

# Lake Whatcom Water & Sewer District Board Meeting Access Information

Meeting

6:30 pm - 2nd Wed of each month

Schedule

8:00 am - Last Wed of each month



#### Meeting Access

Meetings are held in person at our Administrative offices at 1220 Lakeway Drive in Bellingham. If you prefer to attend remotely, access information is below.

Join the meeting from your computer, tablet smartphone:

https://meet.goto.com/lwwsd/boardmeeting

You can also dial in using your phone.

**Call**: <u>+1 (224) 501-3412</u> **Access Code:** 596-307-141 *Press* \*6 *to mute/unmute your microphone* 

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#### Attending a Meeting

Lake Whatcom Water & Sewer District's regular Board meetings take place on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm and the last Wednesday of each month at 8:00 am.

Meetings are open to the public per the Open Public Meetings Act.

All meetings are hybrid, available in person or online. If you wish to observe a meeting, but do not plan to actively participate, you may attend anonymously. Turn off your mic & camera, and change your display name to "Observation Only."

#### **Public Comment Periods**

Public comment periods are built in to the agenda, one near the beginning of the meeting and one near the end. Commissioners will listen, but will not respond or engage in dialogue during the comment period.

Direct questions or requests are noted by staff for follow-up.

For the sake of time, and to leave plenty of time for scheduled agenda items, public comments are limited to 3 minutes per person and 45 minutes per comment period.

Comments may be submitted at any time through mail, email, our online contact form, or by phone.

For more information about communicating with the Board of Commissioners, please visit our website!



#### **Questions?**

If you have questions about attending an upcoming meeting, please contact Administrative Assistant Rachael Hope at rachael.hope@lwwsd.org or 360-734-9224.



#### LAKE WHATCOM WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

1220 Lakeway Drive Bellingham, WA 98229

#### REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

#### **AGENDA**

August 27, 2025 8:00 a.m. – Regular Session

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. ROLL CALL
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

At this time, members of the public may address the Board of Commissioners. Please state your name and address prior to making comments and limit your comments to three minutes. For the sake of time, each public comment period will be limited to 45 minutes.

- 4. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA
- 5. CONSENT AGENDA
- 6. SPECIFIC ITEMS OF BUSINESS
  - A. Customer Appeal—Water Bill Adjustments Policy
  - B. 2025-26 Miscellaneous Asphalt Repair Unit-price Public Works Contract Award
  - C. Code of Ethics Adoption
- 7. OTHER BUSINESS
- 8. STAFF REPORTS
  - A. General Manager
  - B. Engineering Department
  - C. Finance Department
  - D. Operations Department
- 9. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY
- 10. ADJOURNMENT

whatcom 5	ENDA BILL em 5	Consent Ag	genda		
DATE SUBMITTED:	August 20, 2025	MEETING DATE:	: August 27, 2	025	
TO: BOARD OF COMM	IISSIONERS	FROM: Rachael Hope			
GENERAL MANAGER	APPROVAL	Sotolog			
ATTACHED DOCUMENTS		1. See below			
TYPE OF ACTION REQ	UESTED	RESOLUTION	FORMAL ACTION/ MOTION	INFORMATIONA L/OTHER	

#### **BACKGROUND / EXPLANATION OF IMPACT**

- Minutes for the 8.13.2025 Regular Board Meeting
- Payroll for Pay Period #17 (08.02.2025 through 8.15.2025) totaling \$59,362.33
- Benefits for Pay Period #17 totaling \$60,971.83
- Accounts Payable Vouchers total to be added

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Fiscal impact is as indicated in the payroll/benefits/accounts payable quantities defined above. All costs are within the Board-approved 2025-2026 Budget.

#### RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends the Board approve the Consent Agenda.

#### **PROPOSED MOTION**

A recommended motion is:

"I move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented."

<sup>\*\*</sup>TO BE UPDATED 08.26.2025\*\*



1220 Lakeway Dr • Bellingham, WA 98229

#### REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

#### **Minutes**

August 13, 2025

Board President Todd Citron called the Regular Session to order at 6:30 p.m.

Attendees: Commissioner Todd Citron General Manager Justin Clary

Commissioner John Carter (v) Engineering Manager Greg Nicoll Commissioner Bruce Ford Finance Manager Jenny Signs

Commissioner Jeff Knakal (v)

Commissioner David Holland

District Legal Counsel Bob Carmichael
Recording Secretary Rachael Hope

Attendees noted with a (v) attended the meeting virtually.

#### **Consent Agenda**

#### **Action Taken**

Holland moved, Knakal seconded, approval of:

- Minutes for the 7.30.2025 Regular Board Meeting
- Payroll for Pay Period #16 (7.19.2025 through 8.01.2025) totaling \$58,555.38
- Benefits for Pay Period #16 totaling \$62,154.98
- Accounts Payable Vouchers totaling \$212,178.13
- Payroll taxes for 2nd Quarter 2025 totaling \$15,774.98

Motion passed.

#### **Financial Benchmarks Discussion**

Clary summarized that as a public agency, it is crucial that the District maintain public trust through efficiently operating in a transparent manner. The development of benchmarks can effectively set the stage for the long-term demonstration to customers that the District has proactively managed and maintained its systems to mitigate unnecessary operational expenses. Recognizing that the District is unique, District staff and Commissioner Carter discussed creation of benchmarks specific to the District, while also using existing resources as applicable to the District. The Board discussed an initial set of benchmarks proposed for demonstrating the District's proactive, long-term management of its systems during its July 30 meeting. Based upon Board feedback, staff refined those benchmarks and presented them to the Board for further discussion.

#### **Action Taken**

Carter moved, Ford seconded, to adopt the financial benchmarks presented as a process for review of the District's financial health on an annual basis. Motion passed.

#### **Code of Ethics Discussion**

A code of ethics for officials and employees establishes standards and guidelines for ethical conduct and principles of public service that strengthen public confidence of the agency and defines the expectation for conduct that aligns with the agency's mission and vision statements. The District previously adopted a personnel policy manual for employees and a protocol manual for commissioners, defining allowable conduct of staff and board; however, a succinct document setting these expectations was not created. Clary facilitated a discussion with the board and management team to outline expectations to be included in a code of ethics specific to the District. Ultimately, board adoption of a code of ethics will support the District's pursuit of formal accreditation through the American Public Works Association (APWA).

#### **General Manager's Report**

Clary updated the Board on several topics, including recent power fluctuations and generator usage at the Euclid sewer lift station, changes in organizational structure at the Washington State Department of Health, and progress on building communications with Whatcom County Planning & Development Service associated with new development in the District. Discussion followed.

With no further business, Citron adjourned th	e regular session at 7:28 p.m.
	Attest:
Board President, Todd Citron	Recording Secretary, Rachael Hope
Minutes approved by motion at \( \bigcap \) Regular \( \bigcap \)	Special Board Meeting on

#### CHECK REGISTER

Lake Whatcom W-S District

08/21/2025 To: 08/21/2025

Time: 13:25:33 Date: 08/18/2025 21/2025 PAYROLL 1

Trans	Date	Type	Acct #	Chk#	Claimant	Amount	Memo	
2418	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT		439.47	08/02/2025	- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2419	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT		439.47	08/02/2025	- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2420	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT		4,063.02	08/02/2025	- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2421	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT		3,264.24	08/02/2025	- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2422	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT		4,043.37	08/02/2025	- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2424	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT		2,013.19	08/02/2025	- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2426	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2427	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2428	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2429	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT		= == ===		- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2430	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2431	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT		2,540.65	08/02/2025	- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2432	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2433	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2434	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2435	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2436	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2437	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2438	08/21/2025	Payroll	- 5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2439	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2440	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2441	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2442	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	EFT				- 08/15/2025 PR 17
2423	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	16694			-	25; 7.9.25; 7.30.25
2425	08/21/2025	Payroll	5	16695		1,869.62	08/02/2025	- 08/15/2025 PR 17
		401 Water I	Fund		_	17,009.85		
		402 Sewer l	Fund			42,352.48		
						59,362.33	Payroll:	59,362.33

#### **CHECK REGISTER**

Lake Whatcom W-S District

08/21/2025 To: 08/21/2025

Time: 14:14:16 Date:

