

DATE: April 18, 2023

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Tom Ratermann

SUBJECT: Design regulations for subsurface drip dispersal (SDD) systems

The BCRSD has, "Design Regulations for Subsurface Drip Dispersal Systems." These regulations were adopted in March 2018. They were revised in July 2021. The revision deleted the following sentence: "These Regulations are for SDD systems that disperse only domestic wastewater with average daily flows of up to 50,000 gallons per day (gpd)."

Recently a question has arisen regarding the minimum SDD design flow from residential property that the BCRSD will accept for ownership, operation and maintenance. I recommend that the minimum design flow for SDD systems be that design flow generated by 2 or more residential units for residentially zoned real estate along with the following conditions.

- 1 An agreement for service between the BCRSD and the subdivider should be developed.
- 2 The agreement should stipulate the monthly user rate that the property owners will pay to the BCRSD.
- 3 The agreement should stipulate the monthly pressurized system charge, that is the maintenance surcharge, in addition to the base service fee and usage charge, that the property owners will pay to the BCRSD.
- 4 The pressurized system charge should be the highest currently charged by the BCRSD until sufficient data is developed for a SDD system charge.
- 5 The agreement should also stipulate a charge for mowing the drip dispersal field and the redundant drip dispersal field.
- 6 The agreement should stipulate that a notification be filed in the land records against every lot created by the subdivider, notifying the lot buyer the type of wastewater treatment and collection system that serves the property.

The rationale for the recommendation regarding 2 or more residential units is that a system serving 2 or more residential units is regulated by the MDNR. In order to prevent the proliferation

of private, MDNR permitted facilities, the BCRSD should accept systems for ownership, operation and maintenance that serve 2 or more residential units. A question has also arisen regarding ownership, operation and maintenance of SDD systems that serve one residential unit. Currently, on-site wastewater systems are regulated by the Boone County Commission through the Boone County Resource Management Department. Any change to this regulatory framework might require the involvement of the Boone County Commission, the Boone County Resource Management Department and the general public.

C: File