

**Members, Alternates  
& Guests Present:**

Gary Cline  
Roger Eberhart  
Bob Elwell  
Don Henry  
Larry Jones  
Wes Jorgenson  
Laura Keough  
Colette Kostelec  
Sheldon Lynne  
Ron Nowicki  
Steve Ohlenkamp  
Bill Pelosa  
Randy Reece  
Paul Sentena  
Ron Sheadel  
Mary Shustov  
Ron Speer  
Scott Thomasson  
Bill Tracy  
Art Wadekamper  
Bobbi Wallace  
Anne Wiegler  
Margaret Wiggins  
Fanny Yee

**King County Staff:**

Sharman Herrin  
Beth Mountsier  
Christie True

Tamie Kellogg,  
Facilitator

## JUNE'S MEETING NOTES

### I. Chair's Report – Scott Thomasson, MWPAAC Chair

- A. Introductions were made.
- B. Approval of Meeting Summary for May - the motion passed.

### III. WTD Director's Report – Christie True, Director

A. Struvite (ammonium magnesium phosphate) was first discovered in 1845, the mineral was named for geologist Heinrich von Struve. Historically, the mineral has been an issue for sewer systems by forming a scale and clogging pipes. Currently, the Durham Treatment Facility is collecting and recycling the struvite for use in fertilizer. WTD is exploring how to recycle struvite.

B. 24th Annual WaterReuse Symposium, presented by the American Water Works Association and the Water Environment Federation will be held in Seattle from September 13-16. King County will be participating in the event.

C. The State Attorney General has issued a notice that it will issue an opinion on the constitutionality of the use of sewer rate revenues to repair or replace private side sewers as part of an agency's infiltration and inflow (I/I) program. The County has provided comments to the Attorney General's office in support of using sewer revenues to address I/I. The County encourages other agencies to consider providing input to the Attorney General. Contact Sharman Herrin for more information.

D. West Point Treatment Plant NPDES permit was issued June 22. There were changes in terms of reporting and monitoring requirements. One change was the establishment of a 20-year timeframe to determine compliance of the one event per year.

E. South Treatment Plant NPDES permit is up for renewal. A potential issue will be nutrient removal rates. South Plant also has the issue of discharging into an area that has more southerly currents.

F. Howard A. Hanson Dam is in need of repairs due to damage sustained in January's floods. Until repairs can be made, there is potential for significant floods in the Green River and Kent valleys. Fortunately, South Plant is located in a higher area. WTD planning efforts include: acquiring material to build a levy at the Plant's 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue entrance; purchasing additional goods for stockpiling, and working on keeping the plant operating by managing power loads and flows to be able to process as much wastewater and floodwaters as we can. For the duration of the flooding, the South plant system will be working and functioning as a drain. High flows are anticipated and will be managed and treated as much as possible. Under emergency conditions, there is the possibility of off-loading into the Green River. Sewer pipes may surcharge and cause sewage back-ups, and there will be no way to

prevent this.

In response to a question, Christie answered that there is an emergency discharge outfall into the Green River. If flows become too high, the Elliott Bay outfall has limited capacity. More flows could enter the plant to be treated and released into the River, but we wouldn't want to exacerbate the river's rising.

A question was asked, if a significant portion of Kent Valley does flood, do you have hydraulic continuity to those manholes? Christie responded that she has not seen that scenario from the engineers. She is aware that there will be a lot of lines surcharging.

A suggestion made was to seal off manholes in areas where flooding is likely. Christie commented that most of the County's manholes are sealed. But there are thousands of manholes that would need sealing, and it might not be helpful. Every connection in homes and businesses will be open.

In response to a comment on power, Christie answered that is an issue we are working on, that the plant has priority on power. The plant does have a co-gen facility, but that does not supply enough power to operate the plant under peak flow conditions.

- G. Brightwater – two tunnel boring machines (BT-2 and BT-3) are idle to enable repairs and maintenance. They have been working under difficult soil conditions. BT-2 is experiencing significant wear on the structural rim of the machine's cutter head due to soil materials wedging behind the rim. Wells will be drilled to lower the water pressure, and the contractor is preparing a plan to fix the machine. BT-3 is also experiencing similar wear, and all parties involved felt this would be the best time to do repairs prior to embarking on the next drive. The anticipated delay on work is 2-6 months but it's not known how long. To mitigate the circumstances, the Influent Pump Station contractor will be directed to build a wall separating their work from the Influent Shaft. The benefit will be that the IPS contractor can complete the pump station and start on the commissioning.

A question was asked on the effect on the Brightwater opening, and Christie replied that the plant will still open in mid-2011 but there will be an overall two-month delay in construction.

- H. Performance and Accountability Audit on Construction – WTD was recognized as doing a good job overall. There are a number of construction management policies and practices in place to ensure accountability.
- I. Regional Water Quality Committee received a briefing on the water supply planning effort (status report) and the Biosolids proviso report (report on the status of the Request for Information on Biosolids alternatives). The committee heard from nearly all the proposers. The report came with a motion that will be up for action at the next committee meeting. The committee may take up the

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Financial Policies workgroup in July in order to start addressing some of the issues that have come up and determine if there are other policies to be reviewed. The committee likely will not meet in August.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

A. Engineering & Planning Subcommittee Chair Report – Wes Jorgenson

The committee met on June 17 for an information-only presentation on the Reclaimed Water Comprehensive Plan; the handouts are available on the website and comments should be directed to Mark Buscher.

B. Rate and Finance Subcommittee Chair Report – Trish Erickson

There will be no meeting in July or August.

C. Advisory Committee on Sewage Disposal Agreements Chair Report – Ron Speer

The committee discussed the Quarterly Sewerage Report Form and formulated a list of contract issues. List: emergency increases (out-of-cycle rate); amend contract without majority; extension of contract term to 2056; common or universal contract; define relationship between County and RCW; dual vote; independent audit every 5 years; sewage ownership; establishment of an operating board; methodology for calculating a wholesale sewer rate; culver fund; central overhead charges and reclaimed water. The reporting of new connections and jurisdictions' winter averaging will be discussed at the next meeting. Sharman added that we are looking at the process anew, and once the County gives its written approval (identify which issues can go forward and articulating which issues cannot go forward), discussions will continue. Those issues going forward would be discussed by the subcommittee, consensus reached and then moved to full MWPAAC for recommendation.

V. MWPAAC General Business:

A. 2009 WTD Contract Services Feedback Survey Results – Sharman Herrin

To view the presentation, click on the link below:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wastewater/MWPAAC/Committees/MWPAAC.aspx>

- A general comment was made that since the last survey, the County has been more open and willing to listen to the local agencies.