

Boissevain Aerated Wastewater Treatment Lagoon – Public Comments

Below is a list of public comments regarding the Boissevain aerated wastewater treatment lagoon Environment Act Proposal (File No. 6133.00), for distribution to the public registry.

- December 22, 2021 email from Glenn Dickson, 1 page
- December 17, 2021 email from Chad Reimer, 1 page
- December 14, 2021 email from Dennis & Cheryl Hildebrand, 1 page
- December 14, 2021 email from Elmer McCallum, 1 page

5 pages total, including this page

Bereket Assefa, Ph.D., P. Eng.

January 28, 2022

Assefa, Bereket (CC)

From: Glenn Dickson [REDACTED]
Sent: December 22, 2021 2:01 PM
To: Assefa, Bereket (CC)
Cc: Elmer McCallum
Subject: Re: New lagoon for Boissevain

This is in regards to file:

6133.00 Municipality of Boissevain-Morton Boissevain Aerated Wastewater Treatment Lagoon With Nitrification

We must have a public hearing on this proposal as the rural tax payers of this municipality have not had an opportunity to discuss this proposal with their council. This proposal has been developed in secret without any public input and there are some serious issues at stake. I am asking you to please put a hold on this permit until we can discuss this issue at a public hearing.

Rural taxpayers received ZERO communication from the municipality on this development and many tax payers do not subscribe the local newspaper so there was no way for us to be aware of this project. I just found out about it several hours ago and of course missed your comment deadline by 4 days.

Sincerely,

Glenn Dickson
204-295-5044 Cell
204-534-2369 Farm
204-736-4103 Home

Assefa, Bereket (CC)

From: Chad Reimer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: December 17, 2016
To: Assefa, Bereket (CC); [REDACTED]
Subject: Boissevain waste lagoon

Hi,

Like many of my neighbors, it came as a surprise to me that the site chosen was done without any consultation of those who live in the immediate vicinity of the site. It's very frustrating to say the least. I'd be very interested in further consultation and information regarding this.

Sincerely,

Chad Reimer

Assefa, Bereket (CC)

From: Den Hildebrand <[REDACTED]>
Sent: December 14, 2021 11:03 AM
To: Assefa, Bereket (CC) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Wastewater lagoon

To all those involved

We have most recently been made aware of a lagoon location proposal. We find it most interesting that we have to read about this proposal in the local paper. The article stated with what appeared to be a quote from our mayor, "the public already has a good idea of the project and what their intentions are, so there might not be too many surprises." Too many surprises, until we read it in the paper, we didn't know anything about the project.

One of our neighbors phoned us the other day asking if we were aware of the project. We informed him we only knew that a lagoon was apparently needed and that council was working on a possible location. He then informed us that he had phoned one of our council members. The council member told our neighbor he really didn't know much about it. Our question for all those involved is this, "How can the public already have a good idea of a particular project when our own council member states he has little knowledge of a project that we can only assume has been talked about at a council meeting?"

So here we are. All those likely to be affected by this proposal are being asked to comment. That is, only if they wish to comment. The question is, "Are we being affected by this proposal?" Considering we own land and pay taxes on 3 sides of this property, I would start off by saying that we are affected. Also, our residence location is directly 1/2 mile south of NE 11-4-20 W1. Our understanding is that at one time one couldn't install a sewer ejection system any closer than 1 mile from town. It feels like about 500 sewer ejection systems are being installed within a mile of our residence. The article in the paper suggests that the project may cost \$10 million dollars. That of course is an estimate and often estimates are low. But for now, let's use this estimate. Who is going to pay for this? The article talks of grants. No commitment has been made from any party. It was said that a 'significant amount would be paid for by the urban residents in the Boissevain-Morton municipality.' We want to know if any of this money is going to come from the rural tax payers. Why wouldn't the article give the answer? An example could read like this, "Any money needed above government grants would need to be paid by the urban residents." This would thus give the rural taxpayers the assurance that, other than the land which was purchased jointly, that no money would come out of rural pockets for urban waste. So, yes we would say that for now there is impact and until the questions are answered we can only assume the worst and suggest possibly a major impact to our operation.

Our understanding from the days the dump was proposed, it could not be built in the northeast part of 11-4-20 because that was deemed a wetland determined by Water Resources. Does digging a deeper hole and filling it with sewage make the problem go away?

What we are asking for is transparency. It would appear that at this point there is very little and this is another example of a government institution trying to push their agenda without the consent of the rate-payer. For these reasons, we are affected and opposed without more transparency.

Thank you for your time,

Dennis & Cheryl Hildebrand

Assefa, Bereket (CC)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: December 14, 2021 9:42 AM
To: Assefa, Bereket (CC) [REDACTED]
Subject: Municipality of Boissevain-Morton - Boissevain aerated Wastewater Treatment Lagoon
-File: 6133.00

Hello Bereket,

My name is Elmer McCallum and I am a resident and land owner in the RM of Boissevain-Morton. I have concerns with the proposed establishment of a lagoon on SE 11-04-20 W.

The location chosen is presently the location of the RM of Boissevain-Morton Waste Disposal ground. The Notice of Environmental Act Proposal was advertised in the local newspaper - The Recorder in the November 26, 2021 edition. The following week an article written by Paul Rayner, a Recorder staff member. In the article it is stated by Boissevain-Morton Head of Council that the licensing for the proposed lagoon is one step closer to being approved. It is stated that if there are no major issues received by the Notice of Environmental Act Proposal that the licence could be issued without a Public Hearing. The Head of Council, Judy Swanson indicates that the public has a good idea of the project so they are not expecting too many surprises. I was quite surprised to learn that Council of the RM of Boissevain-Morton had chosen to locate the lagoon on property that had been jointly purchased by the Town of Boissevain and the RM of Morton when they were separate entities before the Forced Amalgamation of Municipalities was brought forward by the Provincial Government. The Town of Boissevain and the RM of Morton agreed to Amalgamate. The ratepayers of former RM of the Town of Boissevain and the Residents of former RM of Morton continue to pay a debenture to complete the purchase of the SE 1/4 of 11-04-20 W for the purpose of a Waste Disposal Site.

Earlier in 2021 there was an article in The Recorder, our local newspaper in regards to the Waste Disposal site which stated that the Waste Disposal grounds were filling at a faster pace than expected. There was an article printed in a later issue of The Recorder a week or so later that mentioned that the RM of Boissevain-Morton had selected a site for a new lagoon but there was never mention of where the site was for the proposed lagoon.

When I read that the proposed site for the new lagoon was to be on the site of the present Waste Disposal grounds I was concerned. I contacted a Councillor of the RM of Boissevain-Morton and inquired why that site had been chosen when earlier Council had indicated that the Waste Disposal grounds were filling faster than expected. I was told that they had looked at other locations but the price of land was too expensive! I then asked why would Council utilize land that has been purchased for a Waste Disposal site jointly by ratepayers of Boissevain and ratepayers of the RM of Morton, on which they are still paying on a Debenture to complete the purchase, when Council has already indicated that the Waste Disposal Site is filling faster than expected. The response was that it would be taken to the attention of Council.

I have contacted numerous ratepayers of the rural area of the RM of Boissevain-Morton and none of them were aware that the Council of the RM of Boissevain-Morton had chosen the location of the present Waste Disposal grounds as the location for the new lagoon.

I believe that it is in the best interest of the residents of the RM of Boissevain-Morton that a Public Hearing be arranged so the ratepayers can be informed as to the plan for the new lagoon.

Respectively submitted by Elmer
McCallum,
the RM of Boissevain- Morton

Ratepayer and landowner of