

Skagit County Clean Water District
Edison Subarea

Meeting Agenda – July 26, 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 and School Tank Readings
 - B. Resolution from County Appointing Jess Hackler to Edison Board as School District Representative
5. **Old Business**
 - A. Monthly Operator Report
 - B. Monthly Maintenance Contractor Report
 - C. Alternative Assessment Methodologies – Presentation Materials from June Meeting
6. **New Business**
 - A. District Map and Site Numbers/Parcel Ownership as of February 2022
7. **Other Business**
8. **Closing Public Comment**
9. **Adjourn**

Edison Clean Water District

Meeting Minutes

Meeting of June 28, 2023

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:06 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 Betsy Stevenson from the County, and Greg Young from Ravenhead Municipal Services.

Members of the public were also present that included Tony Carter owner of the Longhorn, John Height owner of the Edison Inn, and consultant Ken Dahlstead.

Public Comment: The owners of two of the local commercial establishments were in attendance to hear the potential revised assessment methodology being considered by the Board.

Consent Agenda: The minutes from the Board's April 26, 2023 regular meeting minutes (no meeting in May) and the below detailed vouchers were approved following a motion by Mr. Mangold and seconded by Mr. Kvistad:

6/28/23-1	Drain Doctor	\$ 1,885.92
6/28/23-2	Ravenhead Municipal	\$ 900.00
6/28/23-3	City of Burlington	\$ 312.14
6/28/23-4	Underground Locate	\$ 2.58

Communications: Mr. Young covered the communications for tonight's meeting that included Lift Station Readings, School Tank Measurements, Commercial Tank Measurements, and the June Water Meter Readings for the Commercial Sites. Communications also included the Residential Tank Inspection results together with copies of the individual residential site tank pumping letters (for those needing pumping) and copies of the April 26th meetings draft alternative Assessment Methodology completed by Board members Alonzo and Mangold.

Old Business: None

New Business: - Mr. Alonzo had prepared a Powerpoint presentation covering the proposed alternative Assessment methodology that he and Mr. Mangold have been preparing following direction from the Board to consider another way to assess the District's costs that would involve identifying the somewhat fixed annual Operational costs (to be spread evenly amongst all customers) and the variable costs triggered by the Commercial site's annual FOG and BOD contributions that would be assessed to these customers.

The proposed new methodology broke out the annual cost into categories – Operations, Maintenance, Testing, etc. The largest cost category would be "Operations" and these costs would be evenly allocated to all users of the system since these costs are relatively fixed and do not fluctuate when the Commercial customer's flow and strength change.

Key to the motivation behind the alternative methodology was to decrease the large fluctuations in the Commercial customer's annual assessment centered in this customer classification shouldering a large percentage of the annual costs for which all customers should contribute since the District has certain annual costs that are necessary regardless of the flows and strength of the commercial user's sewer.

The result of this revised cost allocation is to increase the annual residential assessments and therefore have a smaller remainder of costs to allocate amongst the Commercial users. In the examples presented, the residential annual charge would increase to approximately \$1,000 per year (historically the residential assessments have ranged from \$600 to \$800 per year) with the remaining costs allocated to the Commercial sites based on their flows and strength calculations.

Generally, this modified assessment methodology is considered more equitable since all customers share in the fixed annual operational costs while the individual commercial customer's charges remained a factor of their comparative impact to the system's marginal costs for treatment.

After answering various questions from the Board and public, it was the consensus of the Board to further refine and discuss this alternative methodology at the next few meetings (we need to set the 2024 assessment amounts in November for submission to the County Commissioners) and if deemed appropriate for implementation, to bring this information to the citizens of Edison for review and comment.

Mr. Young also stated that he will be preparing the draft 2024 Assessments using the Board's traditional methodology so a comparison can be made between the two alternative methods of determining the annual fees.

Other Business: - None

Adjourn: With no further business to be conducted, the meeting was conference call ended at 6:37PM.

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member