



Chris Stearns
District # 3

Commissioner's Corner

PUD Commission Property Tax Policy
At their August 14 Commission meeting, the PUD Commissioners adopted a policy that tax revenues will not be used for acquisitions.

Water Use Efficiency Program – The PUD is meeting all of its adopted water conservation goals. In the 2013 Operating Budget, the PUD Commissioners are considering a Pilot Project for our Tanglewilde-Thompson Place water system to provide \$50 rebates for up to 40 low flow toilets. We are also planning to give out 100 water conservation kits that will contain a low flow shower head and other items in 2013 on a first come, first serve basis.

2013 Strategic Goals and Priorities - The Commission adopted their 2013 Strategic Goals and Priorities which may be viewed on the PUD's web site.

**Featured Employee:
Ronnie Black**



Ronnie Black is a Water Technician II from Chehalis, WA. Ronnie originally got into public utilities in 2004 when he was hired by Seattle Public Utilities and joined the apprentice program for water distribution. Although he learned many things that have shaped his career, he discovered the city life was not for him and relocated to be closer to family and friends. He then worked for the City of Chehalis, again working in water distribution. With 6 years of experience, Ronnie joined the team at Thurston PUD last year. Ronnie is thankful to be contributing during the workday to the PUD. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time outdoors with family, friends, his dog Sammi, and his new bride Liz.



Notice of Proposed Budget and Rate Public Hearing

Dear Thurston PUD Customer:

Thurston PUD Commissioners will hold Public Hearings on September 11th, September 24th, and on October 1st on the budget and utility rates proposed for 2013. Following the October 1st Public Hearing, the PUD Commissioners will review the budget options and proposed rates. Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings. Information regarding the Proposed Budget and rate increases will be posted on our web site, thurstonpud.org, on Monday, September 3, or can be obtained by contacting our office at (360) 357-8783; toll free at (866) 357-8783.

How can I ask questions or provide my comments?

You are invited to attend the public hearings or submit written comments:

Public Hearing Dates

Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday, September 24, at 5:00 p.m., and October 1, at 5:00 p.m.

Thurston PUD

921 Lakeridge Way SW, 3rd Floor, Olympia, Washington 98502

You also may submit comments in writing to the address below:

PUD Commissioners

921 Lakeridge Way SW, Suite 301, Olympia, WA 98502

Written comments received by close of business October 1 will become part of the public record. The Board will hear, read and discuss your comments. The Board is required to adopt or modify the budget at the conclusion of the Public Hearing.

Low Interest State Loans Secured for Water System Improvements:

The District's Chief Financial Officer, Julie Parker, and Operations Manager, Kim Gubbe, were successful in securing extremely competitive low interest rate Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loans for water system improvements. Improvements will be made between 2012-2015. As the projects are planned and constructed, we will keep the communities informed on these projects as described below.

- The consolidation of the small Sward and Platt water systems in Lewis County into one system. One of the systems had well problems. Funding of \$165,400 with a 1% interest rate with payment over 20 years was secured.
- The three Garden Acres water systems in Thurston County will be consolidated into one system. The systems are having well quantity issues. Funding of \$87,219 with a 1% interest rate with payment over 20 years was secured.
- The Terry Lane water system in Pierce County will have its booster pump system upgraded. Funding of \$137,236 with a 1% interest rate with payment over 20 years was secured.
- The small Thurston County Jenni and Woods water systems will be consolidated with the larger Lew's 81st water system. The Lew's 81st water system plan will be updated and the system's capacity will be expanded. Funding of \$374,432 with loan forgiveness of 30% and a 1% interest rate with payment over 20 years was secured.
- The Covington Arsenic Treatment project in Thurston County was approved. Funding of \$213,876 with loan forgiveness of 50% at a 1% interest rate with payment over 20 years was secured.

Tanglewilde-Thompson Place Water System Projects

In 2009, the PUD secured funding for critical Tanglewilde-Thompson Place projects. The District rehabilitated and drilled two wells at the Tanglewilde Park. We greatly appreciate the help and advice provided by the Tanglewilde Park and Recreation Board of Commissioners and the great cooperation of the North Thurston School District and the community members on these projects. The wells were named for longtime Tanglewilde Park Board Member and volunteer Bob Coker and the PUD's Attorney of 40 years, Don Taylor. Plaques will be placed on the well pump facilities. We also replaced mains on Stillwell Street in Thompson Place where most of our leaks occurred. The last project has been replacement of the system's reservoir adjacent to Lydia Hawk Elementary School with a larger tank. The reservoir includes an art project. Art teacher and Tanglewilde Park and Recreation Center Commissioner John Pirie worked with PUD Operations Manager Kim Gubbe and provided pictures of fish drawn by the Lydia Hawk Elementary School children. Their fish were blown-up and painted by an artist and circle the reservoir. A Dedication Ceremony will be held this fall. These projects, with a cost of \$4 million, were made possible by a grant from the Publics Work Board and loans from the State Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan program.

Special Workshops

The Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County has scheduled a Special Workshop to take place before the 2nd Regular Meeting of August on **Tuesday, August 28 beginning at 3:00 p.m.** The purpose of this Workshop is to discuss multi-year rates. The 2nd Regular Meeting will begin at 5:00.

The Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County has also scheduled a Special Workshop to take place before the 1st Regular Meeting of September on **Tuesday, September 11th beginning at 2:30 p.m.** The purpose of this Workshop is to discuss the report from DHittle on the Preliminary Business Assessment Final Draft Report. The 1st Regular Meeting will begin at 5:00.

The workshops and meetings will be held at the office of the District, Suite 301, 921 Lakeridge Way SW, Olympia, Washington 98502



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