

November 16, 2021

Proposed Revised Resolution and Policy for the Indian Hills and Parmalee Gulch Area

INTRODUCTION

During the July 20, 2021 Meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Health, Staff introduced a revised resolution and policy that addresses the nitrate pollution in groundwater from OWTS effluent in the Indian Hills and Parmalee Gulch Area for the Board of Health to consider. At the conclusion of the of the discussion, the Board of Health directed Staff to submit the revised resolution and policy to the public for review and comment. The public comment period opened on August 1, 2021 and closed on September 30, 2021. The table below presents the public comments JCPH received via the online public health comment portal and via email correspondence. In total, JCPH received 32 separate comments from 20 responders.

JCPH greatly appreciates the time, effort and thought the public invested in providing their comments. Each comment will be considered and utilized to inform future resolution and policy revisions. The salient take-away themes from the public comment are:

- Apply the model and science to the entire Parmalee Gulch basin/watershed, not just the Prohibition Area.
- Improve outreach effort so that the public has a greater opportunity to participate in the rule making process.
- Protect our community from over-development.
- Protect our groundwater resources from over-development.
- Restore water quality where necessary.
- Utilize a whole system / holistic watershed prospective for development that considers: climate change; drought; wildfires; etc.
- Enhance integration between Planning and Zoning and Public Health regarding development regulations
- Vet the model and input parameters to ensure that the parameters reflect the likely range of variation.
- Conduct a sensitivity analysis of the model input parameters.
- Consider in investing in a public sewer system.