

**1-17-2024 PUBLIC HEARING
ON
PROPOSED RATE INCREASE – 4 PM**

Trustees present were:

Mr. John Harshbarger	Board Member
Ms. Linda Wibbenmeyer	Vice-Chairperson

Trustees not present:

Mr. Greg Dohrman	Chairperson
Dr. William Rebore	Board Member
Mr. Bob Schnur	Board Member

Staff Members present:

Mr. Keith Arbuckle	Executive Director
Mr. Luke Kehoe	Director of Engineering & Operations
Ms. Julie O’Guinn	Director of Finance & Administration
Mr. Brad Meyers	Information Systems Manager
Ms. Sarah Marien	Accounting/HR/Admin Assistant
Ms. Krystal Jones	Recording Secretary
Justine Glancy	Customer Service Manager
Bridget Knudsen	Accounting Supervisor
Sarah Beckmann	Administrative Assistant

Others present:

Carol Malesky	Stantec Consulting
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Public Hearing began at 4:03 p.m.

District Customers present:

None

Carol Malesky with Stantec Consulting presented a Power-Point presentation - Duckett Creek Sanitary District Presentation for Public Notice for a proposed commercial rate increase.

(See Attached)

Ms. Malesky reviewed the following:

- FY 2024 Revenue Sufficiency Analysis
 - Displayed the updated 30-year capital improvement program schedule including existing and future infrastructure and plants.
 - Noted that the commercial rate increase will go into effect March 1st 2024 and will be reflected on customers’ bills in April 2024.
- Commercial increase in FY 2024 will achieve 100% parity with residential rates.
 - 5000 gallons of monthly usage and over for commercial customers will match fixed usage for residential customers. The dollar amount per 1000 gallons will increase \$0.95, from \$4.40 per 1000 gallons to \$5.35 per 1000 gallons.
 - Operating fund balances are expected to be drawn down to an optimal level.
 - Optimal balances of revenues in and expenses out are expected with the increase.

The Executive Director discussed the addition of an oxidation ditch for an additional \$3.8 million at the Hopewell plant (TP4). This will be the first phase of expansions planned for treatment plant 4 over the next 15-30 years.

Vice-Chairperson Wibbenmeyer asked questions about the Scenario Manager section of the graphs pertaining to Lagers that was presented in the rate study presentation. The Director of Finance & Administration stated that the District plans to compare Lagers benefits against other municipalities to compare with peers to see what that would cost us in terms of our rate. The Executive Director then mentioned that he wanted to hold off on updating Lagers benefits for a few years.

The Director of Finance and Administration mentioned that we will be requesting approval from the board for the \$0.95 commercial rate increase at the January 2024 board meeting.

Meeting concluded at 4:40 p.m.