Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Update
Taylorsville Area On-Lot Sewage System Survey
July 15, 2013 Public Information Meeting

The public information meeting was called to order by Board of Supervisors Chair Dan Rattigan at 7:00 pm. In attendance were the following members of the Board of Supervisors: Chair Dan Rattigan, Vice Chair Bud Baldwin, Treasurer Mary Ryan, Member Larry S. Breeden and Member Tom Cino. Also in attendance were Township Solicitor Mary Eberle, Township Manager Sally Slook, Water/Sewer Engineer Tom Zarko, P.E., Director of Planning and Zoning Dave Kuhns and John Dudish of Penn’s Train Environmental, LLC.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE
Mr. Rattigan led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silence.

WELCOME/INTRODUCTION
Board of Supervisors Chairman Dan Rattigan welcomed those in attendance and noted that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the results of the Taylorsville Area On-Lot Sewage Disposal System Survey. He then introduced the Township’s Water/Sewer Engineer, Tom Zarko.

PURPOSE OF OLDS SURVEY
Mr. Zarko reviewed a powerpoint presentation to the Board of Supervisors, and began discussing the purpose of the OLDS Survey. Mr. Zarko reviewed that previously the Board of Supervisors directed staff to obtain proposals from independent consultants to perform an On-Lot Sewage Disposal System Survey within Taylorsville Area to provide an updated assessment of OLDS conditions. The Bucks County Board of Health had previously identified the Taylorsville Area as a “problem” OLDS malfunctioning area.

SCOPE OF WORK
Mr. Zarko reviewed the scope of work for the OLDS Survey, and stated the survey work was done when either the owner or tenant was onsite. The survey documented any indications of OLDS malfunctions, and performed sampling/testing of any observed potential surface malfunction as well as performed sampling/testing of well water.

PENN’S TRAIL ENVIRONMENTAL – QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE
Mr. Zarko provided an overview of the qualifications of Penns’ Trail Environmental Associates, and its Principal Surveyor, John M. Dudish.

SUMMARY OF SURVEY
Mr. Zarko reviewed to the Board that 36 properties were identified in the target area and twenty-one (21) owners responded to mailing. One (1) owner declined to participate, and fourteen (14) owners failed to respond to three (3) certified mailings. Mr. Zarko also reviewed the property inspection criteria that were used for the physical inspection of participating properties. Pictures of identified properties were displayed on the screen for the Board of Supervisors to review. Mr. Zarko also discussed the procedure used for well water sampling and analysis.
CONCLUSIONS
Mr. Zarko reviewed his conclusions with the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Zarko stated that the problems in the Taylorsville area are not as extensive as previously thought. Mr. Zarko reported there were no visible or odor indications of malfunctioning OLDS on any of the participating properties. Two property owners reported system problems requiring regular pumping to eliminate public health concerns and as a requirement of a BCDH food license, and there was one (1) property served by a holding tank. No coliform bacterial contamination was identified anywhere, and the Nitrate-Nitrogen concentration ranged from 2.16 mg/l to 6.72 mg/l. (10 mg/l requires treatment).

Mr. Zarko recommended to the Board that educational materials be presented to residents in the Taylorsville area on water conservation and/or increased system oversight/maintenance. Mr. Zarko stated that the majority of current OLDS operational problems may potentially be addressed with on-lot solutions, and long-term sewage disposal needs of properties served by holding tanks or without practical on-lot solutions must be further assessed. Board discussion followed, and Mr. Zarko responded to Board members questions.

FUTURE ACTIONS/ACTIVITIES
Mr. Zarko stated he will meet with Mr. Dudish and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to review recent findings with regard to Taylorsville Area and develop reasonable approach for moving forward with Act 537 Plan Update. Mr. Rattigan asked for a report on how the meeting goes and Mr. Zarko stated he will report back to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT
A motion was made by Ms. Ryan and was seconded by Mr. Baldwin to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 pm.

Approved:  August 20, 2013