



JANUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

**The Group**

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Hello all.

The Group met on January 21<sup>st</sup> at Coal Creek Water & Sewer, thanks to our hostess Carla Snyder. Those in attendance were Debbie Crooks from the City of Kent, Dennis McLaughlin; BAT, Mary Gonzales; BAT, Linda McMurphy from City of Edmonds, Chris Sutton; BAT, Tony Peredo from Rainier View Water Co. , Ron Brown; BAT, Gary Brown from KCWD # 90, Dale Baxmann from University of Washington and Kathy Caldwell from the City of Redmond.

Vice Chair Chris called the meeting to order at 10:05. After some chit chat regarding orientation of some assemblies, Dennis reported that he is completely finished with the filing of our federal tax-exempt status and received a letter from the IRS to confirm it. He will now file our taxes, which according to him should be a “slam-dunk”. Although our dues are only 10 bucks, he wanted all to be aware that your dues are tax deductible as well as the folks that are paying for advertising on the web site.

With this status Dennis had discovered that there is a conflict in our bylaws. Article 14 on page 7 states that in case of the Group’s dissolution that all of our monies would go to the PNW Section of American Water Works Association. The requirements of our new status are that our monies must go to another non-profit organization. The 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph of our bylaws was voted on and will be changed to read the same as Article 5, fifth paragraph of the articles of incorporation.

One more time we would like to thank Dennis for the many hours he spent in dealing with this issue. He further reported that the checking account balance is \$18,482.55.

Since we have some new officers, we thought it would be a good idea to list duties for each position. We will all be doing a bit of homework for the positions and we will produce them at a later date. Chris mentioned that he feels the need for us to consider software for our accounting. There were mixed feelings; some wondering if we have enough business activity to warrant software and we would have to consider purchasing a tablet or other device for treasurer use. On the flip side, some think we need to continue to progress forward to catch up to the times. There will be more discussion. We did however vote that any check over \$1000.00 will require two signatures. Currently Dennis and Chris are our signers.

We know many folks are interested in the BAT Forum we hold every year in Bellevue. This year we have voted on and decided to rent the space at La Quinta in Tacoma for the meeting. So, plan on that venue. Details on speakers, agenda, etc. will be out in February. We had a short discussion of topics to discuss and one that seemed to peak interest was how a BAT should collect from dead-beat customers. Should BATS create a list of names and share it with each other? If you have any great ideas, plan to share! It will be 9AM to 1PM. Members that have paid their 2015 dues will be in free, and anyone else attending will be expected to pay \$10.00 to bring their membership status current. I’ve attached the dues form to this email. Please remember that if you send a check in the

mail, we **MUST** have the form completed also so we know which member(s) have paid.

We are still trying to complete the 2015 calendar. Mercer Island invited us to visit to talk about incident response, but could only accommodate us late in the afternoon and we decided that may be too difficult for some. We may still be able to work something out. More to come.....and we really appreciate Sandy Love's work in trying to make arrangements for us.

Here is some exciting news; Dale Baxmann has set up the field trip in July for us. We are invited to go look at the complex plumbing systems at The Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. The complex has over 35 different water systems on campus and sounds like a huge learning opportunity for all. Dale is hoping that anyone interested in going can drop me an email just so he has a rough idea of attendance. Let me know! [kcaldwell@redmond.gov](mailto:kcaldwell@redmond.gov)

The next meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup> was originally to be held at HD Fowler in Bellevue, but the location has been changed to The Lake Hills Library. The address is 15590 Lake Hills Blvd., Bellevue 98007. Our vice chair Chris Sutton will be hosting and speaking about irrigation systems. As usual, 10AM-12PM.

That is all for now,  
Kathy Caldwell  
Group Secretary  
425 556 2847

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR DUES**

