Newsletter – Fall/Winter 2019

Editor: Janet S. Grant

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Board Meetings

At the District Office: Friday, Nov 8th, at 9:00 am Friday, Dec 13th, at 9:00 am Friday, Jan 10th, at 9:00 am

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General Manager

John M. Collins



WATER STORAGE TANKS 4 AND 4A REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The District awarded the construction bid to Farr Construction California dba Resource Development Company (RDC) on July 13, 2018 and issued the Notice to Proceed on September 4, 2018. The project was unable to start construction until this spring due to the unavailability of steel. The start was then delayed this spring due to the heavy snows last winter. Work was started in July and the following activities have been completed: demolition of the 2 old tanks, site grading and slope protection, site piping installed, and the concrete grade ring has been poured. The gravel base upon which the tank will rest inside the concrete grade has been completed. The crane which will be used to erect the tank has been moved into place. Steel delivery is scheduled the first week in October. The floor for the tank will then be put down, followed be the installation of the walls and roof support columns. The schedule is to place the tank in service before winter. Some finishing touches may have to be completed next summer.

BEAR BOXES REQUIRED FOR ALL RENTAL HOMES

The Board of Directors has adopted an ordinance requiring all persons who rent their home on a part time or full-time bases to install a "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. **CAUTION: NEVER 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.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

The Board of Directors is always exploring ways to effectively communicate with you our customers. Have you visited our website lately? There is information regarding the Districts mission statement, Board of Directors, District history, utilities rates and fees, the Districts goals and objectives, rules and regulations, organization chart, agendas and minutes of Board meetings and Committees, a listing of the Districts committees and their meeting dates and times, a presentation of fire and EMS services, information regarding the District's community park, staff and directors, annual water quality report, policy statement for each of the Districts five committees, copies of recent newsletters, and links to related sites. Take a look. If you have any suggestions, please contact the District office.

PAUL "BUZ" BANCROFT TO RETIRE

Buz Bancroft announced his planned retirement to the Board at their September Board meeting. His final date of employment will be Friday, December 27, 2019. Buz started work with the District on December 1, 1986 as a Maintenance Worker II. Buz is currently Operations and Maintenance Supervisor for the District. Buz has seen many changes in the District actives over the years. He plans on traveling, camping, fishing, sleeping in and catching up on all the projects Joyce, his wife, has for him. He does plan on keeping involved in District activities by remaining on the District "on call" assignment.

MAKE SURE YOUR BILLING AND EMAIL ADDRESS IS UP TO DATE

Make sure the District has your correct billing address. If you would like the District to add you to the list of homeowners who receive their bill by email in addition to USPS, contact Pam Zinn at 530-583-2342 x3 between the hours of 9am to 3pm prior to the end of June. Also, please keep your email address up to date.

