

August 2017 Board of Trustees Meeting Recap

Lake Josephine Riviera Water would like to take this opportunity to recap items discussed at August's board meeting. During this meeting, we focused on the topic of conservation and using a tiered rate structure for water usage. I know many are trying to blame the Department of Health and yes, they are the agency pushing for conservation efforts, but I ask us all to really think about what they are asking for. Is conservation of a precious resource really a bad idea? In the community, I have heard the comment that our aquifer has not changed levels in years, and this is a true statement. Does this mean we shouldn't make every effort to preserve and use the least amount of this resource we can? Riviera Community Club is a long way from total development. We need to make every effort possible to assure that there is enough water for all. I think it is very important that we also understand that the water in the aquifer is not Riviera's. We can pump from this aquifer a certain amount of water that is regulated by the Department of Ecology. The Department of Ecology is tasked with determining how much water can be drawn without impacting all life on Anderson Island. Would you want to give more water to an association if they made no effort to use it wisely?

In the last meeting, the board of trustees revised the rate structure for water. The first 7,480 gallons are at the base rate of \$35.92. If you use more than this allotment then you will be charged \$1.00 for each additional 748 gallons up to 14,960 gallons. If you are to use water in the amount that exceeds 14,960 gallons the price will rise to \$2.00 per 748 gallons for all water used between 14,960 Gallons and 22,440 gallons. The final tier is \$2.50 per every 748 gallons over 22,440 gallons. These rates have been reviewed and compared to several of the local water systems and we remain one of the best deals around.

In closing, I just want to remind us all that safe, clean, and reliable drinking water is rare. Many systems spend a great deal of money and time to treat their water before it is ready to drink. By using good stewardship and strong conservation efforts we are doing our best to make sure our source of water lasts well into the future. If you have any questions or are looking for tips on how to conserve water please feel free to contact your Lake Josephine Water Department at (253)884-4093.