



Johnsville Public Utility District

2018 Summer Newsletter

It has been stated that “water is life” and in Johnsville it is an essential component to maintaining our homes and our property values. Water is a utility that keeps our town the wonderful & unique place that it is. Currently your Johnsville Public Utility District (JPUD) Board of Directors is addressing our financial & legal responsibilities in providing and maintaining our water resources for years to come.

We believe communication, community involvement, and knowledge about our district is important to making sound decisions.

A little about our district-

JPUD was formed on November 15, 1947 and has been providing water to the community since inception. We operate and maintain a water treatment facility, 2 large water storage tanks and the pipelines that deliver water to all customers within the district.

Why we Exist: The PUD's charter is to provide clean safe and reliable water to our customers for consumption and fire protection. In 1997-1998 our system was upgraded to meet Federal Clean Water Laws. In 2013-2014 the JPUD refurbished our water source at Bennett Dam and upgraded Johnsville's fire protection system to current standards. In 2015-2016 we installed a new main service line on Church Street.

What we do: Our job is to set budgets, contract for services, and manage the day to day operations & long term maintenance of the district in a fiscally responsible manner. We do this by complying with State & Federal laws and local policies, collecting revenues needed to fund current operations and maintenance(O&M), and establishing a funded a capital improvement program (CIP) that allows us to replace aging and failed equipment.

Last year's newsletter addressed our two aging redwood water tanks which were originally installed in 1976. The State Water Quality Control Board (SRWQCB) concluded our two tanks have reached the end of their service life and recommended the district begin a replacement process. In response to this mandate from the State, our board has taken initial steps including the formation of a Tank Replacement Committee (Chaired by director, Norm Hattich) and a Funding Committee (Chaired by director, John LaTourrette) to analyze and report on the issues that must be addressed moving forward with the financing and replacement process.

The board's first step was to publish a request for qualifications (RFQ) to retain a qualified and licensed District Engineer. The board published this in August 2017 and subsequently selected Dan Bastian

Engineering as the most qualified applicant in September 2017. Dan Bastian has been tasked to provide the board a Preliminary Engineering Report, an environmental supplement, and financing options for replacing our two redwood storage tanks.

In April 2018 Dan Bastian was tasked to start work on a Preliminary Engineering Report and environmental supplement that will be needed to start a construction loan process. While it is an early estimate, we anticipate it will take 2-5 years to bring this project to completion.

Concurrently our water plant & system operator (Greagle Land and Water), notified us that it was the necessary to replace our control panel at our treatment plant. Should it fail there are no replacement parts which compromises our water service. A contractor has been selected to replace and update the control panel. This replacement control panel is being funded from with our limited district reserve funds.

When the panel installation begins, the board anticipates an interruption loss of water service during installation. We are trying to coordinate dates and times to minimize the impact on all of our customers.

The PUD Board and District manager are currently addressing the operating and capital costs that must be funded to continue providing services in a fiscally responsible manner. Our approach is to construct an initial three year operating budget and capital improvement plan with an appropriate rate structure that allows the PUD to provide clean safe water to our customers for consumption and fire protection.

The Johnsville Public Utility District is governed, managed and operated by local residents and property owners who have a vested interest in providing safe, reliable water at the most affordable cost. We are neighbors as well as ratepayers who do everything we can, to responsibly run our water district.

The Board of Directors and General Manager are striving to improve communications and will continue to present information regarding our efforts through public meetings and newsletters. If you wish to be notified of district activities via email, please provide an email address to the district at mdsheets346@gmail.com. *We are also in the process of updating our customer list and would like to include phone numbers and email addresses. If you would like this information to be included on the JPUD customer list please send your information to mdsheets346@gmail.com or call 530-836-2701.*

As always you are encouraged to attend our water meetings, which are held at the Johnsville Church. We look forward to your input and comments.

Johnsville Public Utility District Board of Directors,

David Piepho

Norm Hattich

John Latourrette