08/18/2025

Trans Date Type Acct # Chk# Claimant Amount Mem 2443 08/21/2025 Payroll 5 EFT DEPARTMENT OF 7,617.50 Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - DCP; Pay Cycle(s) RETIREMENT SYSTEMS 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 -ROTH DCP 2444 08/21/2025 5 Payroll EFT UNITED STATES TREASURY 20,923.55 941 Deposit for Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 - 08/21/2025 2445 08/21/2025 5 EFT WAST PUBLIC EMPRET Payroll 6.800.64 Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - PERS 2 PLAN 2 2446 08/21/2025 Payroll 5 EFT WAST PUBLIC EMPRET 3.340.05 Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - PERS 3 PLAN 3 2447 08/21/2025 Payroll 5 EFT WAST SUPPORT 911.85 Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - SUP ENF **ENFORCEMENT REGISTERY** 5 2448 08/21/2025 Payroll 16704 AFLAC 300.31 Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - AFLAC PRE-TAX; Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - AFLAC POST-TAX 2449 08/21/2025 Payroll 5 16705 AFSCME LOCAL 382.80 Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - UNION DUES; Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - UNION FUND 5 2450 08/21/2025 **Payroll** 16706 HRA VEBA TRUST (PAYEE) 590.00 Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - VEBA 2451 08/21/2025 Payroll 5 16707 WAST HEALTH CARE 20,105.13 Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To **AUTHORITY** 08/21/2025 - PEBB MEDICAL; Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - PEBB ADD LTD; Pay Cycle(s) 08/21/2025 To 08/21/2025 - PEBB SMK Surcharge 401 Water Fund 45,829,77 402 Sewer Fund 15,142.06 60,971.83 Payroll: 60,971.83 I do hereby certify, under penalty of perjury, that the above is an unpaid, just, and due obligation as described herein, and that I am authorized to certify this claim. Date 8/8/2525 Sign General Manager, Justin Clary Board Authorization - The duly elected board for this district has reviewed the claims listed and approved the payment by motion at the meeting listed below: **Board President, Todd Citron** Attest: Recording Secretary, Rachael Hope Approved by motion at \_\_\_\_\_ Regular \_\_\_\_ Special Board Meeting on

**Date Approved** 



#### AGENDA BILL Item 6.A

## Water Bill Adjustments Policy Appeal

DATE SUBMITTED:	August 20, 2025	MEETING DATE	E: /	2025	
TO: BOARD OF COMM	FROM: Justin Clary, General Manager				
GENERAL MANAGER	APPROVAL	Joseph Clay			
ATTACHED DOCUME	NTS	Customer Ap	peal da	ated Augus	t 6, 2025
TYPE OF ACTION REQ	UESTED	RESOLUTION		AL ACTION/ OTION	INFORMATIONAL /OTHER

#### **BACKGROUND / EXPLANATION OF IMPACT**

The Lake Whatcom Water and Sewer District (District) received an appeal of the District's water bill adjustments policy from Taryn Adams on August 6, 2025 (attached). District Administrative Code section 2.10.6 defines current policy pertaining to bill adjustments, including administration of a water bill credit in cases of water leaks on a customer's private system. The bill adjustment policy was most recently revised by the Board of Commissioners via adoption of Resolution No. 891 during a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board held on June 14, 2023. Following is the current revision of section 2.10.6:

#### 2.10.6 Water Bill Adjustments

The District will adjust high customer water bills subject to the conditions defined herein. The adjustment request must be made in writing by the property owner and include a signed attestation (1) acknowledging that the adjustment is subject to this Water Bill Adjustment policy, (2) stating the reason for the high bill (if known), and (3) confirming that any repairs needed to resolve the issue have been completed (if applicable given the type of loss). To calculate the adjustment:

- 1. Water consumption figures from the same billing period in the previous year are used to calculate the adjustment. If less than one year's usage history exists, the current base rate allowance will be used as the quantity basis. The District will credit qualifying bill adjustment dollar amounts to the current or next customer bill. The adjustment credit shall be 50 percent of the amount determined to be the excess water usage charge.
- 2. The District has adopted a tiered rate structure for water. Water usage exceeding 2,500 cubic feet in a two-month billing period is billed at a higher "water conservation" rate. For the purpose of calculating adjustment credits, water usage over 2,500 cubic feet will be billed at the lower tier rate.

- 3. Water bill adjustments are limited to one adjustment per metered service every seven years. Customers who have experienced leaks should inspect their entire system and ensure that all issues have been remedied. Eligibility for bill adjustment shall reset when a property is acquired by a new owner. When a high use event occurs, the overage may be reflected on more than one consecutive billing cycle. In those instances, the District will utilize both contiguous cycles for the purpose of calculating adjustment credits.
- 4. The District will set up an incremental payment schedule on the remaining balance of the bill amount at the customer's request. Payment schedules must be arranged in a way that ensures payment of the current two-month minimum billing plus an installment on the extraordinary portion of the bill. The extraordinary portion of the bill must be paid in full within 12 months of incurring the charges. Late charges on the amount subject to adjustment will be waived if the customer adheres to the prearranged payment schedule. [Resolution Nos. 821, 861, 870, 891]

On June 3, 2025, Ms. Adams contacted the District in the evening after identifying a leak on her water service line. On-call staff responded that evening and confirmed with Ms. Adams that there was a leak in her line, which she had repaired on June 5. Based upon water meter data, it was determined that the leak began on May 20. Following the bi-monthly water consumption read conducted in July, the District's high use adjustment application was sent to Ms. Adams on July 23 for completion and submittal to the District (total use over the two-month billing period was 38,184 cubic feet resulting in a \$6,080.15 water bill). District staff spoke with Ms. Adams on August 6 during which she requested credit beyond what is allowed in Administrative Code section 2.10.6. Ms. Adams was apprised of the process of appealing staff implementation of the Administrative Code to the Board (Administrative Code section 2.1, General Manager's Responsibilities and Limitations). As indicated above, the District received Ms. Adams's appeal on August 6, 2025.

Ms. Adams's appeal proposes a revision to Administrative Code section 2.10.6 to add a provision for "Extreme High Use Leak Forgiveness" such that:

- For leaks in the top 5% of historical usage costs within the District, the forgiveness percentage be increased from 50% to 100% of the high-use portion of the bill, provided the property owner:
  - 1. Acts promptly upon discovery of the leak,
  - 2. Makes necessary repairs to prevent recurrence, and
  - 3. Has no prior leak adjustments within the last 7 years.

Ms. Adams has requested that the policy revision be retroactive to April 1, 2025.

There are three primary options for the Board related to the appeal:

- 1. Direct development of a resolution revising Administrative Code section 2.10.6 to include Ms. Adams's proposal, as written.
- 2. Direct development of a resolution revising Administrative Code section 2.10.6 to include Ms. Adams's proposal, with any amendments as directed by the Board.

3. Uphold the General Manager's interpretation of the Administrative Code limiting Ms. Adams's bill adjustment to 50% of the leak volume calculated at the District's Tier 1 water rate.

#### Considerations:

- The current policy of crediting 50% of the calculated leak volume has been successfully implemented for over 15 years, with exception of a period in 2020-2023 when the customer credit was capped at \$1,000.
- Consistent administration of a policy that is based on historical usage (presumably since District formation in 1968) would be prone to error due to limited historical data.
- Limiting eligibility for complete bill forgiveness to the top 5% of historical leaks is arbitrary and inconsistent with Board policy of treating all customers the same (e.g., a leak in the top 5% would be forgiven in full, but a leak just below the top 5% would only be eligible for 50% forgiveness).

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The fiscal impact of revising the current policy would be dependent upon what the policy is revised to, as well as the magnitude and frequency of future qualifying leaks. Regardless, water utility revenues related to qualifying leaks make up less than 0.5% of the utility's revenue.

#### APPLICABLE EFFECTIVE UTILITY MANAGEMENT ATTRIBUTE(S)

Financial Viability
Customer Satisfaction

#### RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends that the Board uphold the General Manager's interpretation of the Administrative Code and decline Mr. Adams's appeal to revise the Administrative Code.

#### PROPOSED MOTION

Should the Board wish to uphold current policy, as defined in the Administrative Code and implemented by staff, a recommended motion is:

"I move to uphold the District Administrative Code as written and implemented by the General Manager, and decline Mr. Adams's appeal to revise the Administrative Code."

Should the Board wish to revise District policy regarding water bill adjustments, staff recommends the Board provide verbal direction to work with District legal counsel in drafting a resolution for Board consideration that amends the District Administrative Code accordingly.

#### **Justin Clary**

From: Taryn Adams <tarynmadams@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, August 8, 2025 9:24 AM

**To:** Justin Clary

**Subject:** Re: Customer Appeal

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Justin,

Thank you for your detailed reply and the information regarding the appeal process.

I would like my appeal to be heard at the August 27, 2025 Board meeting at 8:00 AM.

Could you please provide the date and meeting minutes for the last revision to Administrative Code Section 2.10.6, Water Bill Adjustments, as well as any staff reports or memoranda supporting the change?

#### **Proposed Revision to Administrative Code Section 2.10.6:**

I propose amending Section 2.10.6 to add a provision for **"Extreme High Use Leak Forgiveness"** such that:

- For leaks in the **top 5% of historical usage costs** within the District, the forgiveness percentage be increased from 50% to **100% of the high-use portion** of the bill, provided the property owner:
  - 1. Acts promptly upon discovery of the leak,
  - 2. Makes necessary repairs to prevent recurrence, and
  - 3. Has no prior leak adjustments within the last 7 years.

This amendment would provide meaningful protection in catastrophic cases without creating an undue burden on the District's finances, as the number of qualifying events would be extremely limited.

Separately, regarding smart meter technology, thank you for providing the estimated implementation costs for AMI systems. Has the District conducted, or could you provide, any research or analysis regarding potential savings or efficiencies from such a system — for example, reductions in water loss, operational labor, or long-term infrastructure costs? Understanding the potential offset to implementation costs would be helpful for future consideration by the Board.

Please confirm my placement on the August 27 agenda.

Sincerely,

Taryn M. Adams 425.508.0864 tarynadams.com

#### On Thu, Aug 7, 2025 at 1:00 PM Justin Clary < justin.clary@lwwsd.org > wrote:

Ms. Adams.

