SSID
Savary Shores Improvement District

2024 Operator's Report

This report is for projects between last year's AGM and today.

- This year we added two new water service connections to the system.

- The hydrant replacement program continued this year. In May, two hydrants that were identified as needing work were replaced with new ones at the corner of Patricia Crescent & Manahan Road, and at the corner of Blair Road & Arbutus Road.

- All 13 hydrants were serviced in fall and spring to ensure good working order.

- Painting of the lower tank roof was completed, as recommended by last year's Lower Tank Inspection Report by Acuren.

- The 3 air relief valves on the water system were inspected, and will be replaced this September. The 3 locations are at the corner of Blair & Arbutus, the west part of Patricia Crescent, and near the end of Manahan Road. These 3 valves are used for releasing air that may become trapped in the system. The valves are still functioning, but are showing signs of degradation, and are due for replacement.

- Isolation valves on the mainlines, on the hydrants, and in the valve chamber at the tank farm, were exercised one or more times to confirm they were in good working order. These valves are used for redirecting water from specific sections of pipe as may be required, particularly in the case of a leak. With the exception of one valve stuck open, the regular valve exercising program has made previously stiff valves fully operable.

- The generators underwent monthly operator's checks and minor maintenance, and were serviced three times during the year by Lund Marine to keep them in good operating condition.

- When the generators run more often than is expected, there may be several reasons, such as a leak in the system, residential overuse—as you might see during a heat wave—or the Thomson controller's batteries losing their charge capacity. We can't anticipate the leaks or the overuse, but we can improve the battery capacity.

So, this fall, the lead-acid batteries will be replaced with more reliable lithium batteries.

• Water samples were taken monthly from 8 sample stations, in accordance with the Drinking Water Officer's direction. All months in the past year were clear of E.Coli and coliforms. We did receive results in February and March showing "background colonies" at 3 stations, meaning the pipes at those sampling spots were harbouring contaminants that are not harmful, but indicate an environment where harmful organisms could grow. The sampling stations were re-cleaned and re-tested, with the second retest being clear, and no chlorination required.

• Nitrates testing was done quarterly and showed no notable change.

• A full spectrum analysis of other components in the water, was done twice in the past year and as usual exceeded the guidelines for Canadian drinking water quality.

• In October, a climber was hired to clean and photograph the upper tank exterior. His photos showed areas of corrosion on the underside of the tank. In March, a welder with experience in thickness testing was hired to measure thickness of the steel, and to provide a report on the amount of degradation. His Inspection Report noted that the underside corrosion had advanced as much as 25 to 50 percent degradation. As a temporary measure, the most corroded areas have been treated with a rust inhibitor and rust paint. A water systems engineer has quoted on providing a feasibility study to recommend options for addressing this slowly failing tank.

• Since contracted as Savary Shores Water Operator in the fall of 2021, I have found the water system to be in reasonably good operating condition for its age. The asset renewal program and continued maintenance of the system should continue to ensure that property owners are provided excellent quality drinking water.

Kerby Fisher, Water Operator
Savary Shores Improvement District