

La Conner Wastewater Advisory Board
4th Quarter 2022 & 1st Quarter 2023 Meeting
Wednesday, April 26, 2023

The La Conner Wastewater Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. This meeting was held via Zoom. Information to join was posted on the WAB Agenda and on the Town website. Present were Administrator Scott Thomas, Manager for the Swinomish Utility Authority Mike Poppe, Plant Operator Kelly Wynn, Councilmember Annie Taylor, Finance Director Maria DeGoede, and citizen Dan O'Donnell attempted to join, but had technical difficulties.

Approval of Minutes:

Finance Director DeGoede moved to approve the minutes of December 6, 2022. Motion seconded by Councilmember Taylor. Motion carried.

Finance Report:

There were two finance reports, one for the 4th quarter of 2022 and one for the 1st quarter of 2023. Mike Poppe stated looks like the first quarter of 2023 is doing well, target expenses aren't over 25% and revenue is. Councilmember Taylor moved to approve both Finance Reports, Mike Poppe seconded. All approved.

Public Forum:

Citizen Dan O'Donnell had technical issues joining the meeting. Plant Operator Wynn stated citizen O'Donnell had some requests. He can discuss them at the next WAB meeting.

Old Business:

Mike Poppe stated the Tribe will have 19 homes completed by the end of 2023. They are looking at 3 fiveplexes going out for bid. An additional 6 cottage type homes, are also in the growth plans. Administrator Thomas stated La Conner is also looking at some growth. We are going through the Comp Plan and we will get our population targets for our 30-year outlook. This raises the topic of the Wastewater Treatment Plant's capacity, coupled with the current status of the plant. La Conner has received a grant from DOE and is just in the process of getting the grant in place. Once that's done, we will start looking at a study and the capacity.

We need to start a discussion about the contract. Plant Operator Wynn stated the 19 new homes are manageable at this point. Mike Poppe stated the Tribe is looking at their 30-year plan and an estimate on the high end is 200-400 new structures in the next 30 years. Mike Poppe stated as both entities go through the sewer capacity study, they will make sure to look at Shelter Bay too so they don't miss anything.

New Business:

Administrator Thomas stated we got a notice from DOE that they are increasing the permit fees. Mike Poppe stated it appears to be a considerable jump at an annual rate of \$3.43 per RCE.

Operator's Report:

Plant Operator Wynn stated everything is going well. They will start I&I in October.

There being no further business, Mike Poppe moved to end the meeting, seconded by Administrator Thomas. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 3:21 p.m.