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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **TCRSD Is New Owner of Big Bear Resort Wastewater Treatment Plant; Plans \$1,500,000 Project**

The Taney County Regional Sewer District is the new owner of the wastewater treatment facility at Big Bear Resort, located on the banks of Table Rock Lake near Hollister. The District recently took over ownership and operation of the facility as part of a \$1,500,000 project that will eliminate the treatment plants at Big Bear Resort and Big Bear Estates, a smaller nearby development.

The District executed an agreement with Clevenger Branch property owners association at the end of 2016 to take over the Big Bear Resort plant and transfer of ownership was completed on February 7, 2017. The operating permit has also been transferred to the District by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

The District plans to operate the Big Bear Resort treatment plant until the project to eliminate the plant can be completed. Big Bear Estates will continue to operate their plant until it is eliminated.

The sewer improvement project consists of replacing the current treatment facilities with two lift stations which will pump the wastewater through a newly constructed 8,000 foot force main that will connect to the City of Hollister's existing gravity main just off Highway 265 near the entrance to Emerald Point. A small gravity extension will serve the Estates development.

Funding for the project will be provided through the county sewer sales tax. A funding agreement for \$100,000 was approved by the Sewer Board and by the Taney County Commission for upgrades to the plant and to start the engineering later this year. The District had planned to upgrade the aeration system, but when District staff started the repairs, it became apparent that the plant needed immediate additional repairs. The District had expected to spend around \$30,000 to \$40,000 for upgrades but due to the poor condition was required to spend approximately \$75,000 to maintain the structural and operational integrity of the plant.

District Administrator Brad Allbritton said the extreme deteriorating conditions at the plant have resulted in the District wishing to accelerate the project to eliminate the two treatment plants. At their March meeting, the Sewer Board approved an amendment to the funding agreement that will increase the amount by \$175,000. The funding amendment will cover the upgrades and provide for engineering for the project through the bidding phase. The County Commission will need to approve the proposed amendment.

The Sewer Board awarded an engineering contract to Toth and Associates of Springfield, Missouri during their March meeting. The engineering agreement is for \$126,800 and will include surveying, engineering, permitting, easement acquisition and bidding.

Additional information about the Big Bear Sanitary Sewer Improvement project is available on the District's website, [tcrsd.org](http://tcrsd.org). Simply log on to the website and click the CURRENT PROJECTS link; or contact the District office at (417) 546-7220.

***About the Taney County Regional Sewer District:***

*The Taney County Regional Sewer District is a political subdivision of the State of Missouri formed in 1983 to provide for the proper collection and treatment of sanitary sewer throughout Taney County. The District serves in the unincorporated areas of Taney County and currently owns and operates several wastewater collection systems serving approximately 2,300 customers. The District works to carry out its mission of keeping the County's drinking and recreational waters clean, safe, and enjoyable for its residents and visitors.*

***Helping to Preserve Our Natural Resources!***  
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