



# IWA PIPELINE



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## **Your 2015 Island Water Association Board Members**



**Jack Cunningham**  
Vice President

**Ralph Sloan**  
VP/Treasurer

**Gary Dutton, Jr.**  
VP/Secretary

**Jim Griffith**  
President

**Paul Garvey**  
Vice President

### **2015 ANNUAL MEETING**

On April 13, 2015, the 50th Annual Meeting of The Island Water Association, Inc. (IWA) was held at the Association's offices, located at 3651 Sanibel Captiva Road.

Board President John R. Cunningham presented his President's Report pertaining to the state of the company. Mr. Cunningham started by offering IWA's condolences to the families and friends of Harley Durlath, Andy Schroder, and Bob Wigley, all former IWA Board members, and Bob Degand, a close friend of our IWA family, who all passed away in 2014.

Mr. Cunningham then commented on the major expenses facing IWA in the production of our drinking water: chemicals, fuel, and electricity. He praised Production Manager Pat Henry for negoti-

ating lower prices for needed chemicals for 2014 and 2015 and noted that LCEC is lowering its Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) charge for 2015, resulting in an overall 1.8% decrease in our cost of electricity for 2015. Mr. Cunningham finished his report by noting IWA's greatest assets are its employees.

Vice President/Treasurer James M. Griffith then presented the Treasurer's report. He reported IWA remains financially sound, with 2014 revenues of \$7.0M and operating costs of \$5.2M. Capital expenditures for 2014 were \$0.8M, while debt service was \$437K. The 2015 Budget includes revenues of \$7.2M, plus \$2.0M financed in 2014, against expenses of \$9.1M.

Next, General Manager Don DuBrasky presented his report on accomplishments made in 2014 and projects planned for 2015.

Mr. DuBrasky first mentioned the fact that IWA

welcomed 24 new members in 2014, double the number from 2012. There were 17 new members accepted in 2013.

He stated that water production (1.24B gals.), billed water (1.19B gals.), and water sales (\$6.76M) were all up 1% from 2013, as would be expected. The 4% difference between produced water and billed water is considered water loss due to firefighting, hydrant flushing, dead-end flushing, and leaks. This is a very low number for the industry, indicating very few leaks in our system.

Mr. DuBrasky then discussed three major projects started in 2014, which will be described in this Newsletter: the New High Serving Pumping Station Building, the drilling of a new Suwannee Aquifer well, and the 5-year Mechanical Integrity Test of our Deep Injection Well.

He also talked about major capital projects planned for 2015, including the completion of the New High Service Pumping Station, the completion of the new Suwannee Aquifer well (S9), and the replacement of aging thin walled pipe both Lake Murex subdivisions.

Mr. DuBrasky then opened the floor to questions and invited everyone present to a tour of IWA's RO Plant facilities. One pertinent question asked was whether IWA was affiliated with the sewer system on Sanibel. The sewer system is owned and operated by the City of Sanibel, and



***IWA Members Touring the RO Plant***

has no "connection," so to speak, with the private, non-profit, Island Water Association.

During the meeting, the Board cast the 533 proxy votes along with the 1 live vote for Mr. James Griffith, Mr. Paul Garvey, and Mr. Lewis Garrett Dutton, Jr., who were selected by IWA's Nominating Committee. Mr. Griffith and Mr. Dutton were elected to their third and final two-year terms, and Mr. Garvey was elected to his second two-year term on the Board.

After the meeting, the Board met in Executive

Session to elect Mr. James Griffith President, Mr. Gary Dutton Secretary, Mr. Ralph Sloan Treasurer, and Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Garvey Vice Presidents.

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## **HIGH SERVICE PUMPING STATION**



***Electrical Work on New Distribution Pumping Station***

The new building addition to the RO Plant for our upgraded distribution pumps is ready for the new pumps and motors, which are scheduled to be delivered in early July. Work on the piping for the new pumps is scheduled to begin by late May, and should be ready for the pumps when they arrive. The delay in delivery of the pumps and motors is a good indication of an improving economy, with companies that supply infrastructure projects struggling to fill backlogs of orders. Also, utilities are limited to a few manufacturers for these types of large pumps and motors. We hope to have the new station up and running before we are too far into the storm season.

The new station includes a diesel powered backup pump that will immediately start upon a power outage, keeping the pressure up in our system. The three booster stations would also start as needed, so members would never see a difference in water pressure while the power is off. For extended power outages, we would start up our 1.2MW diesel generator that will allow us to run the entire plant and the distribution pumps.

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## **NEW SUWANNEE WELL**

The drilling portion and pump testing/sizing of our new Suwannee Aquifer well, S9, is complete. The flow capacity is what was expected from this well, and it will be a welcome supplement to our well field. The 50 HP pump and motor, and special order underground valves, should be delivered by the end of May. This project should be completed by the end of June, delayed by permitting issues and nesting killdeers.

