

Dear [Polnell Landing Water Association \(PLWA\)](#) members -

Since becoming a [Group A Water System](#), the PLWA Board of Directors has on several occasions mentioned additional requirements levied upon us by that designation. This letter expounds upon some of those issues and some other challenges we currently face. *Hyperlinks herein provide additional information if reading electronically.*

[Filtration Plant Project](#). Our near-term Capital Project is to replace our non-functioning manganese / iron filtration system for about \$150,000. Alternately, we could eliminate this system process and leave all filtration options up to individual members.

[Fire Hydrants](#) Our Satellite Management Agency, King Water, has informed us that one of our five fire hydrants – one on Viewpoint Drive - is not functioning. This will likely cost us above \$10K to rectify based on recent, similar fixes at another local water system. We have requested that King Water make this fire hydrant functional this year.

[Cross Control Connection and Backflow](#) seeks to prevent contamination of the public water system from your side of the water meter. We are required to create a Board-approved program that educates and surveys our members, to keep records of those surveys, and, if required, to install an approved backflow assembly on a member's water line if they fail to participate in the survey and/or if they refuse to protect the public water system from potential backflow. Permanent devices installed by qualified (licensed / bonded) persons should be compliant. If you have such a device installed in violation of plumbing codes, you have two choices: rectify that problem by having the correct type of backflow prevention installed, or have PLWA install, at your expense, a backflow assembly.

[Water Meters and Water Use Efficiency](#) A state-mandated ten-year implementation period for water meters expired in 2017. We have three members currently drawing water who have never had a water meter at their residence. Our fee schedule charges members for the full cost of all water meter installations. However, these three members

were water users near the time of formation of the PLWA and the PLWA Board of Directors previously obligated the water system to install these water meters at our expense. We have requested King Water to install those three water meters for us this calendar year. Going forward, we will continue to bill all members for the full cost of all needed water meter installations. Besides water meters for new construction, some of our older water meters may have failed or may lack an integrated backflow check valve.

We are required to report our water use efficiency annually. We must report how much water we pump from the well with how much of that water makes its way through the water meters: a system leakage calculation. Ideally, though not required, we could also measure the level of water in the well itself. This would be best accomplished by adding a sounding tube to the well, along with a transducer (e.g., a sonic well sounder) and a data logger. We currently own no such measuring equipment. This would cost several cost several thousand dollars to implement.

Asset Management Everything in a water system eventually needs to be repaired or replaced, as none of it lasts forever: well, well pump, sonic sounder, reservoir, filtration system, booster pumps, water mains, valves, fire hydrants, water meters, etc. Having less than two dozen people to maintain a water system such as ours, with a mile of water mains and five fire hydrants, is an expensive proposition. The replacement cost of our water system is most likely well over \$1 million in today's dollars. The PLWA Board will soon create a fee structure that intends not only maintains the current system and addresses state reporting requirements, but also enables us to meet our inevitable future major capital challenges: fees will need to be increased to do so.

Sincerely,

POLNELL LANDING WATER ASSOCIATION (PLWA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WILLIAM (BILL) BURNETT, PRESIDENT

KARL NIELSEN, VICE PRESIDENT

CRAIG ABDELNOOR, SECRETARY

JOHN ROMANSKI, TREASURER