

*Title 7*

***WATER SUPPLY***

**CHAPTERS:**

**7.10 PIERCE COUNTY WATER UTILITY.**

**7.20 PIERCE COUNTY COORDINATED WATER SYSTEM PLAN FEES.**



## *Chapter 7.10*

### *PIERCE COUNTY WATER UTILITY*

#### **Sections:**

- 7.10.010 Purpose.**
- 7.10.020 Utility Creation and Authority.**
- 7.10.030 Definitions of Terms.**
- 7.10.040 Water Utility Fund.**
- 7.10.050 Contracts – General.**

#### **7.10.010 Purpose.**

This Chapter creates a Utility and a funding methodology which provides resources to plan and manage the County's water supplies and/or water rights and to plan, manage, design, construct, and maintain a wholesale water supply system. (Ord. 98-103 § 3 (part), 1999)

#### **7.10.020 Utility Creation and Authority.**

There is hereby created a Water Utility and corresponding Water Utility Fund for Pierce County. Said Water Utility shall be administered by the Pierce County Executive as a division of the Department of Public Works and Utilities.

The Water Utility is hereby authorized and directed to complete, or contract with outside individuals to complete, the tasks necessary to develop the water rights located at the Chambers Creek Properties thereby establishing Pierce County as a wholesale distributor of water. (Ord. 98-103 § 3 (part), 1999)

#### **7.10.030 Definitions.**

For the purposes of this Chapter, the words or phrases below shall have the following meanings:

- A. "County" means Pierce County, Washington.
- B. "Department" means Pierce County Public Works and Utilities.
- C. "Director" means the Director of the Pierce County Public Works and Utilities Department or his/her authorized deputy, agent, or representative.
- D. "Governmental Entity" means the organization or agency through which a separate and independent political body exercises authority including but not limited to, cities, towns, water and sewer districts, and other municipal corporations.
- E. "Person" means any agency, agent, authority, board, church, club, committee, commune, cooperative, department, district, government, group, guardian, league, office, order, school, task force, trustee, individual, family, partnership, firm, company, association, society, corporation, or other entity.
- F. "Public Water System" as defined in WAC 246-290 means "Any system of water supply intended or used for human consumption or other domestic uses, including source, treatment, storage, transmission, and distribution facilities where water is being furnished to any community, collection, or number of individuals, but excluding a water system serving one single family residence."

- G. "Satellite System Management Agency" means a person or entity that is certified by the Washington State Department of Health to own or operate more than one public water system on a regional or county-wide basis, without the necessity for a physical connection between such systems.
- H. "Shall" or "May". "Shall" is mandatory; "May" is permissive.
- I. "Water General Plan" means a general plan for a system of water for the county which shall be an element of the Comprehensive Plan for Pierce County. A water general plan does not mean the final engineering construction or financing plans for the system.
- J. "Water System Plan" means a written plan prepared for a particular water system and service area which identifies a schedule of needed improvements, a financial program, and an operations program. A water system which is expanding within a designated service area may be required to include other elements in its plan. Details of Water System Plan requirements can be found in WAC 246-290.
- K. "Water Utility" means that duly created and organized administrative and operational subdivision with the Department of Public Works and Utilities. Use of the term may refer to the organization in general or apply to a particular functional unit or division thereof.

(Ord. 98-103 § 3 (part), 1999)

**7.10.040 Water Utility Fund.**

All Water Utility funds from service charges, grant funds, or any other revenue received shall be deposited in the Water Utility Fund. All revenue in the Water Utility Fund shall be deposited in interest-bearing or income-earning accounts. The Water Utility Fund shall have the ability to borrow through interfund loans from other County funds. (Ord. 98-103 § 3 (part), 1999)

