quality monitoring program will provide information on the quality of the borough's water supplies as well as involve the local citizenry in the program's implementation; and

WHEREAS, a grant in the amount of \$37,000 from the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has been accepted and appropriated by Ordinance Serial No. 02-105 by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, the required match of \$24,666 will be met with the fiscal year 2003 planning division operating budget and volunteer time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly hereby approves the following scope of work and

budget for the funds awarded by the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, for the purpose of implementing a volunteer water quality monitoring program:

SCOPE OF WORK

- Train volunteers in the proper method of collecting water quality samples, conducting Secchi Disk readings, using water quality monitors and completing surveys of wildlife, birds, land use, and human use.
- Citizen monitoring of at least 25 lakes borough wide for dissolved oxygen, pH, conductivity, temperature, and turbidity.
- Citizen monitoring of at least 25 lakes for chlorophyll A and phosphorous.
- Citizen site surveys for at least 25 lakes for wildlife, birds, human use, and surrounding land use.
- Maintain and calibrate equipment, and analyze samples and surveys.
- Continue multi-year database of monitoring results for each lake in the program.
- Coordinate with local Alaska Job Corps for assistance with water quality monitoring programs.
- Fund a part-time, seasonal, volunteer coordinator.
- Educate and outreach to property owners around Lake Lucille.
- Monitor, collect and analyze data and surveys for Lake Lucille.
- Review and revise the Quality Assurance Project Plan as necessary.
- Compose, print, and distribute the annual report of the program's findings.
- Develop a presentation of data, program evaluation and results to the MSB Planning Commission.

BUDGET

GRANT	
Salaries/Benefits	\$ 8,037
Contractual	\$25,803
Administration	\$ 3,160
Total	\$37,000
MATCH	
Salaries/Benefits	\$11,367
Materials/Supplies	\$ 4,017
Other (volunteer time)	\$ 9,282
Total	\$24,666
TOTAL	\$61,666

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 6 day
of August, 2002.

/s/

TIMOTHY L. ANDERSON, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/

SANDRA A. DILLON, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)