

Public Comments received via “Ask Us, Tell Us”

August 28, 2012

Name: Jon Eckhardt
Address: 20 Everglade Circle, Madison, WI 53717
Date: 08/26/2012
Message:

Dear Members of the Water Utility Board,

Thank you for taking steps to facilitate citizen involvement in the democratic process.

I have expressed concerns about inaccurate information that has been presented to the Water Utility Board on the Private Well Program by the Water Utility. Other citizens have shared these concerns. Hence, many others and I have requested to have the opportunity to participate in any Water Utility Board meeting when the Private Well Program is discussed, so we can comment on information provided by the water Utility to the Water Utility Board on the Private Well Program.

On Saturday August 26, I received a letter dated August 22, 2012 from Joe Grande of the Madison Water Utility. The letter was apparently mailed to all private well owners in the City of Madison.

The letter indicates that a special meeting will be held on October 1, 2012 at the Madison Water Utility to discuss revisions that are being made to the existing ordinance governing private wells in Madison. This is a welcome development.

In addition, the letter includes the following paragraph:

“At the present time, no action on private wells or the water service connection requirement is planned for the Water Utility Board meetings to be held in August or September. The next likely opportunity for further discussion of these issues is the October 23 board meeting. The schedule of all water Board meetings can be found on our website, www.madisonwater.org. Public comment is always welcome at any Water Utility Meeting.”

However, in the July 24, 2012 Water Utility Board Meeting, a motion was made to place on the agenda for the August 28 Water Utility Board Meeting, the Private Well Program. In addition, the agenda for the August 28 Water Utility Board Meeting, which was printed on August 24, 2012, indicates that the private well program is on the agenda as agenda item 2 27144.

Can you reconcile the conflicting information that is being made available about the Agenda for the August 28, 2012 Water Utility Board Meeting? Will the Private well program be discussed in the August 28, 2012 Water Utility Board meeting, and if yes, will the public have the opportunity to comment on information presented by the Water Utility Staff about the private well program to the Water Utility Board?

I remain concerned about incomplete, inconsistent, and inaccurate information that has been presented by the Water Utility to the Water Utility Board and the public about the private well program. I am hopeful that the public will have the opportunity to comment on information provided by the Water Utility on the Private Well Program whenever the issue is before the board.