



# IWA PIPELINE



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## **Your 2016 Island Water Association Board of Directors**



**Ralph Sloan**  
VP/Treasurer

**Gary Dutton, Jr.**  
President

**Bruce Neill**  
Vice President

**Jim Griffith**  
VP/Secretary

**Paul Garvey**  
Vice President

### **2016 ANNUAL MEETING**

On April 11, 2016, the 51st Annual Meeting of The Island Water Association, Inc. (IWA) was held at the Association's offices, located at 3651 Sanibel Captiva Road.

Board President James Griffith introduced the Board of Directors, then presented his President's report pertaining to the state of the company.

Mr. Griffith commented on the major expenses facing IWA in the production of our drinking water: chemicals, fuel, and electricity. He noted that although fuel prices have remained stable through 2015, chemical costs used in the production of our water rose in 2015 and will rise again in 2016. On the other hand, LCEC is lowering its Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) charge for 2016, resulting in an overall decrease in our cost of electricity for 2016.

Mr. Griffith finished his report by noting IWA's greatest assets are its employees.

Vice President/Treasurer Ralph Sloan then presented the Treasurer's report. He reported IWA remains financially sound, with 2015 revenues of \$7.1M and operating costs of \$5.3M. Capital expenditures for 2015 were \$2.5M, while debt service was \$462K. The 2016 budget includes revenues of \$7.3M, against expenses of \$7.3M, including capital expenses and debt service.

Next, General Manager Don DuBrasky presented his report on accomplishments made in 2015 and projects planned for 2016.

Mr. DuBrasky first mentioned that IWA welcomed 22 new members in 2015. There were 24 new members accepted in 2014. Through April of 2016, 12 new members have joined, putting us on pace for more than 30 new members this year.

He stated that 2015 water production (1.27B gals.), billed water (1.20B gals.), and water sales (\$6.77M) were all up 1% from 2014, as would be expected. The 6% difference between produced water and billed water is considered water loss due to firefighting, hydrant flushing, dead-end flushing, and leaks. This is a low number for the industry, indicating very few leaks in our system.

Mr. DuBrasky then discussed three major projects finished in 2015: the New High Service Pump Station Building, the drilling of a new Suwannee Aquifer well, and replacement of aging mains in both Lake Murex subdivisions.

He also talked about major capital projects planned for 2016, including the demolition of the Old High Service Pump Station, rehab of the RO Plant roof, replacement of membranes in Trains E & F, and the replacement of aging thin walled pipe in the Sea Oats subdivision.

Mr. DuBrasky then opened the floor to questions and invited everyone present to tour IWA's RO Plant facilities. One member questioned whether IWA had to present water rate adjustments to the State of Florida. The short answer is no. IWA rate adjustments are reviewed by the Sanibel City Council and the Lee County Board of Commissioners.



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

During the meeting, the Board cast the 457 proxy votes received for Mr. Ralph Sloan and Mr. Bruce Neill, who were selected by IWA's Nominating Committee. Mr. Sloan was elected to his second two-year term, and Mr. Neill was elected to his first two-year term on the Board.

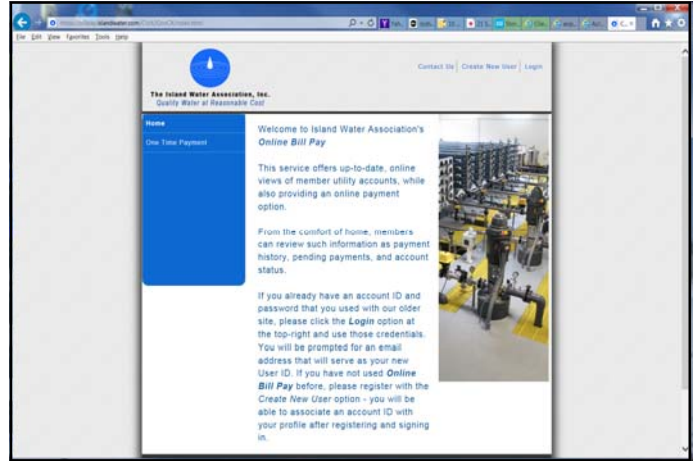
After the meeting, the Board met in Executive Session to elect Mr. Gary Dutton President, Mr. James Griffith Secretary, Mr. Ralph Sloan Treasurer, Mr. Bruce Neill and Mr. Paul Garvey Vice Presidents.

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## VIEW YOUR WATER BILL ONLINE

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Are you having difficulty receiving your water bill or do you travel extensively? You can always view your water bill online and you can also make a credit card payment on our website.



***Screenshot of Upgraded Click2Gov Webpage***

Our website address is [www.islandwater.com](http://www.islandwater.com). Our recommendation is to type our address into the address bar at the very top of your computer, not in a search bar. The top left blue box on our home page states "pay online", and if you click on the green bar in that box labeled "Login or Register," you will come to the user login screen. If you want to pay your water bill online, or simply view the amount owed on your account, you can click on the "One Time Payment" option on the left side of the screen and enter your account number. The total amount owed on your account will appear. If you click on the orange continue button on the bottom right, you will be able to make a credit card payment. We accept Visa and MasterCard.

