

ANNUAL REPORT OF REGIONAL WATER ASSOCIATION OF PIERCE COUNTY

June 2008 – May 2009

Introduction

The Pierce County Regional Water Association (RWA) was formed for the following purposes:

- To exchange information regarding policy, purchasing, employment and operational matters in which mutual problems exist or may exist;
- To combine and coordinate efforts of the members in the solution of mutual problems;
- To provide joint action on matters of mutual concern.

This annual report provides information on the current composition and finances of the RWA and provides a summary of monthly meeting topics and major accomplishments on matters of concern to members of the RWA for the period June 2007 - May 2008.

Members

The RWA had 25 purveyor members and 11 associate members for the June 2008- May 2009 time period. In total, the RWA members serve more than 217,250 connections. The complete listing of RWS members follows this Annual Report.

Board

The Board of Directors for 2008-2009 was Randy Black (president), Larry Jones (vice-president), Susan Clark (secretary), Roger Nottage (treasurer) and David Troupe (at-large).

Finances

The RWA had \$40,014.74 in the association's account as of May 19, 2009. Dues for 2008 – 2009 were \$25 per 100 connections, capping at \$1,250 and \$250 for associate members.

Summary of Monthly Meeting Topics

Presentations/Informational Topics – To accomplish the purpose of the RWA, guest presentations were given at monthly meetings from June 2008 to May 2009 as summarized below.

- Pierce County CWSP Update – Katherine Brooks, Pierce County Public Works & Utilities

- Utilities Underground Location Center – Don Evans, Executive Administrator
- Water System Plan Review – Katherine Brooks, Pierce County Public Works & Utilities
- USGS Chambers-Clover Creek Basin Project (Mark Savoca, Burt Clothier, Dave Seabrook)
- Washington WARN – Jim Harksen, DOH
- Pierce County Emergency Management Operations Center, Presentation/Tour – Lou Dooly, Pierce County Emergency Management
- USGS Presentation on Chambers Clover Creek Watershed Modeling Study – USGS staff and Pierce Conservation staff
- Reservoir Recirculation Technology – TMG Services; PAX; Spanaway Water Company
- DOH’s Water Quality Reporting Standards – Chris Mueller, Water Management Labs
- Introduction of New TPCHD Director, Dr. Chen – Dr. Chen
- Public Fire Protection: Lane vs. Seattle – Bill Fosbre, Chief Assistant Attorney, Tacoma

In addition to guest presentations, RWA members also provided briefings on subjects of interest to the Membership, including:

- Emergency Management Planning Activities
- Legislative Session Briefings
- Status Updates on the Municipal Water Law
- Proposed Residential Fire Sprinkler Legislation
- Pierce County Water Festival

Associate Members - In April 2007 the RWA began offering associate members the opportunity to present information to the RWA as a formal agenda item. The following associate members presented information regarding services offered by their firms during RWA meetings.

- Pacific Groundwater Group (Russ Prior & Jill VanHulle)
- FCS Group (Angie Sanchez, David Finclay, Nihat Dogan)
- Water Management Labs (Chris Mueller)

Other Business – To allow members to raise issues of interest and coordinate activities, each RWA meeting concludes with an “other business” agenda item. Other business agenda topics from June 2008 to May 2009 included the following:

- Status updates on the preparations for the 2010 AWWA Conference to be held in Tacoma in spring, 2010.
- Announcements of AWWA South Sound Section training seminars and activities.
- An invitation to participate in Phase 2 Region 5 Emergency Mitigation Planning with Pierce County Emergency Management.

- Briefings on Pierce County's Comprehensive Plan amendment proposals and land use initiatives.
- Informal briefings on the USGS Chambers-Clover Creek Watershed Modeling study.
- General training announcements.
- An invitation to participate in a County-wide emergency planning event.

Major Activities / Accomplishments

Website Development

- As a means to more effectively communicate information, the RWA financed the development of a Pierce County RWA website. The website address is: pcrwa.org.

Central Puget Sound Water Suppliers Forum

- The RWA continued its participation as a member of the Central Puget Sound Water Suppliers Forum. Two communities, the demand forecast and water supply committee have formed to begin work on the update of the 2001 Outlook, a comprehensive report on municipal water supply in the three-county area.

USGS Chambers-Clover Creek Watershed Modeling Project

- The USGS is currently developing a surface-ground water model for the Chambers/Clover Creek Watershed. Along with other former members of the 2514 watershed planning unit, the RWA is a participant in the project. When completed, the model will be the primary tool for understanding the aquifer and surface water system in the watershed, supplanting both the 1985 Brown and Caldwell and 2003 Technical Assessment completed under the 2514 watershed planning process. The Pierce Conservation District serves as the local project sponsor and financial contributions from RWA members and others has occurred. Although focused on the Chambers/Clover Creek Watershed, the study area includes portions of the Puyallup-White and Nisqually watersheds.

Water Conservation

- The RWA is currently exploring an association membership in the Partnership for Water Conservation. In the past, the RWA has been a member of the Water Conservation Coalition until it merged with the Partnership for Water Conservation in 2006.

Emergency Preparedness

- The RWA is represented on the Pierce County Emergency Management equipment committee formed to distribute money received from the Department of Home Land

Security. Through this process, the RWA was able to secure funding for the purchased of 8 radios.

- The RWA is represented on the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management, Joint Terrorism Task Force.
- A representative of the RWA attended a two-day security-training course held in Puyallup. The training was provided by Halo Corporation, a private security company located in San Diego. The main training topics were how to spot terrorist groups, being observant and reporting suspicious activity.
- The RWA began discussions with Pierce County Department of Emergency Management to determine what can be done in Pierce County to address water security measures.
- The RWA participated in meetings of the Water Sector Coordinating Council which is working to develop a WARN program and a water Sector Specific Plan of the State. A WARN is a network of utilities helping utilities during small, large or catastrophic emergencies. WARN programs include the use of a mutual aid and assistance agreement that allows utilities to cross jurisdictional boundaries to provide aid during and following an emergency.

South Sound Section – American Water Works Association

- Representatives of the RWA have played a leading role in the re-establishment of the South Sound Section of the American Water Works Association.

PIERCE COUNTY REGIONAL WATER ASSOCIATION

<u>Water Purveyors</u>	<u># Conn.</u>
Canterwood Water Company	700
Carbonado, Town of	300
Crystal Mountain	43
Curran Road Mutual Water Association	600
Dupont, City of	2,800
Eatonville, Town of	1,044
Fife, City of	2,400
Firgrove Mutual Water Company	5,000
Fruitland Mutual Water Company	3,600
Gig Harbor, City of	2,500
Graham Hill Mutual Water Company	400
Lakewood Water District	16,700
Milton, City of	2,700
Mountain View-Edgewood Water Co.	3,000
Parkland Light & Water	7,600
Peninsula Light Company	2,240
Puyallup, City of	11,000
Rainier View Water Company	16,000
Spanaway Water Company	9,500
Summit Water & Supply	5,000
Sumner, City of	3,600
Tacoma Water	96,000
Valley Water District	2,400
Washington Water Services	21,986
Winchester Village Water Company	<u>143</u>
Total	217,256

Associates

AHBL, Inc.
 Apex Engineering
 Financial Consulting Solutions Group, Inc.
 John Knowles & Associates, Inc.
 Pacific Groundwater Group
 Parametrix, Inc.
 Pierce County Water Resources
 RH2 Engineering, Inc.
 Robinson Noble Saltbush, Inc.
 Tacoma Pierce County Health Department
 Water Management Laboratories, Inc.