

# OREGON WATER WONDERLAND UNIT II SANITARY DISTRICT

55841 SWAN RD, BEND OR 97707

[www.oww2sd.com](http://www.oww2sd.com)

## Meeting Minutes Board of Directors – Special Meeting May 9, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.

**Call to Order - Roll Call:** Jerry Preston called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Members present; Jeff Okamoto, Dan DeHaven and Ricky Keller. Members absent; None. **District Employees:** Ellie Davis **Visitors:** Denise Wetherell, Michelle Kenney, Don Elder, Karen Druery, Gary Baton, Bob Scott, Kevin & Kathleen Mitchell, Kent Delaney, Jeff & Christine Young (attended, did not sign in).

The purpose of this special meeting was to address the sewer odor coming from the main lagoon at the district office located on Swan Rd that's been ongoing for a couple of weeks. Jerry thanked the community for attending today's meeting. The Board of Directors responded to comments and questions from residents as well as explained how the system operates.

The odor is originating off our main lagoon where all sewage is collected, and the first level of treatment begins. We have experienced a failure in our submerged aeration system and established that we need repairs. The air diffusers in the aeration system are not completely running as they should. Typically, in the springtime, the lagoon will do what's called turning. When temperature changes fluctuate will make the layers in the lagoon to invert and it will bring stuff to the surface that hasn't been fully oxidized. That is where the smell comes from. If the equipment was working correctly, it oxidizes the pond sufficient enough to where we don't have this issue. The process usually takes a couple of days.

We received a phone call from D.E.Q. this morning and they will be down later this afternoon for a site visit regarding the numerous complaints they have received on the smell throughout the neighborhood. A contract with Triplepoint Environmental has been established to be on site Wednesday May 17<sup>th</sup> to exam and restore the aeration equipment. They have been gracious to be able to move some of their own scheduling around to be able to get here as soon as possible. A crane will need to be brought out to lift the pontoon servicing equipment onto the lagoon.

### Customer Questions & Answers

1. One customer has lived here for many years and never experienced a sewer odor and said a letter was sent out? Jeff stated no official communication has been sent out and today's meeting was making clarification. It appears that it was a social media posting and not a statement from the sanitary district.
2. Some work took place in the easement a couple of weeks ago at the bottom of the hill on Swan Rd., was there a sewer leak? It was not a sewer leak; that was a water leak. Water Wonderland Improvement District was out there repairing the break in the water line.
3. Is the aeration system so special to where only Triplepoint can maintain? Triplepoint was the company who installed the aeration system. In case anything is broken, and needs repaired, they would have the replacement parts. Regular maintenance will take place, so this does not happen again. Due to this incident, we have reassessed our maintenance schedule.
4. Is the sewer district at capacity for population increase in the neighborhood? No, we are not at capacity. With the upgrade and expansion that took place in 2006, the system was designed to accompany all lots in OWW 2 and still be under capacity.
5. Are the pond liners ok and are they due to be replaced? No, lagoon liners last 30 years or more.

6. What is the timeline for this to be resolved? Once the maintenance is complete and the aerators are restored the odor likely is going to get worse before it gets better. Some areas of the neighborhood get more of an odor than others, depending on wind direction.
7. What is the plan to keep this from happening again? The district will purchase the necessary equipment to conduct the maintenance in-house. If for some reason that is not an option, regular maintenance can be scheduled with Triplepoint as well.

It was brought to Jeff's attention (via social media) that up on Wood Duck Dr, where there appears to be flooding, someone claimed it was a sewer leak. No, it's not a sewer leak, it's groundwater. This area has been known to have a natural spring.

A general discussion took place between the visitors and the OWW2 POA board members in regard to the ditches, culverts & requirements and some that need attention.

Updates, as they become available, will be posted on the sanitary district's website as we work through this process.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Jerry Preston at 10:37 a.m. The time and place of the next meeting is at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday May 18, 2023 at the District Office.

Jeff Okamoto  
Secretary

June 15, 2023  
Date