



LAKE WHATCOM WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
1220 LAKEWAY DRIVE
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON 98229

REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA

June 27, 2012

8:00 a.m. – Regular Session

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY
At this time, members of the public may address the Commission. Please state your name prior to making comments.
3. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA
4. CONSENT AGENDA
5. SPECIFIC ITEMS OF BUSINESS:
 - A. Invasive Species Update – Clare Fogelsong, City of Bellingham
 - B. General Manager Performance Evaluation Process - Discussion
6. OTHER BUSINESS
7. MANAGER'S REPORT
8. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY
9. ADJOURNMENT



LAKE WHATCOM WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

AGENDA BILL

DATE SUBMITTED:	June 20, 2012		
TO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS			
FROM: Patrick Sorensen	MANAGER APPROVAL <i>[Signature]</i>		
MEETING AGENDA DATE:	June 27, 2012		
AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:	5.A.		
SUBJECT:	Invasive Species Update – Clare Fogelsong		
LIST DOCUMENTS PROVIDED ⇒ NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING AGENDA BILL: _____	1.		
	2.		
	3.		
TYPE OF ACTION REQUESTED	RESOLUTION <input type="checkbox"/>	FORMAL ACTION/ MOTION <input type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATIONAL/ OTHER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

BACKGROUND / EXPLANATION OF IMPACT

Clare Fogelsong and City of Bellingham staff members will be providing an update on the proposed City Invasive Species ordinance and Lake Whatcom protection efforts.

FISCAL IMPACT

Not applicable

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

None at this time

PROPOSED MOTION

No motion.



LAKE WHATCOM WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

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DATE SUBMITTED:	June 20, 2012		
TO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS			
FROM: Patrick Sorensen	MANAGER APPROVAL <i>Patrick Sorensen</i>		
MEETING AGENDA DATE:	June 27, 2012		
AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:	5.B.		
SUBJECT:	General Manager Performance Evaluation		
LIST DOCUMENTS PROVIDED ⇒ NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING AGENDA BILL: _____	1.		
	2.		
	3.		
TYPE OF ACTION REQUESTED	RESOLUTION <input type="checkbox"/>	FORMAL ACTION/ MOTION <input type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATIONAL/ OTHER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

BACKGROUND / EXPLANATION OF IMPACT

At the May 9, 2012 meeting, the Board set a schedule of information gathering steps to prepare for the General Manager's evaluation on July 25, 2012. Step 2 is to approve the Survey Monkey questions for the staff questionnaire.

FISCAL IMPACT

Not applicable

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Discuss/decide upon questions for the staff questionnaire.

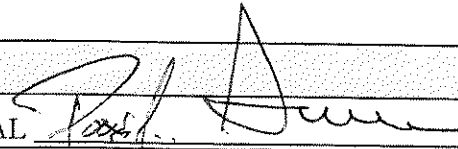
PROPOSED MOTION

No motion needed.



LAKE WHATCOM WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

AGENDA BILL

DATE SUBMITTED:	June 20, 2012		
TO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS			
FROM: Patrick Sorensen	MANAGER APPROVAL 		
MEETING AGENDA DATE:	June 27, 2012		
AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:	7		
SUBJECT:	Manager's Report		
LIST DOCUMENTS PROVIDED ⇒ NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING AGENDA BILL: _____	1. Manager's Report		
	2.		
	3.		
TYPE OF ACTION REQUESTED	RESOLUTION <input type="checkbox"/>	FORMAL ACTION/ MOTION <input type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATIONAL/ OTHER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

BACKGROUND / EXPLANATION OF IMPACT

Updated information from the General Manager in advance of the Board meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

None required.

