

WEEKENDER OCTOBER 2, 2008

More on the Water Meters situation...

Last week I wrote you that we had learned that a court decision changed Surfside's status as a municipal water system which resulted in the Department of Health not requiring water meters. In the intervening time we have sought clarification from no less than three attorneys, our consultant, and people at several levels within the Department of Health.

Some things we learned that appear to be confirmed from multiple sources

- The "Lummi decision" did declare the "municipal" designation unconstitutional on the grounds of separation of powers.
- For now that removes the requirement to meter our system.
- The basis for the decision is questioned by many of the authorities we consulted.
- Many believe the decision is likely to be overturned by the State Supreme Court. The earliest that would happen is 2009.
- Even if it is sustained some other mechanism is likely to be legislated which will result in conservation and efficiency measures, probably related to metering.
- Surfside's current water rights are probably unaffected by the decision.
- Surfside's water rights are granted in the form of certificates and a permit.
- The certificates only cover a portion of Surfside's water use.
- The permit covers most of our use and will need to be renewed in 2012.
- Our Six Year Water plan needs to prepare us to renew the certificate.
- The Department of Ecology who renews the permit has been more carefully scrutinizing water systems for efficiency and conservation.
- Renewal of the permit at existing levels is advanced by demonstrating compliance with requirements like metering.



The Board met in special session this past Monday to consider what we wanted to do regarding the Six Year Water Plan which addresses metering and guidance for the Budget Committee regarding what needs to be built into the budget.

The Board noted that while the present interpretation regarding water metering does not require us to meter there is substantial probability that we will be required to meter in

the future. We have spent considerable money preparing the Six Year Water plan and obtaining water meter bids. To completely change direction could effectively waste much of our member's investment in the plans only to have to change direction again in the relatively near future.

The Board has agreed to suspend actual purchase or installation of meters until such time as it is required.

To preserve work on the Six Year Plan and bid prices the 2009 budget will fund metering at a reduced level of \$50 per hook-up (the original hook-up fee plan called for \$91). If metering becomes required in 2009 the money would likely fund purchase of meters but probably be insufficient to fully fund installation. The incomplete portion would need to be budgeted and funded in 2010. If metering is not required the meter fee would be carried over to 2010 with interest. If at some point it is definite that metering will not be required the fee will be applied to reduce normal dues and assessments for those who have paid the fee.

This plan allows us to proceed if needed, maintain the value of already completed work, provide a mechanism if ultimately metering is not required, and show good faith and intent for conservation when seeking renewal of our water rights.

At the last Board meeting the Board approved a metering plan based on a fee applied only to hookups to the water system (1,765 hookups presently). In order to provide for orderly purchase, installation, and management and to reduce capital requirements the plan would be completed over eight years with one eighth of the project funded each year. Based on the meter bid, auxiliary parts and labor the cost per installation is estimated at \$708 but that will not have to be paid in a lump sum by anyone currently hooked-up.

The water meter bid selected guarantees price increases at not more than 4% a year allowing predictable planning and purchasing. We will be seeking a contract with the vendor that will guarantee prices if metering requirements are implemented or allow us not to purchase at such point as metering requirements are dropped.

The current plan is an effort to be prudent in preserving the work done on metering since it is probable that it will be needed in the future. It still leaves us able to drop metering altogether and credit a member's meter fees to reduce some portion of a future assessment. Because the meter fee is not charged to all members or per lot the money cannot be applied to other capital projects or the capital reserve.

Warren Olson
President of the Board



October 18, 2008 Board Meeting

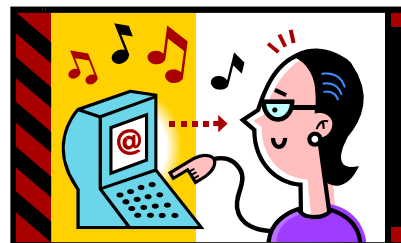
October 18, 2008 Board Meeting

The upcoming October Board Meeting is the yearly meeting where the budget will be presented to the board. The meeting will be at the Surfside Board Meeting room at 9:00 A.M. Members are invited and encouraged to attend all board meetings.

WEB SITE NEWS:

Hopefully you have accessed this Weekender publication via the web. The link to our website was provided to you due to the fact that we have become aware of difficulties from our members in opening emails with attached documents.

If you have not viewed the website lately, www.surfsideonline.org, you are missing out! It is current and updated and has important information on it, such as upcoming agendas for board meetings, minutes of previous board meetings and a ticker with "late breaking news" of Surfside. Pictures of Surfside events can also be viewed there.



Also, check out the **new tab under "Services"** which will allow Surfside Homeowners to conduct Association business via the web. There is now a covenant complaint form there for members to submit their confidential complaints with regard to covenant non compliance issues. We are currently working on posting other forms such as address change forms, RV and compactor permit applications, etc. All of this is being done so that you as members can conduct your Surfside business as efficiently and smoothly as possible. WE AIM TO PLEASE!

Volunteer needed.

We now have a means (new hardware) of converting cassette tapes into mp3 files onto the computer. But we are still lacking the time to do this. If anyone would be willing to sit at a computer and complete some very simple steps to convert taped board minutes to computer files, this would be greatly appreciated. Please consider spending some time with us, here in the office. We welcome you as another member of our team!