To begin, I am sorry to hear about your significant water leak. Adjustments to bills associated with high use, such as in your case, are administered in accordance with District Administrative Code Section 2.10.6, Water Bill Adjustments. As has been previously conveyed to you, the District has processed your high use in accordance with this policy. Per your email (below), it is the District's understanding that you wish to appeal District's staff implementation of the Administrative Code to the Board of Commissioners.

District Administrative Code Section 2.1, General Manager's Responsibilities and Limitations, provides an avenue for appeal to the Board of Commissioners of the General Manager's interpretation/implementation of the Administrative Code. A provision of this section is that requests for appeal must be received in writing no less than ten days prior to a regularly scheduled Board meeting. Per this requirement, the next available Board meeting to hear your appeal would be the meeting scheduled for 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 27, 2025. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 10, 2025. All Board meetings are held at the District's office located at 1220 Lakeway Drive in Bellingham. The public is welcome to attend the meeting in person or virtually via the GoTo online meeting platform. For more information on meeting attendance, please visit the District's website here. If you wish to attend the meeting to present your appeal to the Board, please let me know which meeting at which you wish your appeal to be heard. If neither of those dates align with your schedule, please let me know a subsequent meeting that fits your availability. The Board meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday, and at 8:00 a.m. on the last Wednesday of each month.

Based on your correspondence, it is my understanding that you request the Board consider revising Section 2.10.6 of the Administrative Code to either provide comprehensive forgiveness for the high use component of a water bill, or at a minimum, develop a forgiveness policy specific to extreme high use scenarios like yours.

Regarding your request for investment in smart meter technology, there is nothing in the Administrative Code setting policy on what water meter technology the District uses, so it is not appealable. That said, you are certainly welcome to recommend to the Board that the District consider conversion to a new smart meter technology. For a bit of background on this topic, the District was an early adopter of automated meter reading (AMR) smart meter technology in the early 2000s (the water meter technology currently used by the District). AMR-based water meters allow for collecting water meter readings via radio frequency by driving in proximity to the water meter with a data receiver (one-way communication). A newer technology is advanced metering infrastructure (AMI), which allows each water meter to directly communicate with a data management system (two-way communication). Approximately six years ago, the District explored conversion from the current AMR technology to an AMI technology-based system. However, cost was identified as a limiting factor. At the time, the conversion was estimated at \$800,000, not including the cost of purchasing perpetual easements to install three cell towers necessary to overcome communication challenges created by the topography of the District's service area. In addition to this capital cost, there was also an additional monthly charge that would be applied to each of the District's approximate 4,000 water meters that would increase annual operating costs. Based on the additional cost, which would be borne by the rate payers, the Board elected to continue to use the current AMR technology.

#### Please provide at your earliest convenience:

- 1. The Board meeting at which you wish your appeal to be heard.
- 2. Confirmation of your proposed revision to Administrative Code Section 2.10.6 based upon my above summary.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

#### Justin L. Clary, PE | General Manager



#### **LAKE WHATCOM WATER & SEWER DISTRICT**

1220 Lakeway Drive

Bellingham, WA 98229

8am – 5pm, Monday – Thursday

(360) 734-9224

www.lwwsd.org

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Email from this address is subject to public disclosure pursuant to RCW 42.56.

From: Taryn Adams < <a href="mailto:tarynmadams@gmail.com">tarynmadams@gmail.com</a>>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 6, 2025 4:21 PM **To:** General Info <general.inbox@lwwsd.org>

Subject: Board Meeting Agenda

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi,

These are the items I would like to add to the agenda for the next Whatcom Water and Sewer Board Meeting.

#### 1. Leak Forgiveness Policy for the Top Percentile of Extreme Leaks

Between May 20 and June 3, 2025, a major water leak occurred on my property due to a tree root breaking a buried pipe. Because my home is on a steep slope, the leak was not immediately visible, and I only discovered it on June 3 when a small stream of water began emerging from the hill.

The leak resulted in a **\$6,279.05** bill. I was initially told by a field agent that this would be covered under a one-time leak forgiveness policy, and I also found a form on the District's website supporting that understanding (linked here: Water Leak Adjustment Form). However, I was later informed that under a revised policy, I am responsible for 50% of the total.

This leak may have gone unnoticed for as few as 7 days, or at most 14. That translates to a cost between \$448.50 and \$897.01 per day. Even with a 12-month payment plan, the out-of-pocket cost is unmanageable.

I am asking the Board to consider either:

- Honoring the prior policy in cases like mine where the homeowner acted quickly and in good faith, or
- Creating a higher-tier forgiveness policy for leaks in the top 1% by cost, where the burden is most severe.

Additionally, had I not found the leak when I did, the bill by the next meter reading (7/21/25) could have reached **\$27,000–\$55,000** or more. That level of risk is unsustainable for residents.

#### 2. Investment in Smart Meter Technology for Leak Detection

Counties like Snohomish have implemented smart water meters that connect to the internet and provide real-time alerts for anomalies like leaks—without requiring physical meter checks.

Had this technology been in place, my leak could have been identified and stopped before resulting in financial hardship. Beyond benefits to residents, this kind of system could save the District significant money by detecting infrastructure leaks early and reducing water loss across the system.

I hope the Board will consider this as a future investment to improve service and financial outcomes for both homeowners and the District.

Thanks,

Taryn M. Adams 425.508.0864

tarynadams.com

25AUG 20 1:21PP

Dear Whatcom Water and Sewer Board of Directors,

I am writing to request your consideration for relief regarding a recent water bill of \$6,279.05, caused by a major underground leak that occurred between May 20 and June 3, 2025. The leak was due to a tree root breaking a buried pipe on my property. Because my home is on a steep slope, the water loss was not visible at the surface. I only discovered it when a small stream of water began emerging from the hill.

As a single resident, I have consistently used far less than the volume included in my base rate — typically around 160 cubic feet every two months. In this billing cycle, my usage suddenly spiked to 37,823 cubic feet before I detected and stopped the leak myself. None of this water entered the sewer system.

This experience has been an emotional rollercoaster.

- When I first called, the receptionist told me I would be responsible for the entire \$6,279.05.
- After I had the leak fixed, a field agent came over to fill out a report and assured me that I would not be responsible for *any* of it under a one-time leak forgiveness policy.
- I then found a "Water Leak Adjustment" form on the District's own website that seemed to confirm full coverage, with no mention of a 50% limit and the statement that "there is no cap to limit the customer's costs."
- Finally, I was told the actual policy was that I must pay 50% of the excess usage a decision that caused me significant financial and emotional distress after believing for over a month that the bill would be fully forgiven.

Even under the current 50% policy, my bill is unmanageable despite the 12-month payment plan. Based on the per-day cost of the leak (\$448.50-\$897.01/day), had I not found it when I did, my bill by the next meter reading (July 21, 2025) could have reached \$27,000-\$55,000 or more. That level of financial risk is simply unsustainable for residents, especially given the lack of real-time leak detection technology.

I respectfully request that the Board:

- 1. Consider honoring the understanding I was given by both a District employee and the publicly posted form that this one-time extreme leak would be forgiven in full, or
- 2. Create a higher-tier leak forgiveness policy for the top percentile of extreme leaks, where the costs are so high that even a 50% adjustment still leaves the customer with an extraordinary and disproportionate burden. I have already added this agenda item to the August 26th Board of Directors Meeting.

Additionally, this case underscores the need for real-time usage alerts or AMI meters. Without them, customers have no practical way of detecting sudden underground leaks before catastrophic bills accumulate.

Finally, I ask the Board to consider removing outdated and misleading forms from public access more promptly to prevent other residents from experiencing the same misunderstanding and distress I did.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be grateful for any reduction, adjustment, or payment relief you can provide.

Sincerely,

Taryn M. Adams 2A Sugarpine Place

Bellingham, WA 98229

hunger aus



#### AGENDA BILL Item 6.B

# 2025-26 Miscellaneous Asphalt Repair Unit Price Public Works Contract Award

DATE SUBMITTED:	August 19, 2025	MEETING DATE	TING DATE: August 28, 20			
TO: BOARD OF COMM	1ISSIONERS	FROM: Greg Nicoll, District Engineer				
GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL		Stolley				
ATTACHED DOCUME	NTS	1. None				
TYPE OF ACTION REQ	UESTED	RESOLUTION	FORMAL ACTION/ MOTION	INFORMATIONAL /OTHER		

#### **BACKGROUND / EXPLANATION OF IMPACT**

As part of sewer and water utility repair and replacement and installation of new service connections by District staff, portions of existing asphalt surfaces are removed to facilitate the work. In addition, the District owns and maintains asphalt surfaces through the various District-owned properties that require periodic repair and replacement. Asphalt work includes full depth asphalt replacement, grinding and overlaying existing asphalt surfaces, crack sealing, repair of settled or unsuitable subgrade, and restoration of pavement markings.

The scope and focus of annual miscellaneous asphalt repair work varies based on asphalt removal for utility repair and installation and the condition of District owned asphalt surfaces. In previous years, District Operations staff advertised and awarded multiple asphalt repair contracts annually as repair needs arose. To more efficiently execute an undefined quantity and undefined frequency of work, the District is using a contracting tool authorized by the State Legislature for use by water-sewer districts and other local governments called a "Unit Price Contract" or "On-Call Contract" for the 2025-26 asphalt repairs. The District has successfully used this contracting tool for several other contracts since 2020.

