

the SOOS CREEK

CON NECTION

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January/February 2014

Re-Elected Commissioner Gary Cline

Commissioner Gary Cline was re-elected to the Soos Creek Water & Sewer District Board of Commissioners. A retired Kent School District principal, Gary Cline has been active in our community for 38 years. A Charter member of the Meridian Kiwanis Club, Gary has served on the Kent Food Bank Board of Directors as well as a term on the WEGP (now Enduris) Insurance Board, representing 247 utility districts across Washington. Gary and his wife, Irene, have three grown children and two grandchildren.

Commissioner Cline is an experienced, collaborative leader who has been in the water and wastewater industry for 38 years. He is active in the Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts where he served as past President, supporting policies and legislation for the benefit of water and sewer ratepayers locally and throughout the state. He was recently honored with the "Award of Special Recognition" for his work with the Association. "I am committed to providing safe, reliable water and dependable sewer service at reasonable rates" said Commissioner Cline. "I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and I look forward to serving you in my new term".

Meet Newly-Elected Commissioner Larry West

Soos Creek Water & Sewer District's newly-elected Commissioner Larry West has over 40 years of management, geotechnical engineering and environmental experience with both private and government organizations. His work in this area for King County included evaluation of physical hazards such as landslides, stability of steep slopes and other issues involving storm water drainage, ground water, wetlands and streams. Larry West also participated in the design and construction of a concrete arch dam and underground power station near Metaline Falls, WA, and the design of tunnels for the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit System as a geotechnical engineer with Bechtel Corporation. A Partner with Dames & Moore Engineering, he managed site selection and environmental studies for proposed nuclear plants in Washington.

"I have the technical background to assist the Board in making decisions to ensure ratepayer dollars are spent conservatively" said Commissioner West. "I look forward to serving our community and will be available to address citizen concerns". Larry and his wife, Kay reside in Kent and are active in community events. The Commissioners, staff and consultants welcome Larry West to the Board of Commissioners.

Appointed Commissioner Darold Stroud

Darold Stroud has been appointed as Commissioner effective November 20, 2013. He has over 20 years of leadership experience working for public and private corporations and he brings to the Board a proven history of exceptional management and leadership skills, solid cost management oversight, and a passion for customer service. As Vice President of Financial Operations at T-Mobile, Darold understands the importance of both leadership and vision with the customers and employees. Darold and his family have lived in the Kent area for nearly 20 years. He is active in Boys Scouts and he has coached several sports teams. "I have previously served on the Board and I am proud to be part of a strong team that is committed to providing water and sewer services that are reliable, affordable, and of the highest quality. It is an honor to continue to serve the community as your Commissioner" said Commissioner Stroud.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Soos Creek, a public agency, is to provide reliable, high quality water and sewer services in an efficient, cost effective manner.

SOOS CREEK WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

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COMMISSIONERS

Gary Cline
Alice Marshall
Darold Stroud
Steve Pfaff
Larry West

DISTRICT MANAGER

Ron Speer

Meetings are held the first, third & fourth
Wednesdays of the month @ 4:30 p.m.

2014 WATER AND SEWER RATES

The Board of Commissioners establishes utility rates on an annual basis. The decision is made after District staff proposes and the Board approves an expenditure budget for the upcoming year. The District held a public hearing to obtain comments on the proposed 2014 water and sewer rates. On November 20, 2013 the Soos Creek Board of Commissioners approved a 4% increase in the monthly base charges and volume charges for water and a 1% increase in Soos Creek’s portion of the sewer rates. King County’s sewage treatment rate is shown as a separate charge on your bill, and will not increase in 2014. The increases will be effective with the February 28, 2014 billing cycle.

Water

The District will increase water rates for 2014 to fund higher operating costs. Below is an outline of the current rates and the 2014 rates.

<u>CURRENT RATES (BIMONTHLY)</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Irrigation</u>
Base Rate for 3/4” Meter	\$ 26.50	\$ 26.50	\$ 26.50
Volume Charge per 100 Cubic Feet			
Winter Rates:			
0—1,000 cubic feet	1.70	1.70	5.70
1,001—2,000 cubic feet	3.40	3.40	5.70
2,001—3000 cubic feet	4.30	4.30	5.70
> 3,000 cubic feet	4.85	4.85	5.70
<u>2014 RATES (BIMONTHLY)</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Irrigation</u>
Base Rate for 3/4” Meter	\$ 27.60	\$ 27.60	\$ 27.60
Volume Charge per 100 Cubic Feet			
Winter Rates:			
0—1,000 cubic feet	1.75	1.75	5.95
1,001—2,000 cubic feet	3.55	3.55	5.95
2,001—3000 cubic feet	4.45	4.45	5.95
> 3,000 cubic feet	5.05	5.05	5.95

Notes:
 100 cubic feet of water = 748 gallons
 Summer Conservation Rates (June—September) include a 20% surcharge (the first 1000 cubic feet are exempt)

Sewer

The sewer bills sent to Soos Creek customers itemize the charges for Soos Creek’s sewer rate and King County’s Sewage Treatment charges. The District’s portion of the bill is for the maintenance of our system that collects the sewage from your existing structure (house, business, or school) and conveys it to King County’s system and ultimately to the Renton Treatment Plant. Effective with the February 28, 2014 billing cycle, Soos Creek’s base rate will be \$34.70 (bimonthly) and the Volume Charge for commercial customers will remain \$2.30 per 100 cubic feet of water in excess of the first 1,500 cubic feet (bimonthly).

The King County Sewage Treatment charge shown on the Soos Creek sewer customer’s bill reflects King County’s capital and operating costs for treatment and disposal of sewage. King County’s sewer rate will remain \$79.58 (bimonthly) and King County’s Volume Charge for commercial customers will remain \$5.30 per 100 cubic feet of water in excess of the first 1,500 cubic feet. If you have questions or comments regarding the King County Sewage Treatment charge, contact the King County Council at (206) 296-1000; for sewage treatment information, call (206) 684-1280.

Commissioner Karen Webster Retires

After 28 years of exemplary service as a Soos Creek Commissioner, Karen Webster announced her retirement and resignation from the Board effective November 1, 2013. She has been committed to the success of the District and providing high quality water and wastewater services at the lowest possible cost to our customers. Karen Webster has guided SCWSD through a number of significant changes. She was involved in the merger of Water District No. 58 and Cascade Sewer District into the present Soos Creek Water & Sewer District; she supported the new 60-year water supply agreement with Seattle Public Utilities; and she supported policy decisions that helped promote the District’s stable water and sewer rates. “Soos Creek Water & Sewer District maintains some of the lowest water and sewer rates in our region through diligent budget controls and cost savings mechanisms. The District’s success is driven by the Board’s solid leadership, commitment to public service, and proper guidance” said Commissioner Webster. We wish Karen all the best!

