October 2020

PSA Water System Report

The PSA Water system has been running along pretty good but we have had several issues over the past several months. In addition to the normal minor leaks, repairs, and new service installations, we had a positive coliform sample in July that required some caulking and sealing at the water tanks to fix. NW water suggested a new hatch but upon further investigation I determined some minor modification to the hatch and new weather stripping would satisfy the need and in fact it did. We received an approval from the Department of Health that the work did satisfy the Level One Assessment developed by NW Water to determine and mitigate the cause of the source of contamination.

In addition to the bad sample most of you experienced the outage a few weeks back. A service line was broken on the street side of the service valve on Olympic View. It was apparently in such a location it could not be isolated and the entire system was shut down. Many of the lots lower in the system, near the lake for instance, did not lose water entirely but did experience lower pressure. By continuing to use water with the system shut down and an open pipe, air was drawn into the system. Once the line was repaired and the system started back up that air migrated up to the booster pumps and caused a vapor lock that created a second outage. Many thanks to Will James for his help in getting the air bled off and flushing the sediment from the blow off at the end of the system.

The boil water notice information issues are being addressed by NW water. If you haven't given us an email address please do so. It allows NW to issue these notices in real time. In this case the notice was issued as a precaution until test results were received to verify contamination did not occur.

Finally yesterday's power outage was a good test for our relatively new generator and automatic transfer system. Everything did what it was supposed to do and water was available during this most recent event. Speaking of the generator, I checked it out last week and noted that it had 38 total hours and this past year it's ran a total of 15 hours. It's next service has been scheduled for October 22, 2020.

We recently had the well sites mowed and cleaned up and I think they did a good job. Both sites look real good. We'll do it again in the spring. The pipes in the pump house could use some paint. To try to do it in the summer is difficult because of condensation. We may just have to hire a professional they have options such water cured epoxies and a variety of means and methods to use as well as properly prep the surfaces accordingly. I'll deal with it in the spring of next year.

Check the Financial Report for the numbers.

Respectfully submitted

Tom Moore PSA VP, Water System Co Chairman