

Skagit County Clean Water District
Edison Subarea

Meeting Agenda – June 28, 2023

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Held at Burlington Edison Elementary School

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Opening Public Comment**
3. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. Prior Meeting Minutes
 - B. Fund 150 Invoices
4. **Communications:**
 - A. Lift Station Readings, School Tank Measurements, Commercial Tank Measurements and June Water Meter Readings (for 2024 Assessments)
 - B. Residential Tank Inspection Report and Tank Pumping Letters
 - C. April 26th Meeting Presentation Materials – First Draft of Alternative Assessment Calculations
5. **Old Business**
 - A. Monthly Operator Report
 - B. Monthly Maintenance Contractor Report
 - C. Alternative Assessment Methodologies – At Meeting Presentation
6. **New Business**
 - A. 5 Year Commercial Site BOD & FOG Readings Graph – Handout at Meeting
7. **Other Business**
8. **Closing Public Comment**
9. **Adjourn**

Edison Clean Water District

Meeting Minutes

Meeting of April 26, 2023

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM with the following board members present: Jeff Haddox and Jess Hackler from the School District, Scott Mangold, Darryl Kvistad, Tom Skinner and Bernie Alonzo. Also present were Erin Langley Betsy Stevenson from the County, Greg Young from Ravenhead Municipal Services, and Operator Don Erickson..

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda: The minutes from the Board's March 22, 2023 regular meeting minutes and the below detailed vouchers were approved following a motion by Mr. Mangold and seconded by Mr. Alonzo:

4/26/23-1	Drain Doctor	\$ 6,012.92
4/26/23-2	Ravenhead Municipal	\$ 900.00
4/26/23-3	City of Burlington	\$ 426.28
4/26/23-4	Underground Locate	\$ 2.58
4/26/23-5	BE School District	\$ 5,303.91

Communications: Mr. Young covered the communications for tonight's meeting that included the March commercial site BOD and FOG readings, commercial site tank measurements and the YTD pump station readings.

Old Business: The most recent Operator's Report reflected that the system has run well since the last meeting.

New Business: - The Board then discussed the draft Capacity Study conducted by Gray and Osborne. One of the more significant findings was that from 50% to 70% of the excess flow can be attributed to seven (7) specific sites. With this being the "low hanging fruit", it was the consensus of the Board to further investigate these sources this summer, possibly through smoke testing.

The option of reducing excess flow through this I&I mitigation was the second best option in the G&O report - with the first being expansion of the drainfield and improvements to the UV system. It was also noted that DOE has not yet mandated any improvements so getting ahead of the flow issue would be a good way of avoiding any required changes to our system in the future. To this end, the Council is exploring various grant opportunities since while our gravel filter is operating well, the UV system is approaching the end of its useful life.

Another option in the G&O report was surface water discharge through a constructed wetland. Mr. Skinner noted that this was explored when the Edison system was being designed and he still considers this to be a viable and ecologically beneficial option. It was noted however that this might change our operating costs and the ability to permit such a system is unknown. Mr. Skinner requested that G&O develop some planning level cost estimates.

Ms. Langley then reported on a shellfish grant webinar she recently attended. One of the bigger take aways was that she was unsure if we would qualify due to our discharge classification. We seem to be placed in a category somewhere between a formal municipal wastewater treatment plant and a system that directly discharges into waters where there are shellfish beds. Ms. Stevenson added that it might be beneficial to apply for these grant funds and have the awarding agency formally determine whether we qualify. It was noted that this particular grant is an EPA grant awarded through the State Department of Health. It was the consensus of the Board to apply for the grant.

The Board then turned their attention to the possible changes to our annual assessment methodology. Mr. Mangold and Alonzo had recently met and have worked up an alternative to our current system that uses much of the same calculations but is hopefully both easier to understand and serves to minimize the large fluctuations to residential and commercial assessments from year to year.

The basis for the alternative methodology is to annually set a "base charge" (in their current example \$1,250.00) that would be changed to both residential and commercial customers. The base charge would cover the bulk of our annual operating costs (set at \$80K) with the commercial customers also charge a "loading fee" (for excess flow, BOD, and FOG) that would be used to supplement the base fee and provide funding for annual contributions to our Reserves.

It was noted that the base fee can be adjusted along with the loading fees (which for this example were \$50/\$100/\$100 respectively for Flow, BOD, and FOG), can be adjusted to move more or less of the annual assessments between the residential and commercial customers.

Mr. Skinner took issue with the underlying calculations that serves to move more of the annual assessments away from the commercial sites and onto the residential customers since it is the loading and flow contributions from the commercial customers that adversely effects our system. Both Mr. Mangold and Alonzo stated that this presentation was meant to introduce the alternative methodology to the Board and adjustments to the base and loading fees will be a topic of discussion in upcoming meetings. Mr. Young noted that with this presentation being at our April meeting, there will be sufficient time for the Board to consider these issues in time for setting the 2024 assessments should a change in methodology be warranted by the Board.

Other Business: - None

Adjourn: With no further business to be conducted, the meeting was conference call ended at 6:18PM.

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

No May Meeting was Held
No Meeting Minutes

Lack of Quorum