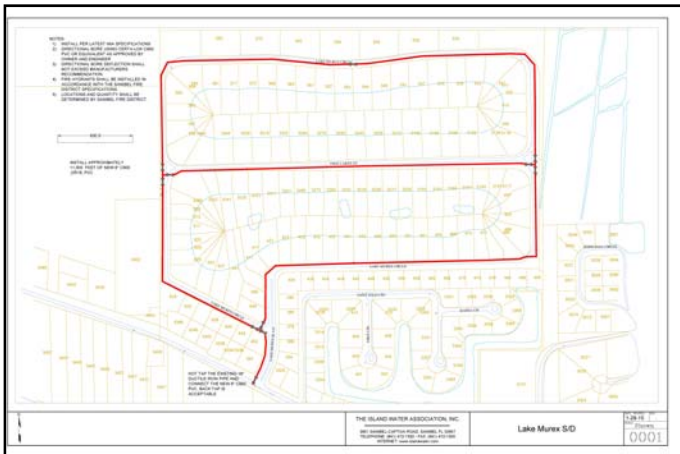


**S9 Well Head**

The well head is required to be above the 100-year flood stage, which is the reason for the mound of dirt around it. This well is located alongside the tram parking area for the JN Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge, so IWA thanks US Fish and Wildlife for their patience, understanding, and helpfulness throughout the duration of this project.

### LAKE MUREX WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT

Beginning in June, IWA will be replacing our piping in the Lake Murex and Little Lake Murex subdivisions. This will involve installation of new 8"



**Lake Murex and Little Lake Murex Main Water Lines**

thick wall PVC pipe (C900), new stainless steel saddles and polyvinyl tubing to each water meter, and new fire hydrants placed at 500' intervals. The existing thin walled 6" and 8" pipe will be abandoned in place. Advance notice will be given for affected homeowners when it is necessary to shut down a line. This should not be an issue until the new lines are in and services are being switched to the new line. Updates on this project will be available on our website, [www.islandwater.com](http://www.islandwater.com), as the project progresses. This project is being completed with no additional costs to members.

### STORM SEASON (PREPARATION)

By the time this newsletter is issued, it will be hurricane season 2015. We have completed our annual update to our Emergency Response Plan which includes our hurricane plan. Our emergency supplies and food pantry have been restocked and we have replenished our emergency reserves, as we do every year. IWA is as ready as we can be; however, we certainly hope that all of our preparations prove unnecessary this year.

We like to encourage our members to turn off their house valves when they leave the Islands for storms or extended periods of time. Water breaks and leaks outside can be water wasteful and expensive.



Water leaks inside an unoccupied home can be disastrous. Failed dishwasher, washing machine, and ice maker hoses can all lead to a very bad day inside an unoccupied home. There is

one good side to storm season—more RAIN—and hence lower water consumption and increased water conservation! For more on water conservation and off season preparations, read further.

### WHILE YOU ARE AWAY

Most of the tourists are now gone from Sanibel and Captiva. Island Water has been busy changing billing addresses to northern destinations and saying goodbye to our seasonal residents. We would like to offer some suggestions to make your summer time away from us as worry free as possible in regards to water usage at your Sanibel/Captiva home.



The best suggestion to save water and worry over the summer is to call us and take advantage of our free yearly turn off and turn on of your water, right at the meter. This way, you will not have

to worry about any accidental water usage. If you do not want your water turned off at the meter due to irrigation or a pool, you can still turn off your house valve and unplug your water heater. Or, if your house valve needs to be left on, the toilets and the washing machine can both be turned off at the valves at the wall.

Many seasonal residents employ a home watch service or person to check their property when they leave for the summer. If that is the case, does your home watch person check the water meter and read it on a regular basis? We are only at your home once a month to read the water meter. A lot of water can through a meter in a month's time. Reading the water meter is just like reading the odometer of a vehicle. There is a diagram on our website showing how to read the water meter and how to isolate a potential leak. Additionally, if you have a pool person who tops off your pool in your absence, ask your home watch person to schedule his/her visit the day after your pool person so if a hose is accidentally left on or a timer on a hose fails, the water will not continue to run for a full week.

It is also a good idea to change the battery in your irrigation controller before summer. When there is a power outage at your property, your irrigation timer will use the battery for power. If the battery is dead, some irrigation systems automatically reset to a default setting to water every day. If you would like more water saving tips, the South Florida Water Management District is a wealth of information. Their website address is [www.sfwmd.gov](http://www.sfwmd.gov).

Lastly, please make sure that we have your current contact information in case we need to inform you of a problem at your property. To our seasonal residents, have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you again in the fall.

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## 2015 INJECTION WELL MIT

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Every five years, we must perform what is called a Mechanical Integrity Test on our Deep Injection Well, where we dispose of our waste brine and the City of Sanibel disposes of excess reclaimed water. The test involves a visual inspection of the entire bore hole using a submersible video camera. A gamma ray test is also conducted on the outermost casing to ensure there is no upward movement of the injected water. The video test is recorded and the gamma ray test is documented, as both must be sent to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection as part of our permit to operate the well. All tests were satisfactory this year.

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## CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

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The 2014 edition of IWA's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report, also known as a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), is **not** included as an insert with this newsletter. In accordance with new rules from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, we are not required to mail the CCR as long as we: (1) post a direct link to the CCR on our website, (2) provide a direct link in this Newsletter, and (3) make a hard copy available in our lobby. We will be happy to mail a copy of our CCR to anyone who requests it by calling (239) 472-1502. IWA's CCR can be found on our website at [www.islandwater.com/wp-content/waterReports/CCR2014.pdf](http://www.islandwater.com/wp-content/waterReports/CCR2014.pdf). This EPA required annual report covers our water quality for 2014. IWA's water meets and exceeds all water quality standards, as has always been the case in the past. Please read over this information, and if you have any further water quality-related questions, just give our Production Manager, Pat Henry, a call at (239) 472-2113 ext. 122.



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