The intent of a unit price bid is to contract with a qualified contractor over a 12-month period to provide the "on-call" professional repair, rehabilitation and replacement services for existing and removed asphalt surfaces. The contract will be in effect for 12-months from the date of contract execution with the District's option to extend the contract for an additional one-year period (as allowed by statute).

The District is not obligated to authorize any amount of work under this unit price contract. The District intends to authorize individual work orders under this unit price contract in logical groupings of work that minimize mobilization/demobilization

expenses. The District also maintains the option to develop packages of work that can be bid and contracted separately from this unit price contract.

The District estimated the work under this unit price contract to be less than \$350,000, which allows the use of the small works roster process for bidding. The project was advertised in accordance with the District's small works roster policies by emailing a notice to all contractors on the MRSC Small Works Roster listed in categories for this type of work. Bids are due August 21, 2025, after this agenda packet was finalized.

Following the bid opening, staff will prepare a bid tabulation, determine the lowest responsive and responsible bidder and review the mandatory supplemental bidder responsibility criteria for the apparent low bidder. The bid tabulation, determination of apparent low bidder and verification that the low bidder meets the supplemental bidder criteria will be presented to the board during the August 27 meeting.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Asphalt repairs associated with utility repairs and replacement and new service installations are paid for by the Repair & Maintenance budgets included in the Water and Sewer operating budgets. Repair of District owned asphalt, if any, would be paid for by excess funds remaining in the approved 2025-26 Capital Budget.

NOTE—This contract is a unit price contract. The total amount listed on the Bid Tabulation is only used to determine the low bidder for contract award. It is NOT the amount of work that will be ordered by the District, nor is the District obligated in any way to order a minimum amount of work once the contract is executed.

Work will be defined, prioritized and authorized by Work Order using the unit prices on the Bid Tabulation. Staff will bring forward work orders that align with actual budgetary allocations for authorization by the Board as required by policies established in the administrative code.

#### APPLICABLE EFFECTIVE UTILITY MANAGEMENT ATTRIBUTE(S)

Infrastructure Strategy and Performance Operational Optimization Product Quality

#### RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Pending receipt of bids and determination that the low bidder meets responsibility criteria, staff recommend that the Board award the 2025-26 Asphalt Repair Unit Price Contract (District Project #C2519) to the lowest responsible bidder.

#### **PROPOSED MOTION**

Recommended motion is:

"I move to award the 2025-26 Asphalt Repair Unit Price Contract to [insert lowest responsive and responsible bidder] and authorize the general manager to execute the contract."

whatcom Jo	ENDA BILL m 6.C	Code of Ethics Adoption				
DATE SUBMITTED:	August 20, 2025	MEETING DATE	E: August 27,	2025		
TO: BOARD OF COMP	IISSIONERS	FROM: Justin Clary, General Manager				
GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL		Jost Clay				
ATTACHED DOCUMENTS		Mission, Vision, Values and Goals     Draft Code of Ethics				
TYPE OF ACTION REQ	UESTED	RESOLUTION	FORMAL ACTION/ MOTION	INFORMATIONAL /OTHER		

#### **BACKGROUND / EXPLANATION OF IMPACT**

A code of ethics for officials and employees establishes standards and guidelines for ethical conduct and principles of public service that strengthen public confidence of the agency. A code of ethics defines the expectation for conduct that aligns with the agency's mission and vision statements. While the District has adopted a personnel policy manual for employees and a protocol manual for commissioners, both of which define allowable conduct of staff and board, respectively, a succinct document setting these expectations does not exist. During the August 13 board meeting, the general manager facilitated a discussion with the board and management team to identify elements to be included in a code of ethics specific to the District. Based upon that discussion, attached is a draft code of ethics for the Board's consideration.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is anticipated with adoption of a code of ethics.

#### <u>APPLICABLE EFFECTIVE UTILITY MANAGEMENT ATTRIBUTE(S)</u>

An organization-wide code of ethics document supports all ten EUM attributes.

#### RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends the Board discuss the draft code of ethics and either adopt as presented or provide additional revisions.

#### PROPOSED MOTION

Recommended motion is:

"I move to adopt the Code of Ethics, as presented."

Should the Board amend the attached document, a recommended motion is:

"I move to adopt the Code of Ethics, as amended."



#### **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to provide the best possible water and sewer services in a safe and cost-efficient manner, and in a way that contributes to protecting Lake Whatcom's water quality.

#### **Vision Statement**

Trusted provider and steward of a life sustaining resource.

#### **Values**

#### Service

We believe the District has been entrusted with the opportunity to provide a vital public service. The District is dedicated to earning that trust each day by meeting the expectations of the customers it serves.

#### **Financial Responsibility**

We believe that the District's customers have placed a special trust in us to manage the District's financial resources wisely. We will allocate and manage these resources prudently to achieve the District's long- and short-term goals.

#### **Environmental Stewardship**

We believe the District has an obligation to work with others to protect the environment and to use our natural resources wisely and safely.

#### Leadership

We believe that the Board of Commissioners should be open and responsive to customer and community needs and that the District's General Manager should be responsible for effective planning, management, and day-to-day office, administration, maintenance, and operations.

#### **Teamwork**

We believe the District's effectiveness increases when we work together to foster productive partnerships, both internally and externally, knowing that through collective effort we produce excellence.

#### Goals

#### We strive to:

- Provide safe and reliable drinking water and sewage collection to District customers.
- Establish connection charges and utility rates necessary to maintain the District's financial viability.
- Build and maintain the District's facilities through effective planning, prevention, and corrective maintenance practices.
- Be recognized as an outstanding public utility that is considerate of the operational and service expectations of all customers.
- Have a work environment that fosters employee recruitment and retention, promotes teamwork and safety, and facilitates employees to achieve their full potential.
- Enhance service delivery and protect the natural resources within the Lake Whatcom watershed through cooperative partnerships with other community and governmental organizations.



#### **Code of Ethics**

The Lake Whatcom Water and Sewer District is entrusted with providing essential water and sewer services to our community while protecting the environmental health of Lake Whatcom. This Code of Ethics establishes the core values and standards of conduct for all District commissioners, employees, and volunteers. Our goal is to foster public trust, ensure accountability, and uphold the highest standards of professionalism and environmental stewardship.

#### 1. Integrity and Public Trust

- Act honestly and transparently in all professional activities.
- Avoid conflicts of interest or the appearance thereof; disclose any potential conflicts promptly.
- Do not use District resources, position, or information for personal gain or the benefit of others.

#### 2. Accountability and Responsibility

- Uphold all laws, regulations, and District policies.
- Take responsibility for decisions and actions; correct errors promptly and openly.
- Ensure accurate and timely documentation, reporting, and communication.

#### 3. Environmental Stewardship

- Promote sustainable practices that protect Lake Whatcom and its watershed.
- Prioritize conservation, pollution prevention, and responsible infrastructure planning.
- Support continuous improvement and innovation in environmental performance.

#### 4. Service to the Public

- Serve the community with respect, courtesy, and responsiveness.
- Ensure all individuals are treated equitably and without discrimination.
- Promote open access to public information, meetings, and decision-making processes.

#### 5. Professional Conduct

- Maintain competence and stay informed of best practices in utility operations and governance.
- Foster a respectful, safe, civil, and inclusive workplace.
- Avoid any behavior that could discredit the District or undermine public confidence.

#### 6. Confidentiality and Data Protection

- Protect sensitive information, including customer records and infrastructure security data.
- Share information only as authorized or required by law.

#### 7. Ethical Leadership

- Set a positive example for colleagues, contractors, and community members.
- Support a culture that encourages discussion, training, and the reporting of ethical concerns.
- Address unethical behavior promptly and appropriately.

#### 8. Compliance and Enforcement

Violations of this Code may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or removal from official duties, in accordance with District policy and applicable law.

All employees, officials, and volunteers of the District shall acknowledge their understanding of and commitment to this Code of Ethics as part of their onboarding and periodically thereafter.

whatcom 5	ENDA G BILL m 8.A	General Manager's Report				
DATE SUBMITTED:	August 20, 2025	MEETING DATE	: August 27,	2025		
TO: BOARD OF COMM	IISSIONERS	FROM: Justin Clary, General Manager				
GENERAL MANAGER	APPROVAL	Sotol Clay				
ATTACHED DOCUME	NTS	General Manager's Report				
TYPE OF ACTION REQ	UESTED	RESOLUTION	FORMAL ACTION/ MOTION	INFORMATIONAL /OTHER		

#### **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.



#### LAKE WHATCOM WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

### General Manager's Report Upcoming Dates & Announcements

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, August 27, 2025 – 8:00 a.m.

