

**WHATCOM COUNTY WATER DISTRICT NO. 13
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING APRIL 3, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Whatcom County Water District 13 was called to order by Commissioner Robert Vandenhaak at 6:30 pm. Commissioners Anthony Au, Richard Whitson, Talitha Shiroma, Rebecca Cayen, and Robert Vandenhaak were present in person. District employees Cheryl Thompson and Carson Cothren were present in person.

Rates Discussion

Richard shared his rate calculation spreadsheet with the Board to look at income and expenses. The spreadsheet will calculate the income needed to cover operations expenses and loan payments. The District has had some unexpected expenses and has had to spend down some of its reserves. Cheryl shared a spreadsheet of other water and sewer districts' rates. Many districts have much less water included in the base rate for water and charge for sewage coming into their treatment plants.

With the upcoming forecasted drought, water conservation needs to be encouraged to ensure an adequate water supply in case of emergencies. A proposal was made to lower the number of gallons given with the base rate from 15,000 gallons per billing cycle to 10,000 gallons and adjust the tiered rates for water overage. 70% of the ratepayers use 10,000 gallons or less per billing cycle and would not be impacted by the reduction in the number of gallons. Cheryl will draft a proposed resolution for review at the April 9, 2024, special meeting.

A proposal was to increase sewer rates from \$56 per month to \$60 per month, an increase of \$4 per month. Cheryl will draft a proposed resolution for review at the April 9, 2024, special meeting.

CONCLUDE

There being no further business Robert Vandenhaak concluded the meeting at 8:07 pm. These Minutes were presented and approved at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners on 5/28/24.

APPROVED: _____

DATE: _____





