

SunLand Water District
Public Forum
May 1, 2012

The meeting was opened by Pepper Putnam, President at 4:30 p.m. Mr. Putnam welcomed those present and gave accolades to a terrific staff of seven people who run the water distribution, sewage treatment facility, and offices. He introduced Mike Langley, District Manager. A slide presentation created by Commissioners and Staff was to be presented and there would be time for questions and answers at the end.

Mike Langley stated that Commissioners Putnam, Friess, and Larison, SunLand's elected officials, were excellent to work with. He introduced Mike Cays, Lead Treatment Plant Operator, who was in attendance.

Mr. Langley reviewed some of SWD's most recent accomplishments, and reported that the Department of Ecology has notified The District that it is being awarded a 100% Compliance Award. SWD had been awarded a low-interest Public Works Trust Fund Loan for improvements to the Sewage Treatment Plant that are either mandated by the State or are needed for the health and safety of employees and the public in general. He listed the projects that must be completed in 2012 and summarized the major improvements that loan funds will be used for over the next three to five years.

A progress report on the meter setter installation program followed. Over 60% of the homes in SunLand have been outfitted to date, the deadline being January 1, 2017 for completion. All water purveyors must then account for at least 90% of the water pumped from the ground. Meter reading options are still being evaluated. At present, the average consumption per household falls below the recommended 300 gallons per day.

At the end of 2011 The District had facilities valued at \$5,021, 907 before depreciation, and a reserve fund of \$428,421. About \$100,000 of those reserves will be spent in 2012 for mandated improvements.

A brief list of some of the ways customers can help keep their costs down was shown, and a handout was also available.

A question and answer period followed.

Q. Would the slides from this presentation be made available on the website?

A. Yes, at www.sunlandwater.com

Q. When will meters be installed and what type will they be?

A. Not until at least 70% of the meter yokes have been installed. Meter types (manual or auto-read), the frequency of meter reading, and whether to bill by consumption are still items under consideration by The District.

- Q. What is the price range for the meters?
A. \$75 - \$150 for the meter, not including hardware and software for recording readings.
- Q. Can residents tour the water distribution and sewage treatment facilities?
A. Yes, District personnel are pleased to conduct tours. Prior appointments are appreciated and can be made by calling the District office at 360-683-3905 or the Treatment Plant and Laboratory at 360-683-3880.
- Q. Can Public Works Trust Funds be used for the purchase of meters?
A. Purveyors can apply for funds to purchase water meters, but they are not included in the recently approved loan, which was for sewage treatment upgrades.
- Q. Will the Dungeness Water Management Rule proposed by the Department of Ecology affect SunLand's water rights?
A. SunLand's water rights are grandfathered, but could be affected by future use of water in the Dungeness Valley that draws from the same aquifer. (Mr. Putnam noted that SunLand currently uses less than its water right allows, but that the community has not reached build-out. SunLand's average consumption is also reduced due to the seasonal change in the number of residents.)
- Q. How many Non-SunLand homes are being served by the water system?
SWD currently provides potable water to three connections out of 16 lots in Southern View Estates (SVE). Neither irrigation water, nor sewage collection service will be provided to the development. SVE has an on-site well for irrigation as well as a community septic system.
- Q. What expenses would SWD incur if it were to use "Class A" water to irrigate the Golf Course.
A. Most of the piping from the treatment plant to the number nine pond is complete, with the exceptions being the portion that would cross Woodcock Road at the bottom and Fairway Drive at the top. The cost to complete this project has been estimated at about \$60,000.
- Q. Does the website contain information about reporting requirements?
A. Some, but not all. SWD reports to the Department of Health, the Department of Ecology, and the Environmental Protection Agency, and is governed by the Revised Code of Washington (RCW)-Title 57 and Washington Administrative Code (WAC).