#### **Important Upcoming Dates**

Lake Whatcom Water & Sewer District							
Regular Board Meeting	Wed Sep 10, 2025	6:30 p.m.	Board Room/Hybrid				
Employee Staff Meeting	Thu Sep 11, 2025	8:00 a.m.	Board Room/Hybrid				
Limptoyee Staff Meeting	1110 Sep 11, 2025	6.00 a.iii.	Commissioner Carter to attend				
Investment Comm. Meeting	Wed Oct 29, 2025	10:00 a.m.	Board Room/Hybrid				
Safety Committee Meeting Thu Aug 28, 2025 8:00 a.m. Board Room							
Lake Whatcom Management F	Program						
Policy Group Meeting	Wed Sep 3, 2025	3:00 p.m.	City of Bellingham Pacific St Ops				
Policy Group Meeting		3.00 p.111.	Center, 2221 Pacific Street				
Joint Councils Meeting	March/April 2026	TBD	TBD				
Other Meetings							
WASWD Section III Meeting	Wed Sep 17, 2025	7:00 a.m.	WASWD Fall Conference				
WASWD Section in Meeting	Wed 3ep 17, 2023	7.00 a.iii.	Spokane Convention Center				
Whatcom County Council of	Wed Oct 8, 2025	3:00 p.m.	Council of Governments Offices				
Governments Board Meeting	VVEU OCI 6, 2025	3.00 p.111.	314 E Champion Street/Hybrid				

#### **Committee Meeting Reports**

#### Safety Committee:

A committee meeting has not been held since the last board meeting.

#### **Investment Committee:**

A committee meeting has not been held since the last board meeting.

#### **Upcoming Board Meeting Topics**

- > On-call unit price public works contract for paving services approval
- > Operations benchmarks development
- Lake Whatcom Management Program invasive mussel rapid response interlocal agreement
- Glen Cove Water Association consolidation consideration
- > Annual general manager performance evaluation

#### 2025 Initiatives Status

#### **Administration and Operations**

#### Water Right Adjudication

Represent the District in the water right adjudication process to ensure that its certificated and permitted rights are protected.

The District received the adjudication documents from Ecology via certified mail on March 19, 2025 and met with District legal counsel on July 16. District staff are now finalizing claim forms specific to each water right for submittal to Whatcom County Superior Court.

#### Safety Program Update

Continue systematic review and revision of District's safety programs by updating nine programs in 2025.

Staff finalized updates to three (3) programs (asbestos-cement pipe handling, trenching/shoring, and lock-out/tag-out) and is reviewing the confined space, lifting/rigging, fall protection, and hearing protection programs. In addition, the District underwent a facility safety consultation with the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries on July 23 to identify any safety concerns; the minor concerns that were identified have since been corrected.

#### APWA Accreditation

Initiate work towards multi-year effort to gain American Public Works Association accreditation.

The accreditation team is reviewing/completing the 273 accreditation practices applicable to the District (73 practices have been completed to-date).

#### Financial Management

Improve financial sustainability and forecasting over 6- and 20-year planning horizons through the Waterworth financial modeling platform.

Potential financial benchmarks were presented to the board for discussion during its July 30 meeting. The benchmarks were refined based upon board direction and adopted by the board during the August 13 meeting. Benchmark attainment will be assessed annually.

#### Management Team Development

Continue professional development of the management team.

The general manager has approved management team member attendance of several trainings and conferences in 2025 pertinent to each's role with the District. The general manager also periodically meets with each manager to assess progress of their annual performance map.

#### **Emergency Response/System Security**

#### **Emergency Readiness**

Continue use of Whatcom County Department of Emergency Management services to hold tabletop and/or field emergency response exercises.

District and Whatcom County Emergency Management Division staff are planning a District-specific emergency response exercise to be held on November 6.

#### **Community/Public Relations**

#### General

Website

The District's web content is reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

Social Media

Posts are made to District Facebook, LinkedIn, and Nextdoor pages regularly; Nextdoor is also regularly monitored for District-related posts.

Press Releases

Press releases were issued on March 6 (Division 22-1 reservoir project FEMA hazard mitigation grant award), May 22 (clean 2024 audit), June 30 (Division 7 reservoirs commissioning), and July 8 (Camp Firwood lift station release).

#### Intergovernmental Relations

- ➤ J Clary has provided ongoing assistance to Sudden Valley Community Association leadership regarding contacts for assisting with management of SVCA's dog park.
- > J Clary and J Dahlstrom have been in communication with South Whatcom Fire Authority regarding power supply issues at the SWFA Geneva station that are similar to issues the District has been experiencing at the Euclid sewer lift station.

#### **Lake Whatcom Water Quality**

#### Lake Whatcom Management Program

➤ Participate in meetings of Lake Whatcom Management Program partners.

J Clary attended the data group meeting on August 14 and a meeting on August 20 in preparation for the next policy group meeting, and is scheduled to attend the interjurisdictional coordinating team meeting on August 27.



# **Engineering Department Report**

DATE SUBMITTED:	August 19, 2025	MEETING DATI	E: August 27,	2025		
TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS		FROM: Greg Nicoll, Engineering				
CENEDAL MANACED ADDDOVAL		atd day	Manager/District Engineer			
GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL		70.0(				
ATTACHED DOCUMENTS		Summary of Capital Improvement Projects				
TYPE OF ACTION REQUESTED		RESOLUTION	FORMAL ACTION/ MOTION	INFORMATIONAL /OTHER		
				$\boxtimes$		

#### **BACKGROUND / EXPLANATION OF IMPACT**

Updated information regarding District projects and current priorities in advance of the Board meeting.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

#### **RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION**

None required.

#### **PROPOSED MOTION**

None.

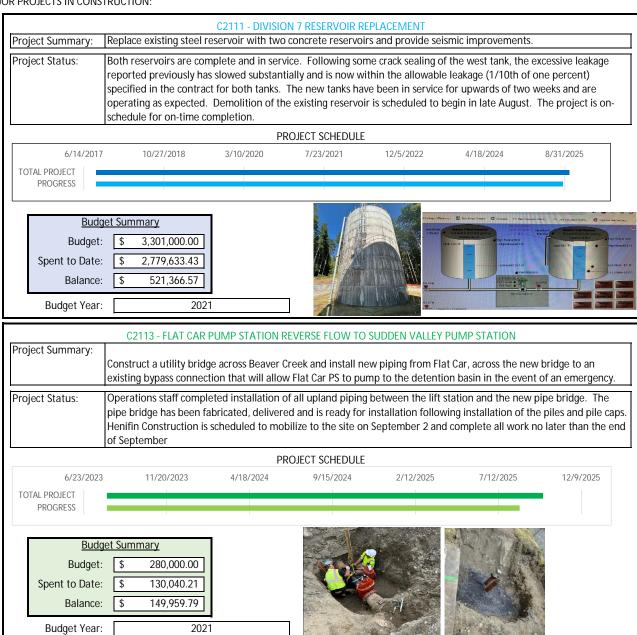
#### SUMMARY OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Updated: 8/19/2025 Prepared by: G. Nicoll

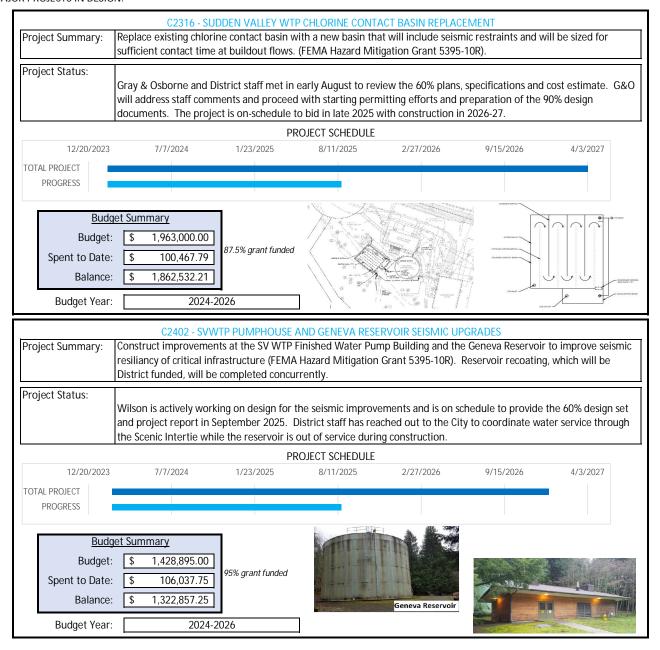


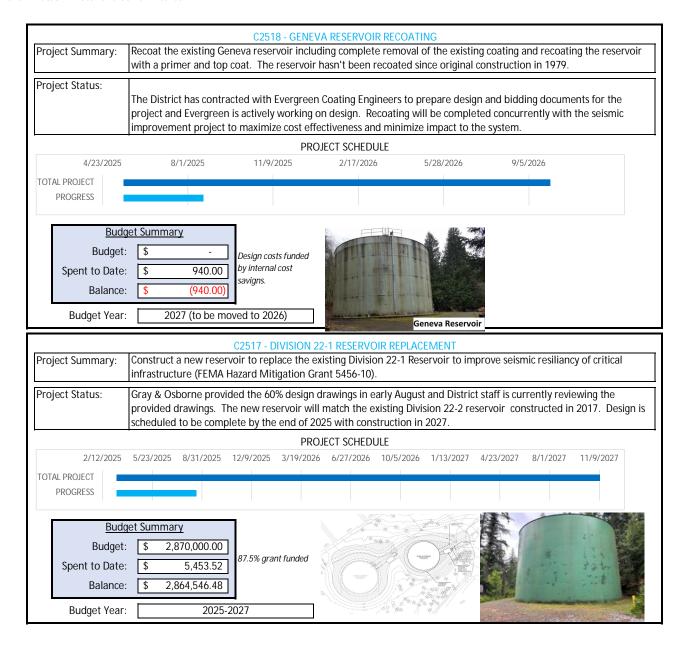


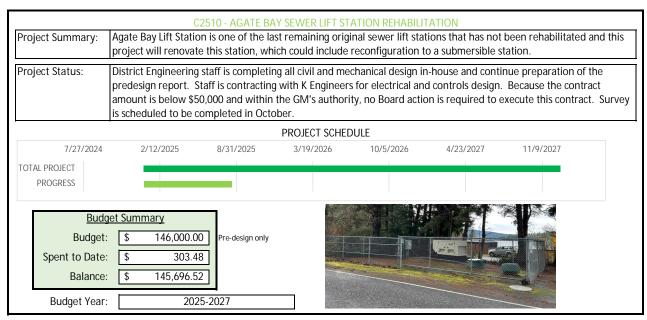
#### MAJOR PROJECTS IN CONSTRUCTION:



