

End of Summer Greetings, Neighbors! Here's what's new with the Burton Water Co-op.

Gratitude – A huge thank you to the 85 community members who have responded to our current fundraising drive so far. To date, we have \$102,000 in pledges and \$85,000 in hand. We are able to cover all of our anticipated expenses to complete the feasibility work in advance of acquiring the USDA loan. These include:

- *Additional engineering analysis for the larger capital improvement plan supported by the community*
- *Advance funding for the required Department of Health report*
- *Additional resources for legal support*

These financial commitments demonstrate community trust in the extensive work of the Feasibility Board and the capacity of the community to complete the process. Again, thank you!

USDA Loan Application Submitted – On September 7th we hit the 'submit' button on our application for funding the purchase of the Burton Water Company and the infrastructure improvements that will strengthen our water system. The time period for review and approval is 60 - 90 days. We are hoping that we will hear from them on the early side, closer to 60 days, since we have been coordinating closely with them over the last several months.

Feasibility Board Vacancy — Dawn Kerber is leaving the board in September to return to her professional work full time. She has been a major contributor in every step of the start-up work of the Coop and we are grateful for her work. We are looking for a community member with time and energy to step up and join us as we complete this major effort. You don't need to be a water system expert; we need someone with the shared goal of community control of our water, who is a good thinker and works well with others. If you are interested, or have questions about the time commitment or meeting schedule, please send us a note at info@burtonwatercoop.org.

Community Meeting in October – the Feasibility Board will host another community meeting in mid-October. This will be a great opportunity to catch up on what's happening and connect with community members. This will be a ZOOM meeting. Watch for date and time information as well as the link in the next newsletter.

Joining Agreements – We are up to nearly 80% of pre-acquisition membership and are working our way to 100% of current customers. We are looking for just 93 more joining agreements. If you have paid \$5 already but not signed an agreement, or yours is still lingering on your desk, please take a moment to fill it out and return to us, along with your \$5 joining fee in one of three ways:

- Regular mail to 20211 Vashon Hwy SW, #29, Vashon, WA 98070 or
- Drop off at the Burton Store (there's a collection box there) or
- Scan/send to info@burtonwater.org

Pay the fee by enclosing a check or \$5 in cash, or pay online using the paypal link on our website (www.burtonwater.org).

We need BOTH your \$5 fee AND your completed and signed form. [Click here for a fresh copy of the JA.](#)

Remember, a joining agreement allows you to vote in the final decision to form the cooperative. Thanks!