**7.10.050 Contracts – General.**

The Department may enter into contracts with entities such as an existing public water system, satellite system management agency, municipal corporation, other government agency or person, for the planning, development, construction, maintenance and/or operation of a water supply system, or for the wheeling of water, or for the direct purchase of water. The Director shall not be authorized to obligate the County to any such contract, but shall perform all preparatory work necessary prior to presentation of such proposed contracts to the Pierce County Executive for execution. (Ord. 98-103 § 3 (part), 1999)

## Chapter 7.20

### *PIERCE COUNTY COORDINATED WATER SYSTEM PLAN FEES*

#### **Sections:**

**7.20.010 Purpose.**

**7.20.020 Applicability.**

**7.20.030 Water System Document Review Fee.**

**7.20.040 Timely and Reasonable Dispute Fee. [Reserved]**

**7.20.050 Other Fees.**

**7.20.060 Water Utility Fund.**

**7.20.070 Validity – Severability.**

#### **7.20.010 Purpose.**

This Chapter establishes fees for services rendered pursuant to the Pierce County Coordinated Water System Plan (Chapter 19D.120 PCC), RCW 43.20.260, RCW 70.116 and WAC 246-290. (Ord. 2008-85 § 1 (part), 2008)

#### **7.20.020 Applicability.**

A. **Water System Documents.** Any water system documents that establish or alter a water service area or require Consistency Review per RCW 43.20.260 and WAC 246-290-108 shall require review and approval by the Pierce County Public Works and Utilities Department.

B. **Timely and Reasonable Disputes.** [Reserved]  
(Ord. 2008-85 § 1 (part), 2008)

#### **7.20.030 Water System Document Review Fee.**

A. **Review Fee Services.** The water system document review fee shall provide for all costs of service performed by the Department of Public Works and Utilities including, but not limited to, any staff time to: review the water system document; meet with water system owners or their consultant's, including travel time; legal services; amend the County's Geographic Information System (GIS) to alter water service area boundaries; and all other technical and administrative services provided relative to the review and approval of the water system document.

B. **Fee Structure.** The County's costs incurred throughout the duration of the review and approval process will be based on time, equipment and material utilized. County personnel and equipment time rates will be in accordance with the latest established County weighted rates inclusive of overhead costs. Material costs will be based on the actual costs of materials plus 15 percent.

C. **Fee Submittal and Non-Refundable Fee.** Water system owners submitting a water system document to the Department of Public Works and Utilities shall, at the time of submittal, pay the County a non-refundable fee of \$500.00. The non-refundable fee shall be credited against the final County costs as outlined in 7.20.030 B. above, provided the final cost exceeds the amount of the non-refundable fee. Additional costs incurred by the County for time and expenses over and above the minimum non-refundable fee amount will be charged to the water system owner on a time and materials basis, as outlined in 7.20.030 B. above.

D. **Progress Billing.** The County will keep an accurate accounting of costs incurred. Should the total of County costs exceed the amount of the non-refundable fee, the water system owner must pay the additional fees within 30 days following billing by the County and prior to the County granting final approval of the water system document. (Ord. 2008-85 § 1 (part), 2008)

**7.20.040 Timely and Reasonable Dispute Fee. [Reserved]**

**7.20.050 Other Fees.**

Administrative processing costs incurred by the Department of Public Works and Utilities for items related to water system document submittals shall be paid as outlined herein in full prior to the County granting final approval of the water system owner's submittal. Administrative processing costs shall include, but not be limited to, the following items:

- A. Advertising expenses;
- B. Public hearing expenses;
- C. Rental of meeting rooms; and
- D. Travel expenses.

(Ord. 2008-85 § 1 (part), 2008)

**7.20.060 Water Utility Fund.**

All funds received from review fees, service charges, grant funds, or any other revenue received pursuant to this Chapter shall be deposited in the Water Utility Fund. (Ord. 2008-85 § 1 (part), 2008)

**7.20.070 Validity – Severability.**

The invalidity of any Section, subsection, clause, sentence or provisions of this Chapter shall not affect the validity of any part of this Chapter which can be given effect without such part or parts. (Ord. 2008-85 § 1 (part), 2008)