#### MAJOR PROJECTS IN DESIGN:







#### OTHER ACTIVE PROJECTS:

#### C2506: Physical Security Improvements

Status: Multi-year project to improve security at critical District facilities. The 2025 improvements focus on physical improvements including intrusion switches on reservoir hatches, reservoir ladder security improvements and lock replacement. Limit switch installation and lock replacement is complete. The District contracted with Dawson construction to install expanded metal cages around the lower portion of reservoir ladders. All work is complete and this phase of work will be closed out following final invoicing from the contractor.

 Budget Year:
 2025
 Projected Completion:
 September 2025

 Budget Summary

 Budget:
 \$ 37,000.00
 Spent to Date:
 \$ 14,966.11
 Balance:
 \$ 22,033.89

#### PROJECTS COMPLETED IN PAST 12 MONTHS

Project #	Project Name	Budget	Spent	Balance
C 2516	Sudden Valley WTP Pump House Skylight Replacement	O&M	\$ 17,408.00	N/A
C 2511	Lake Whatcom Boulevard Interceptor Cured In Place Pipe	\$ 195,000.00	\$ 192,271.36	\$ 2,728.64
C 2505	Scenic Intertie Rehabilitation	\$ 78,000.00	\$ 64,030.29	\$ 13,969.71
C 2509	Eagleridge Booster Station Building Roof	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 15,669.84	\$ 5,330.16
C 2513	Administration Building HVAC Improvements	O&M	\$ 20,282.37	N/A
C 2112	Rocky Ridge and Lakewood Lift Stations Rehabilitation	\$ 2,116,353.00	\$ 1,791,512.87	\$ 324,840.13
C 2303	SVWTP Alum System Replacement	\$ 88,000.00	\$ 74,405.95	\$ 13,594.05
C 2304	Eagleridge Diesel Fuel Tank Replacement	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 12,222.48	\$ 12,777.52
M 2410	Midnight Court Sewer Repair	O&M	\$ 41,001.00	N/A
A 2210	Reservoir and WTP Site Security Assessment	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
C 1802	Delesta, Edgewater and Euclid Lift Stations	\$ 1,816,583.06	\$ 1,762,153.54	\$ 54,429.52

lake whatcom	ENDA Fir BILL m 8.C	inance Department Report				
DATE SUBMITTED:	August 11, 2025	MEETING DATE:	August 27, 2	2025		
TO: BOARD OF COM	MISSIONERS	FROM: Jennifer Signs, Finance Manager				
GENERAL MANAGER	APPROVAL	Sotolog				
		1. July Financial Report				
ATTACHED DOCUME	NTS	2. July Cash & Investment Report				
		3. July Utility Ad	ccount Adjustme	nts		
		RESOLUTION	FORMAL ACTION/	INFORMATIONAL		
TYPE OF ACTION REC	QUESTED		MOTION	/OTHER ⊠		

#### **BACKGROUND / EXPLANATION OF IMPACT**

Updated information regarding District finances in advance of the Board meeting.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None

#### **APPLICABLE EFFECTIVE UTILITY MANAGEMENT ATTRIBUTE(S)**

Financial Viability

#### **RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION**

None required.

#### **PROPOSED MOTION**

None

Lake Whatcom W-S District

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					<u> </u>	
401 Water Fu	nd					
Revenues		Amt Budgeted	July	YTD	Remaining	
330 State Gener	rated Revenues					
331 66 00 01	Federal Direct Grant - EPA	220,000.00	0.00	0.00	220,000.00	100.0%
333 97 00 02	Federal Indirect Grant Homeland Security	1,770,183.00	24,832.56	717,741.24	1,052,441.76	59.5%
334 01 80 01	State Grant From Military Department	681,626.00	4,138.78	119,623.57	562,002.43	82.5%
330 State G	enerated Revenues	2,671,809.00	28,971.34	837,364.81	1,834,444.19	68.7%
340 Charges Fo	or Services					
343 40 10 00	Water Sales Metered	3,239,670.00	220,828.61	1,721,758.38	1,517,911.62	46.9%
343 41 10 01	General Facilities Charges - Water	105,485.00	41,105.41	62,222.41	43,262.59	41.0%
340 Charges	s For Services	3,345,155.00	261,934.02	1,783,980.79	1,561,174.21	46.7%
350 Fines & Fo	orfeitures					
359 81 10 00	Combined Fees	12,500.00	625.62	3,504.20	8,995.80	72.0%
359 90 00 00	Late Fees	65,000.00	5,715.75	44,481.71	20,518.29	31.6%
350 Fines &	z Forfeitures	77,500.00	6,341.37	47,985.91	29,514.09	38.1%
360 Misc Rever	nues					
361 11 00 00	Investment Interest	118,000.00	30,395.80	105,065.68	12,934.32	11.0%
369 40 00 00	Project Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	1,896.89	(1,896.89)	0.0%
369 91 01 00	Miscellaneous	1,000.00	0.00	356.68	643.32	64.3%
360 Misc Ro	evenues	119,000.00	30,395.80	107,319.25	11,680.75	9.8%
390 Other Reve	enues					
391 80 00 01	Intergovernmental Loans	800,000.00	0.00	486,564.08	313,435.92	39.2%
390 Other R	Revenues	800,000.00	0.00	486,564.08	313,435.92	39.2%
Fund Revenue	s:	7,013,464.00	327,642.53	3,263,214.84	3,750,249.16	53.5%
Expenditures		Amt Budgeted	July	YTD	Remaining	
534 Water Utili	ities					
534 10 10 00	Water - Gen Admin Payroll	398,451.00	31,427.32	231,684.63	166,766.37	41.9%
534 10 20 00	Water - Gen Admin Personnel Benefits	163,307.00	12,492.00	92,965.27	70,341.73	43.1%
534 10 31 00	Water - Gen Admin Supplies	12,500.00	656.48	3,238.78	9,261.22	74.1%
534 10 31 01	Water - Meetings/Team building	3,200.00	142.84	2,021.69	1,178.31	36.8%
534 10 40 00	Water - Merchant Serivces Fees	19,700.00	2,687.41	12,493.62	7,206.38	36.6%
534 10 40 01 534 10 41 00	Water - Bank Fees Water - Quality Assurance	750.00 87,800.00	64.55 0.00	193.48 8,221.60	556.52 79,578.40	74.2% 90.6%
	Programs					
534 10 41 01	Water - Gen Admin Prof Srvc	116,315.00	12,117.53 0.00	69,125.69	47,189.31 842.25	40.6%
534 10 41 02 534 10 41 03	Water- Engineering Srvc Water - Legal Srvc	9,000.00 31,000.00	2,910.00	8,157.75 21,682.75	9,317.25	9.4% 30.1%
534 10 41 05	Water - Admin Communication	34,000.00	3,972.56	21,632.73	12,367.29	36.4%
534 10 42 00	Water - Software/IT Subscriptions	90,310.00	337.00	40,201.13	50,108.87	55.5%
534 10 46 00	Water - Gen Admin Insurance	89,000.00	71.00	237.50	88 <b>,762,6</b> 03	3 99F.74VB