PROPOSED MOTION

None

General Manager Comments

June 27, 2012

Important Upcoming Meetings:

- **Meetings Associated with the Lake Whatcom Management Program:**
 - **Policy Group Meeting:** The next Policy Group Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 9 at 9:30 a.m. in the Garden Room of the Whatcom County Civic Center Building. The agenda has not been established at this time but will be shared with the Board when it is available. All Policy Group Meetings are publicly noticed by the District.
 - **Management Meetings:** There is not a meeting scheduled at this time.
- **Next Regular Board Meeting:** Wednesday, July 11 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Next Employee Staff Meeting:** Thursday, July 12 at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Commissioner Mc Roberts is scheduled to attend. Scheduling is rotated by alphabetical order each month.
- **Washington Association of Sewer & Water Districts (WASWD) Section III Meeting:** The next Section III meeting will be held at Bob's Burger & Brew in Tulalip on July 10 at 6:20 p.m. All Section III Meetings are publicly noticed by the District.
- **Next Employee Safety Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, July 12 at 8:00 a.m.
- **Reminder:** The 2012 Fall WASWD Conference & Business Meeting will be held in Spokane September 19, 20, & 21 at The Davenport Hotel.

Other:

- **Follow-up to Sewer Contract Issues:** With the completion of a new draft sewer contract, presentation of the document is being made to COB staff and Public Works Director Ted Carlson on Thursday, June 21. Serious discussions with the City should now begin to take place. In addition, we will have a better idea of the District's contributions to future wastewater treatment plant improvements. More will be forthcoming.

- **Invasive Species Update:** FYI, I have attached a copy of a news story from the June 19, 2012 edition of the *Bellingham Herald* which addresses the City Council's proposed ordinance addressing non-native species in the Lake.

Finally, the City is in the process of hiring an individual to address Lake Whatcom issues, including the administration of the invasive species regulations that are pending. This is the position the District is contributing financially to. I have been invited to participate in the interview panel, most likely on Friday, June 22. I will be able to report on the final hiring decision at the Board meeting.

Invasive species measure readied

Bellingham ordinance
aims to keep non-native
animals from waterways

JOHN STARK
THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

BELLINGHAM — As part of the ongoing effort to protect Lake Whatcom from potentially harmful non-native animals, the City Council is ready to pass an ordinance that could fine anyone who introduces such "invasive species."

Once the council votes formal approval at two council meetings, the new ordinance would allow police and other enforcement officers to issue a civil citation to anyone who introduces any invasive species into Lake Whatcom or Lake Padden. Lake Whatcom is the city's drinking water supply.

The maximum fine would be \$1,000, according to the ordinance.

On Monday, June 18, assistant city attorney Ryan Anderson told council members that making violation of the ordinance a civil infraction, rather than a criminal misdemeanor, makes enforcement easier. Civil citations could be issued by the inspectors that the city eventually expects to station at the Lake Whatcom boat launch at Bloedel Donovan Park, once those inspectors get authorization from the police chief. A criminal misdemeanor would require the involvement of a sworn police officer.

A court also can assess a civil fine based on the legal standard known as "preponderance of the evidence," which is easier to meet than the "beyond a reasonable doubt" standard of criminal cases.

The council's concern about invasive species was raised in late 2011 when Asian clams were discovered in both Lake Whatcom and Lake Padden. That raised concerns that the lake also could be vulnerable to zebra and quagga mussels — two pesky Eurasian bivalve species that have fouled lakeshores, water-system intakes and boat engines in many places across the country since their introduction into the Great Lakes decades ago.

6-19-12

While the mussels are not established in Washington state, wildlife officers here and in Idaho have intercepted several contaminated pleasure boats that were bound for this state's waters.

The potential damage from those mussels is so great that council members were giving serious consideration to shutting the Bloedel Donovan Park boat launch until an inspection system could be set up. But Mayor Kelli Linville and her staff advised against it, citing cost, enforcement problems and likely citizen backlash.

The city is moving ahead with a boat

Measure targets invasive species

ORDINANCE from A1

inspection system for Lake Whatcom watercraft of all types and sizes beginning in 2013. While the details of that system remain sketchy, council members appear to favor a system in which boaters would cover some or all of the inspection costs via fees.

Anderson also told council members that introduction of invasive species is illegal under state law, but the city ordinance gives the city legal authority to issue the citations to protect its water supply.

While concern over mus-

sels prompted the ordinance, introduction of a wide range of plants, reptiles, fish, amphibians and invertebrates would be a violation of the ordinance, which adopts the same list of invasive species spelled out in state law. A few examples: cricket frog, African clawed frog, mole salamanders, hellbenders, Kurdistan newts, mitten crabs, fathead minnows and spiny water fleas.

Reach John Stark at
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Read his Politics Blog at The
BellinghamHerald.com/blogs.