

Westside Water Association  
2006 Annual Meeting  
Minutes

5/25/2006

**ANNUAL MEETING**

Vice President Jeremy Pratt called the meeting to order at 7:35PM at Havurat El Shalom. A quorum was declared with 69 shares represented (50 proxies and 19 present.)

**President's Report**

Vice President Jeremy Pratt, standing in for President John Osborne welcomed members and introduced the current board: At Large member Diana Drayton; Sam Van Fleet, Treasurer; and Sunny Speidel, Secretary. New shareholders were welcomed, including Joel Andrews and Glen Whitestone, Mike Kreider and Cindy Phillips and Pat Zell.

Vice President Pratt shared his reflections on the present state of affairs of WWA: it would appear other island water associations are not in as good a shape as WWA for supply, rates, treatment, rights and fiscal basis. He thanked present and past boards (particularly Scott Harvey) and manager Doug Dolstad for putting WWA into this condition. He also particularly noted Doug's work on our arsenic filtration system. By figuring out how to design and engineer a system instead of buy one off the shelf, he saved the association literally thousands of dollars.

Minutes from the 2005 Annual Meeting were presented. Dan Asher moved the minutes be accepted as written, Scott Harvey seconded, the membership passed the motion.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Sam Van Fleet also thanked Scott Harvey again for his work on our financial basis, and presented copies of the balance sheet to attending members (a copy is attached). He noted about half our money is invested in CDs which can be liquidated on a rotating basis as needed.

Bank Account totals at 5/24/06 shows:

Money Market	\$76,903
Checking	\$ 3,323
CDs (7 total)	\$70,000

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$150,226</b>
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Sam observed that his report reflects the balance after the filtration system was implemented.

Scott Harvey asked a question from the floor about where the interest from the CDs goes. Sam responded that they go back into the CD accounts, and that if the rotation of CDs coming due must be tracked by the Treasurer.

Dan Asher asked a question about insurance, with the following response:

John Osborne and Doug Dolstad got us a new liability insurance company specializing in small water systems like ours. D&O insurance is not carried, as it principally addresses employee complaints and

director misconduct. Neither do we have earthquake insurance, which is prohibitively expensive.

Treasurer Van Fleet concluded his report by appealing to membership to help us reduce our past due accounts, which often float around \$3,000 not incurring interest.

## Manager's Report

Manager Doug Dolstad also welcomed new members, pointing out that our water association is one of the last vestiges of participatory democracy on such a local scale, and that we really affect land use in our area. We used to have local school districts, but even they have now all consolidated.

### New Staff Added

•Doug, who began working with WWA in 1992 and has been WWA's sole staff person until this year, introduced us to new WWA staff person Scott Durkee.

### Overview

•WWA has 227 approved connections. We are still buying back shared, and are not quite even yet.

•WWA owns two parcels of land totalling 36.74 acres, one on Shinglemill Creek and one on a canyon near the old Zarth Farm. Our Shinglemill Creek water rights gives us a say in Shinglemill Creek watershed activity.

### Filtration System

• Doug presented a slide show of our filtration system and described how it works.

### Ongoing effort to Cut Water Loss

•62 million gallons of water were pumped. 92.27% goes through our meters. 7.7% is unaccounted for. If members see pooled water on a hot summer day, they should call Doug to investigate possible leaks.

### Priorities in the Coming Year

•We are putting all our information on a GIS system. Evergreen Rural Water has a partnership with a tech firm to make this service available to small water systems such as ours.

•We would like to move our line across Shinglemill Creek, up to by the road, because it is more difficult to do work on the line where the land is protected.

•Finishing the installation of 6" pipe at Cove Rd is slated to occur.

Doug also presented a comparison of average WWA rates to other water associations on the island:

WWA	\$53 every two months
Dockton	\$95 every two months
District 19	\$98 every two months
Burton	\$61 every two months
V. Heights	\$104 every two months

In summation, Doug noted we have no debts, no loans. Things are good.

## New Business

1. **Board Positions**—3 positions on the board were up for election. All 3 board members were willing to renew. An election was held: John Osborn, Jeremy Pratt and Sunny Speidel were re-elected.

## Proposal for Assistance on Water Development

Doug Dolstad presented a proposal: Water is the #1 health issue on the planet. He had an idea for how our community could help another community that needs help in getting water, which would also craft a relationship between communities as well. If we add \$1-2 to each WWA bill on a voluntary basis, we could generate between \$3-6,000 annually. A committee could meet to select appropriate beneficiaries, and present their findings to the general membership for approval at the annual meeting. Our bylaws do not prohibit this activity.

A number of members spoke to need they had witnessed in poorer countries, to the luck of our affluence and in support of this proposal as a means to make a positive difference in the world.

A discussion ensued as to the method of soliciting the contribution.

Sierra (Last Name?) moved WWA organize a way to take a contribution from members to support other communities in developing water-related projects, with a small group from our membership working out the details. Enid Dolstad seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. It was agreed that members interested in serving on the committee present themselves to Doug.

### **Conservation Stewardship**

Diana Drayton is taking a conservation stewardship class to create a stewardship plan for the canyon parcel of WWA property. She is currently creating a baseline report of property condition. She's finding some exceptionally large trees and wildlife habitat, monitoring 8 sites and inventorying trees. Next year her report and plan will be presented at the annual meeting. She will make the report available in pdf form when it is finished.

### **Fluoridation**

A question arose from the floor about whether we should consider flouridating our water. The board agreed to look into the issue and present the pros and cons at our next annual meeting.

### **Emergency Preparedness**

A question arose from the floor about WWA Emergency Preparedness program. Doug has a plan for shutting down the system, and the board agreed to distribute basic information to membership, as well as make it available on our website.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM.