

2010 CHAIRS REPORT – TOPICS:

Thank you to the Board for their support over the past years.

Going to touch on whats ahead, since most are aware of the past through e-mails and articles. Feel free to ask any questions.

School toilet project: toilets ordered and we are able to do the full job. They will be installed over the summer by the school maintenance people. (re:Dave Henshall)

The MIIWSS stance on hydrofracturing, as well as more protective measures in place within legislation for the use of non potable water within the home, has been acknowledged by the Water Act Modernization committee as under consideration. So all we can do now is sit back and hope it makes its way into the new legislation.

Fall technical workshop, Saturday, October 16 at the Ag Hall: about 2 hours of water chemistry with Bill Warning, and 6 of backflow prevention both for systems and single well owners as it pertains to introduction of non potable water into the home.

Purple pipes are mandated for this use. I have also learned that this is only the beginning. There will be a full range of piping colours, each with industry standardized use and across the board agreement is being worked on now. There is purple for rainwater, there will be another colour for greywater etc. Plumbing under the house will look quite vibrant in the future---unless you have a colour blind plumber.

Salt Water Intrusion assessment: Bill and I will talk with you later about where we are and what we plan specifically, but I want now to tell you why. There are printouts here about Lopez Island desalinization plants FYI. We also had a guest speaker at the 2009 workshop addressing the issue that is increasing in urgency in the San Juan Islands. That they let development go for so long that it had to come to installation of 11 plants on 1 island, is regrettable.

We are experiencing salt water intrusion into areas of Mayne Island aquifers, and it is affecting not only single well owners, but water systems. We feel it is urgent that we get a feel for not only where intrusion is a problem now, and give us a base to work on in the future, but to discover how far inland this is occurring----and also where it is not occurring. In other words, we are looking for a base map that can be built on over the next few years and learn where and/or if this is a problem for our island----yet.

As to the comments about de-sal being the answer for the future, if you read the paper, you will note that de-sal raises very serious concerns around costs, effluent effects, membrane pickling and cleaning.

The concern that I see looming in the future is land use. Development currently requires proof of potable water. I have sat through Trust variance applications where not much more than a mud hole for 1 lot and a well with high multiples of esthetics for the 2nd easily passed the LTC and staff as acceptable wells for variance approval. With such low standards of expectation, de-sal plants could easily open up a whole new field for developers.

We need to learn the sphere of influence for the wells we know have "gone to the dark side".

So these are some of the reasons, and we can discuss how we can get there later in the agenda.

Changes in MIIWSS. We have talked over the past couple of years about changes, more member involvement and plans that will allow MIIWSS to stay vibrant and fully on the radar for water issues.

Discuss: cutting back on programming

- librarian; need someone take this on. Probably doesn't involve more than 10 hours in a year
- website, Bill Maylone has expressed an interest in this
- NO workshops- no grants. Need more help for the board in the organizing areas if we are to continue. This area is important to the operators for CEU maintenance
- not necessary to be on the board to take on an existing facet of MIIWSS

