

# **Whidbey Island Water Systems Association**

## **General Membership Meeting Minutes**

**September 20, 2017**

### **I. Call to Order**

Jim Patton called to order the regular meeting of the Whidbey Island Water System Association General Membership Meeting at 5:00 pm on September 20, 2017 at the Race Road Fire Station.

### **II. Quorum Call**

Confirmation of a quorum was made.

### **III. Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made to approve the agenda, a second received from the crowd. Motion approved unanimously.

### **IV. Approval of Minutes from last meeting**

Jim Patton presented minutes as prepared by Randi Perry. A motion was made from the floor to approve June 15, 2017 General Membership Meeting Minutes, second from the floor, motion passed unanimously.

### **V. Treasurer's Report**

John Lovie presented the balance sheet and previous year comparison. Membership revenue is up. Question from the floor "what are we doing with the money in the bank?" Patton gave an overview of Pre-Apprentice initiative, and requested additional ideas from the attendees. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report, second from the floor, motion passed unanimously.

### **VI. Pass the word**

Jim Patton 2018 Membership Meetings will be held at Race Road Fire Station 5-7pm March 21, June 20, September 19, and December 19. Patton requested folks submit ideas for future meetings.

### **VII. Introductions & Meeting theme**

Jim Patton introduced the Theme- Preparations for a natural disaster that may deny access to your ground water. He requested all present to introduce themselves. Patton then introduced program presenters; DOH, NW Regional Planner- Jennifer Kropack, Island County Emergency Services Manager- Eric Brooks, Island County Hydrogeologist-Doug Kelly, Island County Health Department-Vin Sherman.

### **VIII. Meeting Program "Preparation for a Natural Disaster"**

**Jennifer Kropack-** Jennifer began by expressing the importance of understanding what the "Big One-earthquake" might feel like. Knowing what to expect will help in planning for possibilities. She began by reading an excerpt from Mark Risner story "a Dangerous place" which painted a vivid picture of what to expect. WAWARN.org is an organization that can facilitate utilities helping utilities in a water or wastewater disaster. She encouraged systems to sign up.

**Eric Brooks-** Eric started "It isn't if but when the big one will occur". It is important to encourage personal preparation, standard is 14 days as outside help will take time. The first response step will be to assess the damage which could take a week or longer to grasp how big and how bad the event was, and determine what is needed where. Resources will then begin to come in regionally (Island, Skagit, Skokomish, and San Juan counties) distribution points will be set up most likely helicoptered pallets of bottled water. Work is underway to obtain grant funding for a hazard mitigation plan update. Eric promoted CERT training, a 20 hour program that includes first aid, life search and rescue, and goes through full scale exercise. Also discussed was Map your neighborhood to identify the needs of folks in close proximity. Communication discussion took place, Comcast to maintain emergency power 48 hours to internet/cell towers. NOAA radio will have updates. Libraries will serve as information hubs.

**Doug Kelly-** What do we expect? Liquefaction will take out some infrastructure and wells. Wells will become turbid, initially. Aquifers may become turbid or lost completely and piping/reservoirs destroyed. BUT... Island County has 10,000 wells, this is bad for water quality, but good for emergency planning! Smaller wells will be able to provide for some of the water demand.

**Vin Sherman-** Is the water healthy? Overall the answer is yes, the aquifers are healthy. Minerals are o.k., treatment of water doesn't need to be the focus for short term survival. Propane is the preferred fuel for generators. Iodine tablets are great for individual's to keep on hand for bacterial concerns. Water should be stored in food grade containers and off the ground in a dry area. Resilience- plan for seismic upgrades in infrastructure projects.

**Floor was open to discussion/questions.**

### **IX. Adjournment** Jim Patton adjourned the meeting at 6:54 pm

Minutes submitted by: Randi Perry