



Whidbey Island Water Systems Association Member Meeting

Thursday, March 21, 2024 – 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Zoom Only
Minutes

Call to order

President Randi Perry called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

The board was all present and introduced themselves

Nine new members were welcomed:

Eisenbach Water Association

Maxwelton Creek Cohousing

Sleeper Farm Community Association

Summit Assistance Dogs

Eagle Water System

Whitehorse Mountain Water System

Lancaster Heights Water Association

Rolling Hills Glencairn Community Service, Inc

Kyllenon Hill Water Association

Quorum call

45 total participants were present

Approve Agenda

Members voted to approve the agenda. Moved Jeff Tasoff, seconded Culley Lehman, Members vote 100% to approve.

Secretary's Report:

Mitch Allen presented the [WIWSA Member Meeting December 2023 Minutes](#). Motion to approve Culley Lehman, second Jeff Tasoff. Members voted to approve the Minutes unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Brenda Bosman presented the Treasurer's Report. Members voted to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion to approve Mitch Allen, Culley Lehman second, Members voted to approve the Minutes unanimously.

2025 Comprehensive Plan

Randi Perry requested that the membership authorize the board to submit a letter with recommendations on their behalf for inclusion in the 2025 Island County Comprehensive plan. Randi presented a list of

topics that are under consideration and there was a good discussion. There was a suggestion for including the impact of climate change on Island County in particular sea level rise leading to salt water intrusion on some wells. There was also a request for a program to provide tax benefits for preserving wetlands but the existing [Public Benefit Rating System program](#) may apply to that case. Some links for further information:

- <https://icgeomap.islandcountywa.gov/Html5Viewer/Index.html?viewer=ICGeoMap#>
- <https://www.islandcounty2045.com/compplan>

Jill Lepoti (Scatchet Head Water District) made a Motion to authorize the board to move forward to complete the list of recommendations and submit it on the behalf of the association. Lee Chavez (Pinewood Community Club) seconded. Members voted 100% to approve.

Apprenticeship Program

Mitch Allen provided an update on the apprenticeship/scholarship program noting that we are still looking for applicants for the 2024 scholarship. Jeff Tasoff mentioned that AWWA has a similar program; Mitch will follow up with Jeff Lundt to see if there's some possible collaboration opportunities.

Theme of this meeting

SMA Service Levels - Update

Silas Olson, NW Natural Water Services

JJ Olson, NW Natural Water Services

Silas Olson gave a recap of the NW Natural acquisition of King Water and talked about some of the developments during the past year. He indicated that they have been working on extensive improvements to both the office administration and operations as part of a move to a new location that is underway. He acknowledged past communications issues and described changes that are being made along with the move while asking for patience and consideration to the staff during this time. They are focusing on adding staff, structuring fees to be cost-based and sustainable long term, while emphasizing safety to staff, clients and water quality. Several members expressed appreciation of recent service actions and that improvements have been noticed.

Day with DOH Summary

Alexis Medina, Office of Drinking Water

Alexis summarized each of the topics for the Day with DOH session hosted by AWWA on March 20, 2024. See [Day with DOH Agenda](#). Presentations will be posted later this month by AWWA.

During Alexis' talk, she mentioned a number of references that may be of interest:

- [Source Water Protection Grant Program](#)
- [Lead Service Line Inventory Guidance](#)
- [Manganese in DW – What Customers Should Know](#)
- [Manganese in DW – Recommendations for WS Managers](#)
- Manganese Health Advisory over 0.3 mg/L: [Manganese Health Advisory](#).
- Michael Pan with the City of Bellevue's Contact Info regarding BWA door hangers / sandwich board templates: mcp@bellevuewa.gov

Floor open for general discussion

Adjourn

Randi Perry adjourned the meeting at 6:41 pm