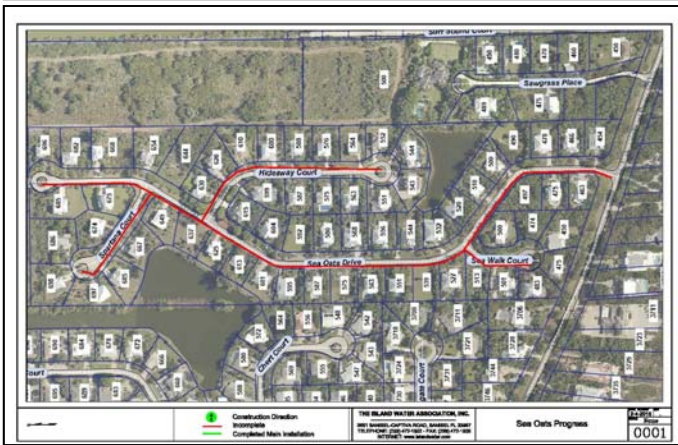
If you want information other than the total amount due on your account, and you haven't previously viewed your bill online, you will need to click on the "create new user" option at the right top of the page after clicking on the green login bar on the home page. Once you have entered your email address, password, name, address and phone number, you will pick three security questions and then click on create new user on the bottom right. Your password will need to be at least 8 characters and include one capital letter and one number. The next screen will inform you that an email has been sent to you. You will need to open the email and click on the link in the email to activate your account. Now you will be able to go back to our website and log into your account. Your user name is your email address. Once logged in, click on select account. You will need your account number and your cycle and route.

Both are located on your bill. The next step is to click manage accounts. You can have multiple properties with the same email and password log-in. Next click on the hyperlink Add Account. Now you will be able to view your usage, view past bills and payments, as well as make a payment.

And as always, if you encounter any problems creating your account or viewing your water bill, call our office and we will be happy to assist you.

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## SEA OATS UPDATE



**Sea Oats Main Water Lines**

As of the printing of this newsletter, work should be underway replacing the main water lines in the Sea Oats subdivision. This project was described in our Spring newsletter. Periodic project updates can be found on our website, [www.islandwater.com](http://www.islandwater.com).

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## LEAD IN YOUR WATER?

There was a rather frightening story in the national headlines this year concerning the extremely high levels of lead in the drinking water supply in Flint, Michigan. A subsequent investigation revealed many more public water systems around the country with higher than acceptable levels of lead in their water. The dangers of high levels of lead in the human body are well documented, chief among them being birth defects.

In the case of Flint, their problems arose when they switched to a cheaper supply of raw water, the Flint River, whose water happens to be highly corrosive. All public water systems add a certain amount of corrosion inhibitor to the finished water to prevent the leaching of lead and other metals from the piping in the water system and the plumbing in homes into the water supply. For reasons unknown to this writer, Flint did not add the proper amount of corrosion inhibitor to their water, causing high amounts of lead in the copper plumbing pipes

of older homes to leach into their water. Most of these older homes actually had lead service piping, running from the water meter all the way to the house. The amount of lead leaving their faucets was staggering. Flint switched back to the more expensive, less corrosive water supply they had previously been using, and has begun a program to replace all lead piping in their system.

IWA continually measures the amount of lead and other minerals and metals in our water and adjusts our corrosion inhibitor accordingly. The corrosion inhibitor creates a thin film on the inside of pipes, creating a barrier between the pipe and the naturally corrosive potable water. Most of our piping system is PVC plastic, and all of our ductile iron pipe is cement lined. The point in our system where lead could be introduced into your drinking water is in the copper piping found in older island homes. The problem is not so much the copper piping, but the lead in the solder used to weld these systems together. This is why IWA tests for lead in the water at selected homes around the islands. This testing is voluntary, and is performed on a select number of homes built between 1983 and 1987. Your home must have been part of this testing program in previous years in order to participate. This testing is free, and only takes a few minutes and a bottle of water. If you would like to get back in the program, call our office and ask for Pat Henry. We also have a lead and copper test platform set up at the RO Plant to continuously monitor water quality. Please read the last article in the newsletter, which will direct you to our Consumer Confidence Report. This report documents all contaminants that we test for, showing the maximum allowed levels and the levels that are present in our water. We are well below federal maximums in all categories.

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## STORM SEASON (PREPARATION)

By the time this newsletter is issued, it will be hurricane season 2016. 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, read further.



per minute. Showerheads with the WaterSense label use no more than 2 gallons per minute and will provide a satisfactory shower equal to or better than conventional showerheads.

Toilets account for nearly 30% of an average home's indoor usage. Older toilets use as much as 6 gallons per flush. The current federal standard for toilets is 1.6 gallons per flush. Some of the newer WaterSense toilets use as little as 1.28 gallons per flush.

Some WaterSense labeled bathroom faucets use a maximum of 1.5 gallons per minute as opposed to the standard flow of 2.2 gallons per minute. Home improvement stores offer a variety of fixtures with the WaterSense label.

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## CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

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The 2015 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/CCR2015.pdf](http://www.islandwater.com/wp-content/waterReports/CCR2015.pdf). This EPA required annual report covers our water quality for 2015. 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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## WATER CONSERVATION

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If you are replacing fixtures in your home, why not look for fixtures that are water-efficient? Look for products with the WaterSense label. WaterSense labeled products meet the EPA's specifications for water efficiency and are backed by independent, third party testing.

Standard showerheads use 2.5 gallons



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