

FAQ Items

A. **When does the water and sewer Board normally meet?**

Normally we meet on the second Wednesday of the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5PM at the HWY 211 Fire Station. Any changes will be publicized through Sacheen Next door, Sacheen Facebook, and the Lakes end email group, and the Newport Miner.

B. **Can anyone from the Sacheen Community attend meeting and ask questions or bring up concerns?**

Yes! There is a public commentary time on the agenda for every meeting

C. **Are there other ways to contact the Water and Sewer District besides attending meetings?**

Yes! You can call our District Manager, Kris Hansen at (509) 447-4641 or email her at jssacheen@gmail.com. In addition Kris typically maintains office hours at the HWY 211 Fire Station on Mondays and Wednesdays from about 10:00 to 2:00.

Also the board members can be reached as follows:

Shaun Bleecker shaunbleeks99@gmail.com

Randy Carasco randysacheen@outlook.com

Rod Griggs beelineautomotive@comcast.net

D. **Is there a website for the Sacheen Water and Sewer Board The link to the website can be accessed through the Sacheen Lake Associations site at:
<https://sacheenlake.com/water-sewer/>**

E. **Has there been changes for the Sacheen Water and Sewer District?**

Shaun Bleecker has joined the board.

Paul Sexton left and Nathan Johnson of Sacheen Sewer Services for our operator needs.

F. **What are the Water and Sewer District employees being paid and how is that funded?**

The three board members make \$128.00 monthly and we also have a part-time District Manager, and contract operator services. In 2023 we paid \$26,824.37 in salaries and \$19,386.00 contract fees.

G. **Given the relatively modest outlay of monies and such by the Water and Sewer District, how exactly is the \$200.41 sewer bill being spent and what does the W&S basic budget and fiscal picture look like?**

The short story is that - of your \$200.41 about 151.41 goes to service about \$9million in loans that were taken to fuel construction and will not be paid off until 2036. Put another way about 76% of your payment goes to loans and 24% goes toward actual operating expenses.

In 2023 \$219,448.26, \$104,239.26 in O&M fees and \$75,222 in levy monies a beginning balance of 39,987.00. Expenditures of \$180,373.24 . leaving a carry over \$39,075.02.

The levy part of the revenue base is intended to support milfoil/curly leaf/ invasive species treatment and maintain the Myers-Harter Sanctuary. W&S District insurance, salaries, and beaver mitigation/lake

That being said, the salient point is that about 25% of the W&S District effective operating budget is dependent on the levy.

Therefore another levy failure as the one that occurred in 2018 would necessitate some very tough choices in addition to foregoing invasive species treatment.

H. Controlling Milfoil and other invasive species proliferation is clearly and rightfully a significant concern for the Sacheen Community. Why is this part of the W&S Board Levy.

This was decided on because the W&S Board as a junior government agency has the authority to run a levy. The intent of course has been to keep Milfoil and other invasive species at Bay.

**I. What can and what does the S&W Board and District do
What are some of the priorities and goals?**

Our primary role is to ensure things flow smoothly by overseeing the budget and spending, making sure the system is serviced and maintained as needed so that things do not get backed up. Dealing with and facilitating repair issues and new hookups as needed . In addition, we have a few miscellaneous responsibilities that evolved for various reasons such as overseeing the Myers-Harter Sanctuary, beaver mitigation, and of course aquatic invasive species treatment.

J. What happens If the Water and Sewer Board and District becomes unable to function due to not being able to maintain 3 board members, levy failure or some other reasons.

As stated above under G, we are concerned that about 25% of our operating budget OTHER THAN INVASIVE SPECIES MITIGATION is dependent on the levy.