

**Report to Presbytery Council**  
**From: Camp Facilities Committee**

Chuck Beck, Bozeman; Eldon Rice, Hysham; Russ Kline, Billings, Wayne Lathrop, Miles City, Sandy Welch, Billings, Brent Long, Billings, moderator; Dan Lawlor, Red Lodge, ex-officio

**Re: Westminster Spires water problem correction**

Brent Long has spoken on the phone and by email with Jake Kandelin in the Montana Department of Environmental Quality office. Jake confirmed that putting the existing well, which was apparently dug in 1976 but was never put into use, would be the first choice solution. Jake has been very helpful in trying to track down any existing well log that would be needed to proceed further with the existing well to see if it is usable. Jake and Brent checked the online database with the Ground Water Information Center and the online Source Water Protection Query but were unable to find a well log. Ted Williams also searched through files in the presbytery office but was unable to find a well log, although he did find some information regarding the spring box. In the absence of a well log, which apparently it has been eluding us for decades, we could also proceed by having an engineer inspect and evaluate the well and create a new well log and then get it permitted with the Forest Service and the MDEQ.

The newly formed Camp Facilities Committee, with the help of Ted Williams, met by conference call on February 9<sup>th</sup> and discussed the deteriorating water system and the threat of surface water contamination at Westminster Spires. After updating all the members of the committee on the specifics of the water problem and informing them that no well log seems to be in existence, the committee decided to

1) make one more final check with Morrison-Mairele (engineering firm that merged with Christian, Spring, Seilbach who originally engineered the well) to see if they have any existing records, and

2) call Sanderson-Stewart Engineers, in Billings, to see if they could give us an evaluation of the existing well and preliminary cost estimates.

Brent Long called Morrison-Mairele and spoke with Tim Berry who was unable to find any records of the well. Russ Kline and Brent have contacted Sanderson-Stewart, and Mac Fogelson, from their firm, will be doing a physical examination of the well on Friday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> and will report back to Brent by phone later that afternoon or evening.

In the event that drilling a new well or refurbishing the existing spring box or building a new spring box would be a lengthy process beyond the required time to ensure adequate water for this summer's camps (June 6, 2010 when monthly reports are needed), Jake Kandelin thought it might be possible to install a temporary additional filtration system to allow the camp to have safe water this summer.

Understanding the urgency of the situation and in the interest of time, it was decided that the committee would use the existing funds from the tithe-donation from Bozeman, First, to pay for the evaluation, repair, or construction of a safe water system and to also ask within the presbytery for donations to reimburse the fund.