I have always loved ducks!

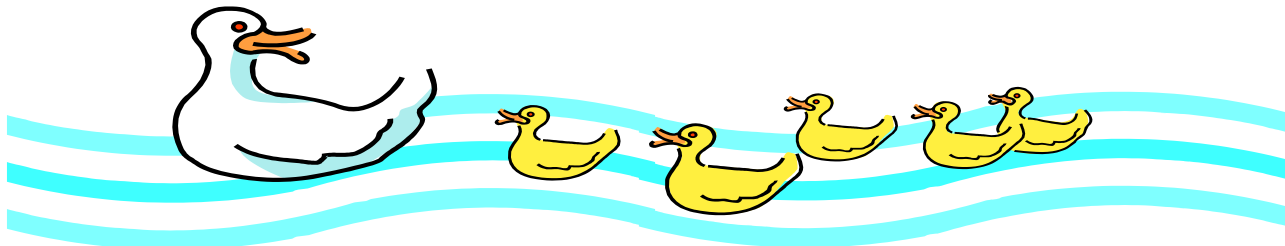
It all started with my kindergarten teacher, who had a pet duck named “Peepers”. She let our class take care of the duck, and we were enthralled. Eventually, Peepers laid eggs, and I was hooked: I had to have a duck of my own!

So began my first love affair...

Although we lived in the city, I convinced my Dad that the backyard was sufficient. We got a pair, and soon they were hatching eggs...to my delight. I remember gathering eggs before school in the morning, putting them in my jacket pocket...and forgetting...only to find them later dripping down my leg. Ugh!

I once had a pet duck that I trained to do tricks on command...Really! They are smarter than you think. I put him to work making a TV commercial. He got paid \$50!

And what does this have to do with Surfside? When we moved to the Peninsula, we considered an ocean view, but when I saw the ducks...well, you can guess that the canal won my heart.



Surfside requires us to live and work together in community. If you’ve never thought of the positive attributes of ducks, consider what we can learn from them:

**They are social....they flock together in community;*

**They fly in order, and take turns leading while the leader rests;*

**They seem to know where they are going;*

**They are self-sufficient and survivors;*

**They contentedly float on the surface, while paddling like crazy underneath;*

And:

**They don’t complain about the weather. In fact, the more rain the better! At our house, when it’s raining cats and dogs, we just say, “It’s a GOOD day for ducks!” By now you probably think I’m quacking up, so I’ll just duck out....*

**Coral Hughes,
“Just Ducky”**

Community Events



This portion of the Surfside Weekender will include events within the community that Surfside members may want to know about. If you are involved or know of an event here on the Peninsula, or close by, that you would like to have published in the Weekender, please email the particulars to Dinah@surfsideonline.org. Please limit your submissions to family friendly community events.

Events

Sunset Empire Orchid Society Presents their 12th Annual Orchid Show & Sale
Broadway Middle School, 1120 Broadway, Seaside, OR 97138
Saturday Oct. 4th 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Oct 5th 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

CiderFest
Saturday, Oct 4, 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Bring Your Family and Receive a FREE ½ gal of Fresh Pressed Apple Cider
Free food, caramel apples, pony rides & apple cider
This is a free community event sponsored by Peninsula Baptist Church
23802 Pacific Hwy

RERUNS

AND CONTINUED NEEDS:

Kerry Amundson Reminds New Members to Call



Just a reminder: if you are a **new full time** resident of Surfside, please call Kerry Amundson at 665-2779 so she can personally meet you and welcome you to the neighborhood and give you a gift bag full of information and goodies from local businesses. And welcome to Surfside!



Christian Women's Groups Meet

These non-denominational groups offer "Fun, Friends, Support, Bible Study, Prayer, & Spiritual Renewal". Questions? Call Coral Hughes: 665-3206. The groups meet in homes every Thursday at 9:30am:

*Bonnie Masson: 32904 "J" Place; Call 665-6504

*Linda Lanphear: 809 - 347th Place; Call 665-0895

*Mindy Burns: 33609 "I" Street; Call 665-0880

NEW Working Women's group meets Tuesdays at 5:30pm:

*Lola Larson: 5015 "L" Place, Seaview; Call 642-8359

Other Local News

You may access directly the current issue of the weekly Chinook Observer, our local source of news and events, by clicking on the following web site:

<http://www.chinookobserver.com>

You can also find things going on the peninsula at the following web site of the Visitors' Bureau:

<http://www.funbeach.com>

and of the Pacific County Friends of Lewis & Clark at:

<http://lewisandclarkwa.com/pages/ocian.html>

and for local news of the Ocean Park Area Chamber membership and activities:

<http://www.opwa.com>

and, finally, Surside's own web page at:

<http://www.surfsideonline.org>

Keep the news coming... submit information to dinah@surfsideonline.org (put "Week Ender" in subject line):

- **Surfside Homeowners Association**

Mailing Address: 31402 H Street, Ocean Park, WA 98640

General Office Email: office@surfsideonline.org

- Office Phone: 360-665-4171, Seaview; Call 642-8359