

the SOOS CREEK

CON NECTION

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January/February 2012

CHANGES TO YOUR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Commissioner Clement (Clem) Quanrud Retires

Commissioner Clem Quanrud retired from the SCWSD Board of Commissioners in December 2011, after over 27 years of service to the District. Clem has guided SCWSD through a number of significant changes. To name a few: He was involved in the merger of Water District No. 58 and Cascade Sewer District into the present Soos Creek Water & Sewer District; he supported the new 60-year water supply agreement with Seattle Public Utilities; and he supported policy decisions that helped promote the District's stable water and sewer rates. We wish Clem all the best!



Meet the Newly-Elected Commissioner Steve Pfaff

Steve is a retired manager for Cascade Natural Gas Corporation. Steve has over 30 years of experience working for and with utilities and 10 years of management experience with Cascade Natural Gas. He has a proven history of effective management, excellent customer service and has worked with federal and state regulatory agencies. Steve and his wife Noell have lived in the District for 14 years. "I look forward to representing the community and serving as your Commissioner to find the most efficient solutions to the changing requirements of the District," said Commissioner Pfaff. His background in working for a utility and his management skills will make him an excellent commissioner.



Commissioner Randall (Randy) Reece

Randy Reece passed away peacefully June 8, 2011, at home with family by his side. He retired from the FAA after 36 years and spent the last 12 years serving as a Soos Creek Water and Sewer District Commissioner. Randy was dedicated and committed to providing you with excellent water and sewer services. As Commissioner, he served as the District's representative on the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee. Randy loved spending time in nature, hooking a big fish, telling a great joke and laughing with friends and family. He will be missed by all who knew him and loved him.



Meet Recently-Appointed Commissioner Darold Stroud

Darold joined Soos Creek on June 22, 2011, after Commissioner Randall Reece passed away. Darold and his wife Mayte have lived in Kent for the past 15 years, and they have three children, Marc, Brianna, and Julia. Darold has worked for T-Mobile for over 10 years in Accounting and Financial Operations, and he is currently the Vice-President of Financial Operations. He is a graduate of Brigham Young University with his Masters of Accountancy. Darold enjoys all sports including baseball, football, basketball with baseball being his favorite. He also volunteers for his church and coaches several of his kids' sports teams.

The Commissioners, staff, and consultants thank Commissioner Quanrud and the late Commissioner Reece for their dedication and service to the District and welcome Commissioners Pfaff and Stroud to the Board.

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.

2012 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 2012 water and sewer rates. On November 2, 2011 the Soos Creek Board of Commissioners approved a \$3.35 increase in the monthly base charges and a 3.5% increase in volume charges for water and a 5% increase in Soos Creek’s portion of the sewer rates. The increases will be effective with the February 29, 2012 billing cycle.

Water

The District will increase water rates for 2012 to address a 14% increase in costs associated with purchasing wholesale water from Seattle Public Utilities and to fund higher operating costs. Below is an outline of the current rates and the 2012 rates.

<u>CURRENT RATES (BIMONTHLY)</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Irrigation</u>
Base Rate for 3/4” Meter	\$ 19.30	\$ 19.30	\$ 19.30
Volume Charge per 100 Cubic Feet			
Winter Rates:			
0—1,000 cubic feet	1.60	1.60	5.50
1,001—2,000 cubic feet	3.25	3.25	5.50
2,001—3000 cubic feet	4.05	4.05	5.50
> 3,000 cubic feet	4.60	4.60	5.50
<u>2012 RATES (BIMONTHLY)</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Irrigation</u>
Base Rate for 3/4” Meter	\$ 26.00	\$ 26.00	\$ 26.00
Volume Charge per 100 Cubic Feet			
Winter Rates:			
0—1,000 cubic feet	1.65	1.65	5.70
1,001—2,000 cubic feet	3.35	3.35	5.70
2,001—3000 cubic feet	4.20	4.20	5.70

Notes:
 100 cubic feet of water = 748 gallons
 Summer Conservation Rates (June—September) include a 20% surcharge (the first 500 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 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 29, 2012 billing cycle, Soos Creek’s base rate will be \$33.70 (bimonthly) and the Volume Charge for commercial customers will be \$2.25 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 be \$72.20 (bimonthly) and King County’s Volume Charge for commercial customers will be \$4.80 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.

UTILITY RATE REDUCTION PROGRAM

The District offers a utility rate reduction program to eligible low-income senior citizens and low-income disabled persons. The current program provides a 25% rate reduction of SCWSD’s base rate for water and/or sewer.

Effective with the February 29, 2012 billing cycle, the rate reduction will increase to 30%. This discount does not apply to the King County Sewage Treatment charge, actual water consumption, street lighting, surcharges, and miscellaneous fees or late charges. If you would like an application for the District’s Utility Rate Reduction Program, please contact us at (253) 630-9900.

**SOOS CREEK
 WATER & SEWER DISTRICT**

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COMMISSIONERS
 Karen Webster
 Gary Cline
 Alice Marshall
 Darold Stroud
 Steve Pfaff

DISTRICT MANAGER
 Ron Speer

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