Newsletter - Fall/Winter 2020 **Editor: Janet S. Grant**

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Board Meetings

At the District Office: Friday, Dec 11th, at 9:00 am Friday, Jan 8th, at 9:00 am Friday, Feb 12th, at 9:00 am

ASCWD

270 Alpine Meadows Road, Alpine Meadows, CA 96146 Ph: (530) 583-2342 (800) 244-2342 (CA/NV) Fax: (530) 583-0228 Email: info@alpinesprings.org Website:

www.alpinesprings.org After Hours Emergency

Contact Telephone # 866-696-9608

Directors

Janet S. Grant, President Janice Ganong Evan Salke Dave Smelser Christine York

General Manager

John M. Collins



COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

JOHN M. COLLINS, GENERAL MANAGER TO RETIRE

John announced his planned retirement to the Board at their October Board meeting. His final date of employment will be Thursday, December 31, 2020. John started work as the Districts' General Manager on July 11, 2005. John and his wife plan on traveling to a new location every month based upon the picture on his calendar for that month. He will be available to the District if the need arises.

DISTRICT SEARCHING FOR NEW GENERAL MANAGER

Alpine Springs County Water District is seeking a gualified candidate to fill the position of General Manager. We are seeking candidates with extensive work experience in management Make Sure Your Billing and or administration in a public agency or private industry. Alpine Springs County Water District provides water, sewer, garbage, fire, and park services to approximately 650 residents and businesses in the Alpine Meadows community in North Lake Tahoe.

> Qualifying education and experience could include graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a bachelor's degree in Engineering (preferred), Public Business Administration, or related field and five years of management or administrative experience. Other qualifications could include experience with water resources management, public agency administration and special district law. Work experience in the water/wastewater industry is highly desirable. Applicants shall possess or have the ability to obtain a Grade II Water Treatment Operator Certificate (T2) and a Grade II Water Distribution Operator Certificate (D2) issued by the State of California Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Drinking Water Department within two (2) years of employment.

> If you are interested or know of anyone who might be interested in applying for this position, you should send your cover letter. 2 professional references, and a resume and requirements to: ASCWD, 270 Alpine Meadows Road, Alpine Meadows, CA 96146 or info@alpinesprings.org The deadline for submittal of applications is 3:00 pm, November 30, 2020.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

We would like to welcome Janice Ganong as a new Board member. She was appointed by the Board at their September 11, 2020 Board meeting. She replaces Jon Northrop, who moved out of the valley.

WATER STORAGE TANKS 4 AND 4A REPLACEMENT PROJECT COMPLETED

The water storage tank replacement project is complete. The new 870,000-gallon tank replaces two separate tanks, 1 – 100,000 and 1 – 500,000-gallon tanks. The total construction cost of the tank was \$1,365,450.00. The total project cost including engineering, inspection and testing was \$1,604,537. This new water storage tank should serve the Water District for the next 80 plus years. There will be periodic maintenance required.

A REMINDER THAT BEAR BOXES REQUIRED FOR ALL RENTAL HOMES

The Board of Directors adopted an ordinance requiring all persons who rent their home on a part time or full-time bases to install a "Bear Box". Please call the office and let us know that you have installed the necessary "Bear Box". The size of the Bear Box is determined by the size of your house. If the residential unit is less than 2,500 square feet you need a minimum of 1 bear box capable of holding 2 thirty-two (32) gallon cans. Residential units between 2,500 to 3,500

square feet you need a minimum of 1 bear box capable of holding 3 thirty-two (32) gallon cans. Residential units greater than 3,500 square feet you need a minimum of 1 bear box capable of holding 4 thirty-two (32) gallon cans. Curb side trash pickup is every Monday.

WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

It seems every year, some customers find themselves without water due to frozen water pipes. Here are a few steps that you can take to avoid problems this winter:

(1) Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses. Disconnecting the hose allows water to drain from the supply line, which prevents an overnight freeze from bursting the faucet or the supply line.

- (2) **Cover air vents.** Close or cover all air vents in the foundation wall of your home to protect pipes in the crawl space from exposure to freezing air.
- (3) **Open cabinet doors.** Opening cabinet doors allows heat to get to uninsulated pipes near exterior walls.
- (4) Insulate pipes in unheated areas. A little-known fact is that hot water pipes generally freeze before cold water pipes. The water pipes that tend to be most susceptible to freezing are found in outer walls, crawl spaces, attics and garages. Exposed pipes should be insulated with items such as pipe wrap, heat tape or foam jackets. These insulating products are available at your local building supply or hardware store. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions when installing these products. Call a plumber if you have any questions.
- (5) **Winterize your vacant house.** If you leave your house for several days or months, help protect pipes from freezing by following these steps:
 - a. Turn off your water using the main shut-off valve installed on the house side of the water meter. The District encourages ALL property owners to have a

main shut-off valve installed. You may not turn off the water using the District's valve located in your meter box. Damage caused by doing so is the owner's responsibility. Be aware that if you have a fire protection sprinkler system in your house, it will be deactivated when you shut off the water, if your shut off valve is located ahead of the fire service take off.

- b. If you drain your water heater, be sure to turn off the electricity or gas source.
- c. Open indoor and outdoor faucets to drainpipes.
- d. Drain toilets by turning off the water at the water supply located under the holding tank. Then hold down the lever until the tank empties. Add RV anti-freeze to the toilet bowl.
- e. Leave your heat on at a minimum temperature of 55 degrees to help keep pipes from freezing in interior walls. Heater can fail or run out of fuel, so always turn off your home water supply.

If your pipes do freeze, don't take chances. If your pipes do freeze and you turn on your faucets and nothing comes out, leave the faucet on and call a plumber. If you do determine that your pipes have frozen and burst, turn off the water at the main shut-off valve, not the District's valve, and leave the faucet on. Even the most cautious homeowner may eventually experience a frozen pipe. If this happens, don't panic. A freeze-up at an exposed pipe or under a sink can generally be melted by applying heat with a hair dryer, heat lamp or even a light bulb. Light bulbs should always be protected by a cage and not be placed near flammable materials. Start warming the pipe as close to the faucet as possible. DON'T TRY TO THAW A PIPE WITH A TORCH OR OTHER OPEN FLAME. This may seem like a reasonable approach, but it is very dangerous. Thawing a line too rapidly with extreme heat can result in an explosion and may cause injury. Water damage is preferable to burning down your house. Get to know your plumbing. Learn how to shut the water off and know where your pipes are located. If your pipes do freeze, time is of the essence. The quicker you can shut off the water, or direct your plumber to the problem, the better chance you have of preventing pipes from bursting.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

The LRPC is meeting to update our 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan. Volunteers were selected from throughout the District to serve with two Members of the Board. They are Vince Baldridge, Doug Boling, David Bourke, Michael Lightbody, Melissa Siig, and Bob Spencer.

ASCWD 270 Alpine Meadows Road Alpine Meadows, CA 96146