

# MEETING NOTES

## Alpensee Wetland Neighborhood Meeting

Feb. 21, 2016 – 6:30-8pm – Leavenworth PUD Auditorium

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### 1. Attendees:

- PUD Commissioner, Steve McKenna
- PUD staff: David Lodge – Project Manager; Becky Jaspers, Edrie Risdon, Vicki Griffin, Dan Frazier – Real Estate Services; Teka Sellers – Community Engagement; Brian Lowe – Customer Utilities
- City of Leavenworth: Joel Walinski – City Administrator, Nathan Pate – Development Services Manager – City Council Member, Sharon Waters
- Chelan County: Jason Detamore – Stormwater Program Manager G
- Environmental Consultants: Ryan Walker, Grette Associates
- Pacific Engineering: Aaron Anderson
- Wenatchee World
- 5 neighboring property owners

### 2. Meeting Summary:

- David Lodge opened the meeting, introduced staff and other members of the project team
- David provided background information:
  - Chelan County PUD owns property adjacent to the Leavenworth substation (see map below). Stormwater and groundwater that is collected upstream flows through an open ditch and a wetland on this property. The PUD is aware that the wetland has caused issues for some neighboring properties. The recording of this wetland limits the PUD's ability to actively change the function of the property, however, as a good neighbor, we would like to collaborate with neighbors and other stakeholders to find a long-term solution to the flooding issues.
  - There is evidence the wetland is growing.
- Ryan Walker from Grette Associates used the map to explain how the water flows under Chumstick Highway through an existing culvert, a conveyance ditch and into the delineated wetland area. He also reviewed which agencies would be involved in permitting and current regulations. Even though the wetland has grown over time, regulators look at the current state and function of the wetland, not a point in history, when evaluating permit applications.
- Dan Frazier provided an overview of the PUD's perspective *to provide the best, for the most, for the longest period of time* and treat all customer-owners fair and equitably.
- Aaron Anderson from Pacific Engineering facilitated a discussion with neighboring property owners. Each property owner:
  - Provided some history and new information about the wetland including old photos of the property and documentation of the underground piping downstream of the wetland.
  - Explained issues the wetland causes for their property.
  - Provided some input on possible solutions.
- Aaron provided some thoughts on possible alternative solutions and pros and cons of each.
  - Concepts included an overflow structure that would maintain the water elevation or expanding the wetland to provide better control of the flow of water.
  - The wetland provides treatment of stormwater runoff which results in sediment deposits in the wetland.
  - Removal of the wetland would require offsite mitigation which would be extremely cost prohibitive.
  - The challenge is identifying cost-effective improvements that would solve wetland growth and flooding without draining or altering the function of the wetland.

### 3. Next steps, timeline and action items:

- Chelan County PUD, Chelan County, City of Leavenworth and the consultants will work collaboratively to determine alternative solutions.
- Once alternatives are created and estimated costs can be determined, these agencies will look into possible funding sources.
- The PUD will communicate these alternatives and possible funding sources back to the neighboring property owners and other stakeholders by the end of June 2018.

