# PINERY PIPELINE



## From your board of directors

Your Water Board approved some significant changes at its December Board Meeting. While change is not always good, we believe these changes will benefit most of our customer base.

First, we wish to say good-bye and thanks to Heidi Tackett, who served the Board and our customers extremely well for the past 10 years. Heidi joined the Board in August 2010, and recently moved out of the District necessitating her resignation. Heidi is replaced by Ken Smith who was elected to fill her remaining term at the December meeting. Ken is a retired geologist and oil company executive who has resided in The Timbers since 1999. In addition to serving on the District's Water Efficiency Task Force the past 3 years, he has served as president of The Timbers 23 HOA and two terms on the High Prairie Farms Metro District.

Now, on to some of the changes you, the customer, can expect in 2021. One of the recommendations from the Water Efficiency Advisory

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

Upcoming Board Meetings will still be held at 6:30pm on: Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2021

(\*this meeting will be a digital meeting, please see meeting notice for information on joining the meeting by internet.)

Wednesday, Feb 17, 2021

Committee to the Board was to expand the use of the Beacon *Eye on Water* program. This program was first made available to customers in 2018 at a cost of a \$200 initial install fee and a monthly data charge of \$0.99. Information on the program is available on the District's website. The program gives consumers direct access to their own water usage data along with tools to help manage their water usage including leak detection. The program software is easy to set up on your computer, smart phone or both providing daily, monthly, or yearly water usage data even while not at home. I had it installed on my meter in 2018 and used it to reduce my annual water usage in 2020 by 40% versus 2018. At the December meeting the Board voted to provide a FREE *Eye on Water* install with no monthly charge on every residential customer meter in the District. The value the District receives on this investment will be measured in how many customers use the program. We envision that water conservation through the program will reduce the amount of deep well water required and its associated pumping costs during dry summer months. We encourage your use of the program as it is rolled out during 2021.

A second change involves the District's water rate structure. The Board approved the proposed changes, brought up at the November meeting, at the December meeting for water usage starting in 2021. Most customers will not see any significant change to their water bills due to either the new rate structure or new wastewater structure. The most significant change will be noticed by heavy users of over 50K gallons per month. Why the change? The Board felt that the top tier charge for usage over 60K gallons/month was disproportionate to the other tiers as it applied to large lot owners in the District. Lot size in the District varies significantly. Customers with large lots using up to 100K gallons/month will realize significant savings of up to \$200 in their monthly bills.

As we move into 2021 the Board wishes each of you a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Kenneth Smith,
Director of Pinery Water and
Wastewater District Board of Directors

## How to Read Your Water and Sewer Bill

## **Read Dates**

The days that your meter was read on.

## **Account Number**

Water Supply Project Fee

**Current Charges** 

TOTAL DUE

This is the 4-digit number associated with this service address.

## **Usage Chart by Billing Period**

This graph represents water usage, per billing period, in 1,000-gallon increments. Please keep in mind that we bill out a month behind and the information you are looking at for one month reflects water usage for the previous month. Example: the usage shown for the August billing period reflects water usage in July.

\$91.66

\$91.63

## **Balance Forward**

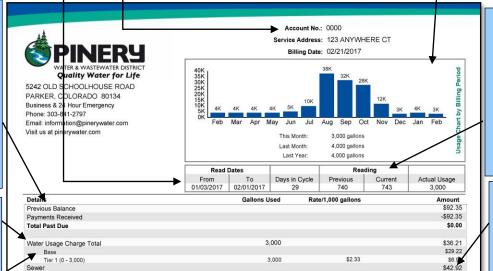
This shows the amount of the charges from the last billing period less any payments received. If you paid the amount due your balance forward will be \$0.00.

## Water Service Charges

This charge has two components – the base rate and the volumetric rate. The base rate stays the same every month and the volumetric rate rises as you use more and more water. Please visit the District website to see the 2021 Rates and Fees Schedule.

#### **Payment Stub**

Please detach and return with your mailed or dropped off payment.



Please detach & return this portion with your payment. Please do not include cash or correspondence. Make checks payable to Pinery Water & Wastewater District. If a previous balance is reflected, please remit immediately to avoid a late fee on those charges and possible shut off.



## Date Bill Printed/Billing Date

This is the date your bill is printed and/or usage charges are applied. It is typically mailed to you within 2 business days of printing.

## **Service Address**

This address should match the location being billed for water service. Some customers pay bills for more than one address.

## **Amount Due After Due Date**

This is the amount due plus the late payment fee of \$10 plus 1% per month of the past due balance. This amount applies to payments made <u>after</u> the due date only!

### **Due Date**

This is the date on which your payment is due to the office

## **Meter Reading**

These numbers represent the present and previous readings from your water meter. To determine your consumption, shown in the 'Actual Usage' box, subtract the previous reading from the present reading.

### **Sewer Service Charges**

This rate is based on Average Monthly Winter Water Use. Please visit the website to see 2021 Rates and Fees Schedule.

## Water Supply Project Fee

This is a flat monthly fee that was established by the board in 2011 to fund current and future renewable water projects to decrease the District's dependence on its non-renewable water sources.

Please note that some residents may also see a Groundwater Protection
Fee on their bills. This is a flat fee each month to those properties located in the Cherry Creek Alluvium. The District's most precious water supply is in this alluvial system and this fee recoups the extra cost to the District to buffer the alluvium from development. Go to our website for a map of the Groundwater Protection Zone

#### **Amount Due**

This is the sum of total water charges, total sewer charges and any balance forward