

Whidbey Island Water Systems Association

General Membership Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2021

I. Call to Order

John Lovie called to order the regular meeting of the Whidbey Island Water System Association General Membership Meeting at 5:00 pm on March 18, 2021 online via zoom.

II. Quorum Call and Introductions

Confirmation of a quorum was made. Panelist introduced themselves. Present: WIWSA-John Lovie, Randi Perry, Bethel Hart, Joe Grogan, and Culley Lehman. State Department of Health Office of Drinking Water – Ingrid Salmon, Brandon Katz, Bob James. Island County Department of Health – Lori Clark, Aneta Hupfauer, Doug Kelly.

III. Approval of Agenda

Lovie presented the Agenda. Hart made motion to approve agenda. Second made by Perry. Zoom poll launched, agenda approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Perry presented minutes for December 2020 General Membership meeting. Hart made a motion to approve the agenda. Second made by Lehman. Zoom poll launched, minutes approved.

V. Treasurer's Report

- a) Hart presented the Treasurer's Report. Bank account balance is \$19,798.58, We've received \$1868.27 in dues. \$21,666.88 ending balance. Perry made motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Second made by Lehman. Zoom poll launched, Treasurer's Report approved.
- b) Paypal is now an option for dues payment or payment of any classes we offer.

VI. Special Announcements

- a) Advertisement preparation underway for the apprentice scholarship. A few local water systems are interested in hosting the interns.
- b) Island County - Lori Clark announced that Jill Wood left Island County. Lori is the Interim Director for the Department of Health (DOH). Doug Kelly is preparing for retirement; he plans to work one day per week for some time. They are working on advertisement for job posting.
- c) State DOH- Derek Pell is preparing for retirement in about a year. He is currently the Deputy Director and covering the NW Region office director position. Denis M. has moved, and Bob James is covering his position.
- d) Island County- Aneta announced the planning department has made changes to the code regarding dwelling units. Group B systems are required to count detached ADU's as a service connection, the addition of these types of connections may trigger and increase to group A, or capacity study. Group A systems must count as connection but has the discretion as to whether to approve depending on capacity. Lovie recommends reviewing bylaws so each water system knows how this situation will be addressed prior to it coming up. The planning commission website contains more information about the code changes and process. Aneta encourages everyone to sign up for island county notifications at www.Islandcountywa.gov/pages/home.aspx There is a box in the corner, enter your address and subscribe then choose which notifications interest you.
- e) Asset management - WIWSA is looking into working with DOH and RCAC to coordinate small work sessions to provide additional assistance. A show of hands indicated most members in attendance would like to participate.
- f) June meeting will most likely be on Zoom, Topic will be water system organizations. September code changes will be covered, PFAS public comment is expected in October. December will be annual meeting and system security will be discussed.

VII. Meeting Program

Department of Health - Ingrid Salmon and Brandon Katz Presented the basics of Coliform and E. coli response. Total coliform is commonly found in the environment, when found in the drinking water system it is used as an indication there is a pathway for contamination to enter. E. coli is a subgroup of Total Coliform and when found in the drinking water system almost always indicates a recent fecal contamination. When found and confirmed requires a boil order to be issued. The Total Coliform Rule requires systems to find and fix water quality changes are present (total coliform, E. coli present), requires fewer samples than the earlier rule and requires systems to self-assess.

- If routine monthly coliform Sample is TC+ or EC+, collect 3 repeats within 24 hours. One at the + site, one within 5 active connections upstream and one within 5 active connections downstream and collect at each active groundwater source. If a repeat is EC+ public notification is required within 24 hours of result report.

Minutes submitted by: Randi Perry

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General Membership Meeting Minutes

Randi Perry – Langley lab is accredited to test drinking water for Total Coliform and E. coli (presence and absence). Randi received a call regarding an E.coli sample from someone who had posted on Facebook about the Vistaire positive. Randi reached out to the Vistaire system offering assistance, the Langley lab was able to test multiple samples and assist in troubleshooting the E.coli response. Langley had an EC+ sample in July 2020 sample occurred at a property- outdoor spigot with a vacuum breaker. The crew was able to hand deliver notifications to all customers, but it was a scramble. Island County-Aneta came and did an assessment and determined that there were bugs in the vacuum breaker. Langley is working to install dedicated sample taps so on-premises sampling is no longer necessary.

Joe Grogan- had an issue with a lost sample. The chain of custody form travels with the bottle and they had no record of the sample being taken. This is a tier 2 violation. Coupeville recommends having a copy of location when and where samples are taken.

Floor was open to discussion/questions- Best management practices include routine inspection and cleaning of storage tanks. Always looking for potential pathways, routinely monitoring of residual. Law doesn't say not to sample from faucets with vacuum breakers, DOH says the best device is smooth nose with no threads. Have an EC+ response plan in place, know your water system boundaries, and have a good service map. Polling questions were launched 15% participants had TC+ sample, 69% NO, 15% didn't know. 8% participants had EC+ 77% NO, 15% did not know. 85% participants storage tank is concrete and 48% disinfect 41% did not and 11% did not know.

Adjournment John Lovie adjourned the meeting at 7:26 pm