

London Water Cooperative
Meeting
October 15, 2024
7:00 pm

Call to Order:

By President Eric Vortriede. He reviewed the agenda for the meeting

Present at The Meeting:

Terri Finn Kadrmass, Vicki Whisler, Alaine Lewis, Eric Vortriede, Mary and Randy Jackson, Kevin Brown and Gayle Kahane representing the Grange. (If I missed anyone my apologies as this is my first meeting as Secretary)

Minutes:

The minutes from previous meeting were read by Mary

Report from Treasurer:

Vicki reported the balance of the account is \$38,854.00. Eric brought up the online banking being available for members and encourages all members to use this service as it is beneficial for the coop to do so.

Old Business:

Some of this is covered in Eric's prepared statement

New Business:

Eric thanked Mary for her many years of service and assistance to him personally. Thank you as well from all of the coop members!

Eric nominated Alaine Lewis as the new secretary, and there was a unanimous vote by everyone in attendance.

Eric introduced Kevin Brown as the new Certified Water Treatment Operator.

Eric read the prepared statement.

Adjournment:

Randy motioned to close and Alaine seconded: approved by show of hands.

Minutes respectfully submitted by the secretary, Alaine Lewis, October 15, 2024

London Water Co-op

Agenda for 10/15/2024

Call to Order

Review of Agenda

Reading of Previous Minutes

Report from the Treasurer

Old Business

New Business

Thank you, Mary for your years of service

Election of new Secretary

Welcome to Kevin Brown our new Direct Responsible Contact (DRC)

Update on new Water Treatment Plant

Update on technology improvements

Online Payments

Online invoicing

Online book keeping

Adjournment

Cake

October 15, 2024 LWC Meeting – Prepared Statement

As of the September meter readings, this year we have delivered 798,870 gallons of water. The average use per month has been 3698 gallons per connection.

Since our last meeting on July 10, we have issued no notices for high turbidity or boil water. Overall, we have had a very good summer with no significant supply issues.

With the rainy season starting up now, we can expect turbidity to increase as it usually does. We will do our best to clean the water and keep it safe.

At our last meeting, we reported that the new water treatment plant (WTP) design effort was under way and that the project was going to take place in two phases, with the second phase requiring another grant. That grant has been approved (not yet awarded) and Business Oregon has agreed to allow us to combine the phases into a single project. We had anticipated this and are very thankful that this is the case. There is still considerable red tape to be cut before the funding will be awarded, but we are working through that, day by day. The initial funding has not run out, so the project is still solvent.

At the last meeting we reported that we have a new website (londonwatercoop.org). At that time, it simply showed a graphic of the storage tank level. Today, it includes links to timely information (Consumer Confidence Report, OHA Online Data for LWC, our Rates, etc.) the contact information for our officers, and a link to our online payment page.

Online payment is one of the technology improvements that we have made. There are a number of households that pay sporadically, not having checking accounts, which require obtaining cashier's checks in order to pay. These households have indicated to us that online payment would address the issue. It can also make our job easier, but only if more people use it.

We have also moved our invoicing system to the cloud. When the previous invoicing system was implemented, there was no cloud and it was appropriate that the invoicing system lived on the Treasurer's computer.

This poses a continuity of business issue in the event that the Treasurer resigns or is otherwise sidelined. A cloud based online invoicing system gives us portability and the ability to collaborate when issues arise.

Similarly, we have implemented a cloud based online bookkeeping system. To date, our bookkeeping system has been our check register. So, you can imagine how difficult figuring out how much it costs us to make water could be. Are we charging enough? Are we charging too much? There are many decisions that need to be made based on how much we spend on things like chlorine and lab testing.

These changes are moving us into the 21st century and should serve us well for many years to come.