Lake Whatcom W-S District

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401 Water Fu	nd					
Expenditures		Amt Budgeted	July	YTD	Remaining	
534 Water Util	ities					
534 10 49 00	Water - Gen Admin Misc	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	100.0%
534 10 49 01	Water-	21,100.00	169.05	15,251.34	5,848.66	27.7%
	Memberships/Dues/Permits					
534 10 49 02	Water - Taxes	177,800.00	17,074.16	92,154.87	85,645.13	48.2%
534 40 43 00	Water - Admin Training &Travel	13,000.00	752.41	5,373.07	7,626.93	58.7%
534 40 43 01	Water- Tuition Reimbursement	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	100.0%
534 50 31 00	Water - Maintenance Supplies	120,500.00	10,956.49	66,392.82	54,107.18	44.9%
534 50 31 01	Water- Small Assets	48,000.00	81.74	15,605.14	32,394.86	67.5%
534 50 48 00	Water - Repair & Maint	163,400.00	4,096.84	63,074.63	100,325.37	61.4%
534 50 49 00	Water - Insurance Claims	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	100.0%
534 60 41 00	Water - Operations Contracted (Edge Analytical)	12,500.00	3,742.00	9,095.36	3,404.64	27.2%
534 60 47 00	Water - City of Bellingham	62,920.00	6,000.99	28,028.57	34,891.43	55.5%
534 80 10 00	Water - Operations Payroll	734,736.00	63,850.82	441,127.77	293,608.23	40.0%
534 80 20 00	Water - Operations Personnel Benefits	340,742.00	26,863.02	186,078.10	154,663.90	45.4%
534 80 32 00	Water - Operations Fuel	31,900.00	2,992.51	12,612.76	19,287.24	60.5%
534 80 35 00	Water - Safety Supplies	10,000.00	54.67	3,528.68	6,471.32	64.7%
534 80 35 01	Water - Safety Boots	1,400.00	0.00	419.17	980.83	70.1%
534 80 35 02	Water - Emergency Preparedness	3,000.00	0.00	621.30	2,378.70	79.3%
534 80 43 00	Water - Operation Training/Travel/Certifications	13,000.00	2,292.02	8,592.30	4,407.70	33.9%
534 80 47 00	Water - Ops Utilities	156,200.00	13,462.26	104,748.32	51,451.68	32.9%
534 80 49 00	Water - Operations Laundry	2,000.00	146.23	900.97	1,099.03	55.0%
534 Water V	Utilities	2,973,231.00	219,413.90	1,565,461.77	1,407,769.23	47.3%
580 Non Exped	litures					
589 99 99 99	Payroll Benefit Liabilities	0.00	6,043.52	2,413.35	(2,413.35)	0.0%
580 Non Ex	xpeditures	0.00	6,043.52	2,413.35	(2,413.35)	0.0%
501 D. l. G			,	,	, ,	
591 Debt Servi		110.020.00	0.00	0.00	110.020.00	100.00/
591 34 77 01	Geneva AC Mains Principal	119,938.00	0.00	0.00	119,938.00	100.0%
591 34 77 02	Div 22 Reservoir Principal	65,475.00	0.00	0.00	65,475.00	100.0%
591 34 77 03	Public Works Board Loan - Division 7 Principal	8,269.00	0.00	8,268.07	0.93	0.0%
592 34 83 01	Geneva AC Mains Interest	19,790.00	0.00	0.00	19,790.00	100.0%
592 34 83 02	Div 22 Reservoir Interest	12,768.00	0.00	0.00	12,768.00	100.0%
592 34 83 03	Public Works Board Loan - Division 7 Interest	600.00	0.00	600.45	(0.45)	0.0%
591 Debt Se	ervice	226,840.00	0.00	8,868.52	217,971.48	96.1%
594 Capital Ex	penditures					
594 34 60 01	Capital Outlay - Budget Only	2,787,600.00	0.00	0.00	2,787,600.00	100.0%
594 34 62 01	Capital Projects - Water Structures	0.00	140,286.68	1,595,954.20	(1,595,954.20)	0.0%
594 34 63 01	Capital Projects - Water System	0.00	0.00	5,188.27	(5,188.27)	0.0%
594 34 64 01	Capital Outlay - Water	0.00	83.38	88,058.32	(88,058.32)	0.0%
57 1 5 <del>7</del> 6 <del>7</del> 61	Equipment	0.00	03.30	50,050.52	(00,030.32)	0.070
594 34 65 01	Capital Outlay - Small Water Projects	0.00	0.00	103.87	(103.87)	0.0%
594 Capital	Expenditures	2,787,600.00	140,370.06	1,689,304.66	1,098,295,34 <sub>3</sub>	39 4%
1	•	_, ,000.00	2.0,0,000	-,,	Page 3	54 OT 43

Lake Whatcom W-S District			Time: 13:42:	35 Date: (	08/11/2025
				Page:	3
401 Water Fund					
Expenditures	Amt Budgeted	July	YTD	Remainii	ng
Fund Expenditures:	5,987,671.00	365,827.48	3,266,048.30	2,721,622.	70 45.5%
Fund Excess/(Deficit):	1,025,793.00	(38,184.95)	(2,833.46)		

Lake Whatcom W-S District

Sewer - Operations Personnel

Benefits

535 80 20 00

Time: 13:42:35 Date: 08/11/2025 Page: 4 402 Sewer Fund Amt Budgeted YTD Remaining Revenues July 330 State Generated Revenues 334 01 80 00 State Grant From Military 0.00 0.00 18,290.00 0.0% (18,290.00)Department 330 State Generated Revenues 0.00 0.00 18,290.00 0.0% (18,290.00)340 Charges For Services 343 50 11 00 Sewer Service Residential 5.047.572.00 351.508.50 2.923.071.50 2.124.500.50 42.1% 343 50 19 00 Sewer Service Other 41.5% 5,750.00 387.59 3,363.10 2,386.90 343 50 80 00 Latecomers Fee ULID #18 0.00 9,759.57 9,759.57 (9,759.57)0.0% 125,380.00 79,548.96 343 51 10 02 General Facilities Charges -52,852.64 45,831.04 36.6% Sewer 340 Charges For Services 5,178,702.00 414,508.30 3,015,743.13 2,162,958.87 41.8% 360 Misc Revenues 30,395.81 105,065.76 361 11 00 02 **Investment Interest** 118,000.00 12,934.24 11.0% Project Reimbuirsement 369 40 00 02 4,142.00 0.00 0.00 4,142.00 100.0% 369 91 01 02 Miscellaneous 0.00 141.67 85.8% 1,000.00 858.33 360 Misc Revenues 123,142.00 30,395.81 105,207.43 17,934,57 14.6% **Fund Revenues:** 5,301,844.00 444,904.11 3,139,240.56 2,162,603.44 40.8% Amt Budgeted **YTD** Remaining **Expenditures** July 535 Sewer 41.9% 535 10 10 00 Sewer - Admin Payroll 31,427.25 231,684.02 166,766.98 398,451.00 535 10 20 00 Sewer - Gen Admin Personnel 163,307.00 12,491.18 92,758.04 70,548.96 43.2% Benefits 535 10 31 00 Sewer - Gen Admin Supplies 12,500.00 574.80 2,999.70 9,500.30 76.0% Sewer - Meetings/Team Building 535 10 31 01 3,200.00 142.84 2,163.77 1,036.23 32.4% Sewer - Merchant Services Fees 535 10 40 00 18,000.00 2,687.42 12,493.66 5,506.34 30.6% 535 10 40 01 Sewer - Bank Fees 64.55 193.43 74.2% 750.00 556.57 Sewer - Gen Admin Prof Srvc 535 10 41 01 116,315.00 11,342.49 68,597.43 47,717.57 41.0% 535 10 41 02 Sewer - Engineering Srvc 9,000.00 0.00 0.00 9,000.00 100.0% 535 10 41 03 Sewer - Legal Srvc 2,140.50 9,810.25 31,000.00 21,189.75 68.4% 535 10 42 00 Sewer - Admin Communication 34,000.00 3,946.36 21,606.16 12,393.84 36.5% 535 10 43 00 Sewer - Software/IT 99,960.00 51,097.23 51.1% 337.00 48,862.77 Subscriptions Sewer - Gen Admin Insurance 89,000.00 71.00 99.7% 535 10 46 00 237.50 88,762.50 Sewer - Gen Admin Misc 100.0% 535 10 49 00 200.00 0.00 0.00 200.00 Sewer -42.6% 535 10 49 01 16,220.00 169.06 9,311.60 6,908.40 Memberships/Dues/Permits 535 10 49 02 Sewer - Taxes 129,650.00 14,726.77 69,911.35 59,738.65 46.1% Sewer - Gen Admin TrainIng 535 40 43 00 13,000.00 752.48 5,373.18 7,626.82 58.7% &Travel Sewer - Tuition Reimbursement 0.00 100.0% 535 40 43 01 500.00 0.00 500.00 535 50 31 00 Sewer - Maintenance Supplies 3.588.61 17.388.55 45,000.00 27.611.45 61.4% Sewer - Small Assets 48.1% 535 50 31 01 9,770.40 21,812.30 20,187.70 42,000.00 Sewer - Repair & Maint 44.7% 535 50 48 00 197,950.00 11,315.24 109,420.75 88,529.25 Sewer - Insurance Claims 535 50 49 00 2,500.00 0.00 0.00 2,500.00 100.0% 535 60 47 00 Sewer - City of Bellingham 865,350.00 30,216.60 417,573.25 447,776.75 51.7% Sewer - Operations Payroll 42.2% 535 80 10 00 625,864.00 51,850.05 361,986.50 263,877.50

284,947.00

21,961.04

152,740.39

132,206.61

46.4%

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Time: 13:42:35 Date:

08/11/2025

0.0%

44.8%

51.0%

(85,566.55)

832,170.49

3,007,115.80

Lake Whatcom W-S District

Capital Outlay - Sewer

Equipment

594 Capital Expenditures

594 35 64 02

**Fund Expenditures:** 

Fund Excess/(Deficit):

