

Gore Hill County Water District

Newsletter Jun 2022



gorehillwater@gmail.com (406) 761-6528

Project Update

The new wells project was originally advertised requesting bids for the drilling of two new wells replacing the existing water supply wells, relocating the gas chlorination systems adjacent to the treatment buildings, installing an automatic transfer switch on the existing backup generator, installing a radio telemetry system and dialer for the water system, installing two pressure sensing points in the distribution system, lining the interior of the concrete tanks with an elastomeric urethane coating and installing polyphosphate chemical feed equipment in both treatment plants. **The 1 bid that was received far exceeded the budget available.** The District decided to prioritize parts of the project. Within the next month separate bids will be requested for the new wells, cistern lining and the installation of the polyphosphate chemical feed system.

The district once again applied for American Rescue Plan Act 2021 funding both through Cascade County and the State of Montana; Cascade County has pledged \$277,250. Board members once again attended a meeting with the Cascade County Commissioners on May 31, 2022 but did not receive a firm commitment from the county. We will not receive any round 2 ARPA money from the state. As has been previously discussed and reiterated – WE ARE ON BORROWED TIME WITH THE 50-YEAR-OLD EXISTING WELLS CURRENTLY IN USE. If the district does not receive any grants, each current customer will be looking at approximately a \$26/month flat rate increase to fund the project and pay back the State Revolving Fund loan we are eligible for.

Please be aware also – the District does not have the water right to bring on more taps/customers other than the original 266 which were part of the original design. We do not have the water for existing lots to be subdivided and receive a tap!

Annual Meeting Postponed

The Annual Meeting which normally occurs the second week of July will be postponed until September to combine the rate increase with it.

System Leak

Unfortunately, it appears that there is a leak/leaks within the water district system. We are losing approximately 200,000-300,000 gallons per month that we cannot account for. Please, if you see water standing or notice anything unusual with your water notify the district at once. Since the water does not always surface leaks can be very difficult to locate. Leak location equipment has been purchased and the operator will be assessing the system.

Board of Directors Election

Three board members were up for election. They were the only people that filed for the positions so were therefore appointed back as directors. Officer elections were held at the public meeting, June 14th. President – David Schuler, 1st Vice – Jerry Ulmen, 2nd Vice – Dennis Peppenger, 3rd Vice – Mercy Padgett and Treasurer – Kristie Blackford.

Water Outage

Gore Hill Water District uses variable speed pumps to distribute water to our customers. When we have power outages, our pumps go down and the system loses pressure. Please be aware our pumps work off 3 phase commercial power. This means you might have power returned to your home, but we will not have all 3 legs of power to run our pumps.

Water Restriction

Please review the policy posted on our website:

[Water Restrictions | Gore Hill County Water District](#)