

6/17/17  
Minutes read at  
Annual Meeting  
Approved  
6/17/17

## Township 29 Annual Water Meeting 6/11/16

Attended: Janet & Russell Harvey, John & Janice Tabbal, Kurt & Cathy Groesch, Henri & Sally Hardenberg, Claire & Lauren Rich, Susie & Roland Nelson, Nancy North, Wayne Ebel, Cyril Trask, Sari Spieler, Daniel Goldsmith, Linda Hayward, Hilde & John Mott, Jenanne Murphy, Alice & King Rockhill

Absent: John Hayward, Hank Vyrostek, Cheryl Etheridge, Virginia & William Tomson, Larry & Dawn Howard, Tove Thorpe, Frank Flem, Jerry South, Dustin South, Jo & Bill Morrissey, Doris Hunter, Doug & Sherry Joel, Dick & Carol Johnson

Announcements: Henri & Sally have taken their house off market and are planning on staying in the Kai House. John and Hilde Mott will be keeping Larry Schneider's house and their son, David, will be living there after he gets out of the service in a couple of months.

Treasurer's report: Janice Tabbal distributed and reviewed the budget report. We have 140,000 left to pay on our loan. The loan goes for 21 years, Dues are current. Water bills were handed out and everyone was again reminded to please get payments in on time (Sept 1<sup>st</sup>) as our loan payment is due October first and we do not want to incur a late fee.

Minutes: The minutes were read by Cathy Groesch the secretary, and approved as read.

Meter Reader Report: Sari Spieler handed out the yearly total water use report. We are doing a good job with conservation. There was a discussion about modifying our water usage charges and John Mott talked about the Lagoon Point tiered system of charging. They have 3 charging levels: low usage had a low fee and it escalated upward for increased usage and was designed to be punitive to encourage conservation. Their water group is very large and is a municipal district.

### OLD BUSINESS: Committee Updates (and action items from 2015)

A. **Well Access:** Daniel Goldsmith reports that the path is clear. Committee consists of Daniel, Henri Hardenberg, Wayne Ebel and Jennifer Bosserman.

B. **Well House Project:** Russell talked to Andy Campbell from Whidbey Water Services, who manages our water to find out how to shut down the main pump in case of emergency. It turns out, one just has to turn off the main breaker and do NOT touch anything else.

C. **Homeowner water shut off:** Everyone at meeting says they know where their main water shut-off is and how to shut it off in case of emergency.

D. **Bylaw revision:** Nancy South and Sally Hardenberg reviewed the bylaws and made some minor changes to update them. Sally will send out the revised bylaws to the T-29 membership.

E. **Capital Project Plan:** Lauren Rich (who clearly has spent a great deal of time on this) presented what she knows about the age of the various parts of our water system. She discussed source water, treatment, storage, and distribution. Big parts of our system are new, and while we are currently not having problems with leaks (which indicate a failing system), we need to think about future spending. Members raised questions about the age of our lines, it was determined that nothing is lines needed at this time Lauren summarized :

1994 replaced line on Thistle lane.

2009 updated floats, vent lid and hatch lid

2013 new treatment system installed with 2 booster pumps. One has a leak and has been sent out for repairs.

????? Kai road line replaced

2016 Kai road line leak repaired

We are not yet pumping at low tide which could help with saltwater intrusion. There would be expenses related to purchase of a computer and then have someone hook it up and program it. The wiring is already in place. Lauren and Kurt Groesch will review costs for this.

Water Quality Report: Andy Campbell from Whidbey Water Services was introduced and gave us the news on our water system. We are doing fine on the arsenic issue but are now having increasing signs of salt water intrusion which is likely to continue to get worse and will affect the drinkability of our water. Various measures can be done for this problem, all of which are expensive, and will need a great deal of research to come up with the best solution:

“dilution is the solution”

Install a reverse osmosis system

Find land up hill (need at least an acre) and build new system, keeping old system as backup.

Form a water district with nearby water systems

Drill new well 15 feet from current well. Our well is 100 feet deep for unknown reasons. No other well nearby is as deep and it could also be part of the problem with the salt water intrusion. There is a much shallower aquifer nearby that we could potentially access.

Alter our current well to be shallower: plugging lower part of well and inserting casing perforater above the plug

Rough costs were mentioned by Andy:

\$6,000 to drill well (\$10,000 with pumps)

\$75.00-85.00 per linear foot for pipes

Russell Harvey and Sally Hardenberg will check with Doug Kelly (engineer for Island County) and discuss drilling well. They will get his answer in writing.

Andy went on to discuss our pumps. We have a chlorine pump and a ferric pump and as they are in direct contact with harsh chemicals they have a limited lifespan. In general, it is lucky for them to last 5 years. Our chlorine pump needs replacing. It was also mentioned that we should have spares of each as it can take a while to get them and if they are out it will harm the water system and incur extra costs to repair. Andy stressed to the group that our number one priority is to find a solution to our rising chloride and conductivity problems.

**E. Capital Project Plan:** we continued to review our capital projects:

Emergency generator; Lauren has done a lot of research on this. We need a 17-20kilowatt generator.

We would need one with automatic on in event of outage. We have 24 connections. Lauren estimates that cost for total install to be about \$8,000(included is having electrician for hooking up)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Community vote: Nancy South was voted in as new T-29 Vice- President.

Emergency Preparedness: Cathy Groesch reminded everyone to have at least 7 days, preferably 14 days, of medications in emergency kit. It is unrealistic to think Whidbey Island will be a high priority for emergency services if a large event occurs and we were encouraged to be as prepared as possible individually and as a community. Several handouts were passed out:

water heater shut down procedures- (to be taped directly on your water heater)

drop cover and hold

storing water

how to shut off electricity safely- do NOT do this unless you are having electrical issues

checklist on what to have on hand for a disaster

South Whidbey @ Home: Sari Spieler presented information about this new program designed to help its members to "age in place". It is a network of volunteers that helps members to live independently.

She gave out a pamphlet explaining the program and volunteer applications. All volunteers get a full Wa state police screening/clearance. She stressed that even people who live here part time ca be helpful volunteers.

REMINDER: Next year's meeting will be Saturday June 10, 2017 at 10:00a.m. Please mark your calendars

Respectfully submitted: Cathy Groesch T-29 secretary