Page: 5 402 Sewer Fund **Expenditures** Amt Budgeted YTD Remaining July 535 Sewer 535 80 32 00 Sewer - Operations Fuel 31,900.00 2,992.53 12,560.62 19,339.38 60.6% Sewer - Safety Supplies 535 80 35 00 64.9% 10,000.00 54.65 3,505.19 6,494.81 Sewer - Safety Boots 535 80 35 01 1,400.00 0.00 419.14 980.86 70.1% Sewer - Emergency Preparedness 535 80 35 02 5,000.00 0.00 621.30 4,378.70 87.6% Sewer - Operations 535 80 43 00 13,000.00 2,292.05 9,997.99 3,002.01 23.1% Training/Travel/Certification 535 80 47 00 Sewer - Ops Utilities 160,000.00 11,166.37 105,851.92 54,148.08 33.8% Sewer - Operations Laundry 535 80 49 00 2,500.00 146.17 900.43 1,599.57 64.0% 535 Sewer 226,227.41 1,790,781.19 47.7% 3,422,464.00 1,631,682.81 591 Debt Service 591 35 77 02 Bond 2016 Principal 490,000.00 0.00 0.00 490,000.00 100.0% Bond 2016 Interest 591 35 83 02 0.00 42.2% 126,125.00 72,862.50 53,262.50 591 Debt Service 0.00 72,862.50 616,125.00 543,262.50 88.2% 594 Capital Expenditures 594 35 60 02 Capital Outlay - Budget Only 1,857,000.00 0.00 0.00 1,857,000.00 100.0% Capital Projects - Sewer 594 35 62 02 0.00 205,048.59 793,918.84 (793,918.84)0.0% Structures 594 35 63 02 Capital Projects- Sewer System 0.00 20,378.79 145,344.12 (145, 344.12)0.0%

0.00

1,857,000.00

5,895,589.00

(593,745.00)

83.38

225,510.76

451,738.17

(6,834.06)

85,566.55

1,024,829.51

2,888,473.20

250,767.36



#### LAKE WHATCOM WATER AND SEWER

#### INVESTMENTS/CASH AS OF 07/31/2025

Petty Cash Cash Debt Service Account Public Funds Account WA Federal Local Gov't Investment Pool		\$ 1,600 \$ 1,379,539 \$ 646,125 \$ 31,485 \$ 2,058,749 \$ 4,021,548			2.940% 4.392%
		PRINCIPAL COST	MARKET VALUE	MATURITY DATE	YIELD
US Treasury Note	Non-callable	\$ 747,615	\$ 810,000	Dec-25	4.440%
US Treasury Note	Non-callable	\$ 797,274	\$ 855,000	Jan-26	3.950%
US Treasury Note	Non-callable	\$ 467,667	\$ 500,000	Jun-26	4.500%
US Treasury Note	Non-callable	\$ 534,034	\$ 515,000	Jun-27	3.724%
US Bank Short-Term Money Market	Holding Account	\$ 545,282			4.110%
US Bank Trust		\$ 3,091,872	\$ 2,680,000		
TOTAL		\$ 9,172,169			
USE OF FUNDS:					
Bond Reserve - Restricted	\$ 646,125				
Contingency - Assigned	\$ 1,298,355				
Operating Reserves	\$ 1,185,000				
Operating Assigned	\$ 6,042,689				
		\$ 9,172,169			
Fund Balance Summary					
Water Utility Fund (401)	<u>\$</u> 2,167,984				
Sewer Utility Fund (402)	\$ 5,086,060				
Sewer Contingency Fund (425)	\$ 815,000				
Water Contingency Fund (426)	\$ 460,000				
Bond Reserve Fund (460)	\$ 646,125	<u>-</u>			
		\$ 9,175,169			



### LAKE WHATCOM WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT July 2025 Utility Account Adjustments

Cuddon 2	Valley	Adjustments
Suuuen	valley	Adiustillelits

Late Fee Credits	\$ 277.38
High Use/Leak Credits	\$ 130.92

#### North Shore/Geneva

Ψ	285.34
\$	159.27

Total Account Adjustments \$ 852.91

AGENDA Operations Department BILL Report Item 8.D									
DATE SUBMITTED:	August 20, 2025	MEETING DATE	E: August 27,	2025					
TO: BOARD OF COM	IISSIONERS	FROM: Jason Dahlstrom, Operations & Maintenance Manager							
GENERAL MANAGER	APPROVAL	Sotollar							
ATTACHED DOCUME	NITO	Operations Department Report							
ATTACHED DOCUME	NIS	2. Status of D	istrict Water & Se	wer Systems					
TYPE OF ACTION REQ	UESTED	RESOLUTION	FORMAL ACTION/ MOTION	INFORMATIONAL /OTHER					

#### **BACKGROUND / EXPLANATION OF IMPACT**

Updated information regarding District operations in advance of the Board meeting.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

#### **RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION**

None required.

#### **PROPOSED MOTION**

None.



### Lake Whatcom Water & Sewer District Operations & Maintenance Department Report

Prepared for the August 27, 2025 Board Meeting Data Compiled 8/20/25

State Required Report Status													
	Monthly Reports												
Name Of Report						Со	mp	let	ed				
Chlorination Report Agate Heights Prepared by: K Cook	Postmarked by the 10th of month	X X X A May X X X A Luly Sept Nov						Dec					
Surface Water Treatment Rule Report (SVWTP) Prepared by: K Cook	Postmarked by the 10th of month	× Jan	x Feb	x Mar	x Apr	x May	x June	× July	x Aug ×	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
. ropanou zyrik osak	Annual Reports		1				1			ļ.			
Name Of Report Deadline Completed													
WA State Cross Connection Report Prepared by: R Munson	May	April 22, 2025											
OSHA 300 Log Prepared by: R Munson	February 1				Ja	nua	ary :	30,	202	:5			
Water Use Efficiency Performance Report Prepared by: K Cook	July 1	January 22, 2025											
Community Right to Know (Hazardous Materials) Prepared by: R Munson	March 31	January 9, 2025											
Northwest Clean Air Emissions Report	February 1	March 3, 2025											
Consumer Confidence Reports Prepared by: K Cook	June 30	Geneva         SV         EagleR         Agate H           6/17/25         6/17/25         6/17/25         6/17/25											
	Other Reports												
Name Of Report Deadline Last Completed													
CPR/First Aid Training Coordinated by: R Munson	Due Biennially Next Due 2027	February 27, 2025											
Flagging Card Training Coordinated by: R Munson	Due Triennially Next Due 2025			0	ngo	ing	wit	h O	&M	sta	ıff		

Safety Program Summary						
	Completed by Rich Munson					
	Summary of Annual Safety Training					
2024/25 Testing Period - Dec 2024 to April 4, 2025						
% Complete						
Engineering - Managers		100%				
Engineering - Staff		100%				
Field Crew - Managers		100%				
Field Crew - Staff		100%				
Office - Managers		100%				
Office - Staff		100%				
Overall 100%						

Safety meetings for the field crew tak	e place every Thursday a	t 8 a.m.						
Dates of	Completed Safety Con	nmittee	Ме	etings				
1.23.25	5.22.25							
2.20.25	6.26.25							
3.20.25	7.24.25							
4.24.25	8.21.25							
Summa	ry of Work-Related Inju	ıries & II	llne	sses				
Total Number of Work Related Injurie	s	Currer Montl		2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Defined as a work related injury or illness that results in:  Death  Medical treatment beyond first aid  Eoss of consciousness  Significant injury or illness diagnosed by a licensed health care professional  Days away from work (off work)  Restricted work or job transfer		0		0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Days of Job Transfer (light duty or other medical restriction		0		0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Days Away from Work (at home, in hospital, not at work)	rk	0		0	0	0	0	0
Near Misses		0		0	0	0	0	0
	Safety Coordinator U	pdate						

## Status of District Water and Sewer Systems Prepared by Jason Dahlstrom - Operations and Maintenance Manager 8/27/2025 Board Meeting

#### **Safety Activities**

- 1. No time-loss injuries or near misses.
- 2. Daily safety reminders directly relevant to the day's tasks. Weekly safety trainings based on District specific safety programs.
- 3. Jobsite tailgate meetings by project lead.

#### Water Utility Activities

#### Water Treatment Plants

- 1. Sudden Valley
  - a. Plant is operating well, averaging 0.7 million gallons per day (MGD) at 700 GPM.
  - b. Water use is consistent with typical seasonal usage.
- 2. Agate Heights
  - a. Plant is operating well.
  - b. Water use is consistent with typical seasonal usage.

#### Distribution System

- 1. 1 water leak repaired this month
- 2. Annual pressure reducing valve maintenance ongoing
- 3. New Division 7 reservoirs in full operation

### Sewer Utility Activities

#### Lift Stations

1. Flat Car bypass project ongoing, bridge installation in September

#### Collection System

1. Sewer camera inspections ongoing, emphasis on defect inspections

#### Fleet

#### Vehicles

1. Nothing new to report

#### Equipment

- 1. Flat Car generator fuel injector repair
- 2. Portable 185kW generator breaker replacement

#### **Facilities**

1. Nothing new to report

#### Training

1. Nothing new to report

#### Development

1. There are 6 permits currently in stages of development