

JANUARY 2019

PINERY PIPELINE



From your board of directors

Great news and Happy New Year! Financially the Pinery Water District is in great shape. User charges were up last year (\$800,000 over budget) primarily due to dry weather. Expenses were under budget, thanks to Management and Staff, which resulted in a surplus of \$11 million, helping to explain why... **There will be no Rate and Fee increase this year.**

With Assets reaching almost \$120 million and a Debt Load of nearly \$26 million, the value approximates over \$94 million. Since the District is a Quasi-Municipal Corporation, residents are shareholders (at least in theory) and have a say in District affairs through the 5 Board Directors, elected by you. Just so you know, this is your money, although you can't withdraw any of it without selling your house. Each homeowner has a stake of about \$20,000.

We had an election for three board members this past May, where for the first time, ballots were mailed to each household member over the age of 18. Potentially, there could have been 9,000 to 10,000 votes cast, when in reality, there may only have been 1,000 or 2,000. Elections are held every two years alternating between two and three vacated board positions. The next one will be May of 2020, when two positions open up.

The District and Board does listen to what residents have to say and are grateful to those who take the time to offer input. For example, a committee of concerned residents submitted ideas and solutions regarding water efficiency programs, some of which may be implemented soon. At times, the meetings can get a little lively, which is a good thing, because the board will always respond to ideas as well as to the challenge of an opposing wind. Board meetings are held every 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Winter Watering

Changing topics, it could be another dry winter, so residents should be concerned about watering trees, shrubs, and most importantly...Lawns. January and February can be very dry which could result in landscape damage. Two years ago, lawns were devastated by what is known as "Winter Kill". Spider Mites, active only from November through April, can also cause damage when precipitation is low.

The solution is to water south and west facing areas a few times during these months when there is no snow cover. This should be done with a garden hose and attachment when temperatures are above freezing. Watering will not cause any growth to your lawn, but it will help the root system survive the winter. Additionally, there is plenty of water available from Cherry Creek, but little demand over the winter months. Since the Water District relies heavily on water revenue to pay bills, Winter Watering benefits the District. If you think about it, watering your lawn a few times over winter is good for you too. Not only can it save

your lawn, but it can save it for pennies when compared to replacement cost in dollars. When revenue exceeds expenses, as it did last year, there is less need to increase rates and fees. It's a Win/Win scenario.



Steve Tinnes,
Board Member, Pinery Water and
Wastewater District
Board of Directors

Please join us at our District Office for our regularly held Board Meetings at 6:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Upcoming Board Meetings will be held at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019
Wednesday, Mar. 20, 2019

Start the New Year Off with the Latest Technology

In 2018, Pinery Water started offering a “Smart Metering” option for our customers. You can choose this option and be able to monitor your water usage from the palm of your hand or a click of a mouse. This allows you to better understand your consumption pattern, providing peace of mind. It also allows you to notice a leak before it is out of hand. Below is some more information about the “Smart Metering” option. Give the office a call if you have more questions or go to pinerywater.com.



Available exclusively through BEACON® AMA, EyeOnWater enables utility customer's to view and understand their usage profile through easy-to-understand consumption graphs and provides a simple method to establish alerts to better manage their water use

Literally putting water usage data in the palm of consumers' hands, EyeOnWater mobile apps bring the power of the online portal to your customer's iOS device or Android smartphone.

Features:

- Hourly, daily, monthly, and yearly data and charts
- Temperature and precipitation overlays
- Week-over-week consumption comparisons
- Configurable leak alerts by email or SMS text
- Web-based consumer portal, plus Android and iOS mobile apps. Better information. Better utility management.

Cost:

Customer pays \$206, this covers the activation and administration fees. The \$206 will be added to your water account or there is the option to pay separately by check or cash at the district office. Inquire about monthly installments.

In addition, there is a \$0.91 monthly data fee. The EyeOnWater app is a free download.

Join the Water Efficiency Task Force

The Water Efficiency Task Force is seeking to add new members. Service on the Task Force is open to residents of Pinery Water and Wastewater District. Volunteers for the Task Force should:

- Have an interest in water as a vital and limited resource
- Possess a desire to identify and promote wise and effective use of the resource for the benefit of the District and its users

New Improvements - Check out our updated web portal with new options and easier navigation!

Be on the Look Out!

We are in the process of changing our due date for monthly statements. Be looking for that change coming in March.

Pinery Water and Wastewater District Contact Information:

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