



## Meeting Minutes

Virtual – via Zoom

April 13, 2023

**Call to Order:** Cochair Jason Nutsford (Kitsap Public Utility District (KPUD)) called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM and introductions were made.

**Minutes:** Jacki Brown (City of Port Orchard) made a motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting. Cami Apfelbeck (City of Bremerton) seconded. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Diana Temple (Silverdale Water District (SWD)) reported: the current account balance is \$10,491.04. Recent expenses include \$100 to CKF&R for the Kids' Day booth; \$200 to the WA State Science Fair for project awards; \$49 reimbursement to Silverdale Water for the ACT insurance policy purchased for the Home & Garden Expo; and \$32.76 for e-checks. Dues payments were due at the end of March – 15 of 22 payments have been received, totaling \$3,700.00. Follow up emails will be sent out this week for the remaining seven members. WaterPAK is now issuing electronic checks. Fifty e-checks were recently ordered. These checks can either be emailed or printed for use. Jacki made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Cami seconded. Following no discussion, the motion passed.

### Old Business

- No report.

### Regulatory Agency Reports

- WA Department of Health – Office of Drinking Water (WA DOH – ODW)
  - Ceci Welch (WA DOH – ODW) reported: staffing changes; Andy Anderson will be coordinating SWRO planning coverage for the next few months. There is a new accredited lab in Olympia, *Olympic Analytical dba Vanguard Lab*. EPA released their draft rule for regulating PFAS; DOH has additional information on their website; public comment due May 30. Discussion ensued.
- Kitsap Public Health District (KPHD)
  - Jason and Melina discussed concerns with homeowners leaving a Group B system in Poulsbo to connect to KPUD. Doug Wood (Ecology) discussed exemptions for this system. Jacki asked for guidance on decommissioning wells.
- Department of Ecology (Ecology)
  - Doug Wood (Ecology) reported: Municipal Policy is out for review internally—should be out to the public by June; finalizing reports of examinations for Bremerton and Bainbridge; Working on additional applications for Kitsap systems; three new water rights have recently been issued in Kitsap; some packet reviews have been delayed due to staffing changes. Cami thanked Doug for his help with Bremerton's water rights applications.

### Task Force Reports

- Public Outreach/Conservation (*Primary Contact: Lisa Campbell, lisa.campbell@ci.bremerton.wa.us*)
  - Diana reported:
    - i. WA State Science Fair – two projects were awarded \$100 each; a 4<sup>th</sup> grade project entitled, *Do Suds Grow Duds – Water Conservation* and a high school project

entitled, *Allium sativum (garlic) Extract as a Natural Antibacterial Water Treatment*. Thank you to WaterPAK's four volunteer judges: Casey Winderl, Shawn O'Dell, Trina Scholer, and Cody Hodge.

- ii. Home & Garden Show – only one open spot remaining on schedule; two new poster-sized flower photos ordered for backdrop, as well as a large poster featuring WaterPAK member logos. Seed packs are also being ordered.
  - iii. Kitsap Water Festival – Notify Diana if you will be attending the event next week.
- Legislative (*Primary Contact: Mike Pleasants, mpleasants@swd16.org*)
    - No report.
  - Cross-Connection Control (*Primary Contact: Courtney Little, c.little@northperrywd.org*)
    - Court Little (North Perry Water District) asked how utilities keep deployed hydrant meters from freezing. Jim mentioned that WA Water removes the hydrants when freezing temperatures are imminent. Jason added that KPUD puts the responsibility on the renter to protect the meter from freezing. North Perry bills and tests meters monthly. Cami suggested a temporary subcommittee be formed to address hydrant meter issues. Jason suggested it be added to the Cross-Connection Taskforce. Jacki would like to see backflow assembly testing be done each time the meter is installed and/or moved.
    - Nick Bayard (KPUD) and Indee Girven (KPUD) discussed KPUD's recent bidding process for Backflow Assembly Testers. Customers are charged \$45 per tested assembly. Andrew Cook (North Perry Water District) asked if KPUD notifies new owners and tenants about testing requirements. Court mentioned backflow tracking software, SpryPoint. Discussion about backflow testing ensued. Nick and Indie discussed KPUD's backflow testing requirements. Discussion ensued.
  - Mapping/GIS (*Primary Contact: Jim Hershberger, jhershberger@calwater.com*)
    - Jim Hershberger (WA Water) reported: ESRI solutions for lead and copper tracking and PFAS tracking; Capacity Planning discussed.
  - Shared Resources (*Primary Contact: Andrew Cook, operations@northperry.org*)
    - The group discussed the idea of all utilities using the same emergency radios and radio frequencies. Cami would like to see a coordinated emergency response plan; possibly piggybacking on the Coordinated Water System Plan. Jacki suggested WaterPAK reach out to Pierce County Co-op for guidance.
  - Emergency Management (*Primary Contact: Sid Williams, swilliams@swd16.org*)
    - No report.
  - FOG (*Primary Contact: Jacki Brown, jbrown@cityofportorchard.us*)
    - No report.
  - Regional Water Cooperative of Pierce County (*Primary Contact: Shawn O'Dell, sodell@wawater.com*)
    - No report.

### General Discussion

- Cami mentioned City of Bremerton's preliminary plans for constructing an iron and manganese removal plant. If utilities that have an operational iron and manganese plant would allow Bremerton to tour, please notify Cami. Discussion ensued.
- Cami discussed an email she received from KPUD, asking for information about the City's local broadband and digital equity resources. This information will be used to create a plan to serve Kitsap County residents with broadband services.
- Jacki asked WaterPAK members to do streamflow studies, rather than using the existing groundwater flow model. Discussion ensued.

- The group discussed the struggle water systems are having recruiting or keeping certified operators.

**Adjournment:** With no further business to discuss, Jason made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diana Temple  
WaterPAK Secretary/Treasurer