

# Fayette County WCID – Monument Hill NEWSLETTER

*Fall 2020*

## District Office

100 Country Club Drive  
La Grange, TX 78945  
Telephone: (979) 968-5514  
E-Mail: fcwcid@yahoo.com  
Website:  
[www.monumenthillwater.com](http://www.monumenthillwater.com)

### Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8 am—12

## Board of Directors

Dixon McNair	President
Seth Gunn	Vice-Pres.
Bobby Gilmore	Secretary
Jo Ann Friemel	Treasurer
Chester Johnson	Director

Lori Steffek,  
Office Manager

Wayne Kocian, Inframark Operator

The Board invites all members of the District to attend its monthly Board of Directors meetings held on the second Thursday of every month at 4 p.m. at the District office, located at 100 Country Club Drive. Please note that due to scheduling conflicts, however, sometimes the meetings need to be moved to another day or time. Please contact the District office (968-5514) to verify that the meeting will be held on its regular date and time. If someone would like to address the Board during a meeting, the District requests that they notify the office no later than 72 hours prior to a scheduled meeting so they can be added to the meeting agenda.

## News & Updates

- ◆ In June, the District's most tenured Director and long standing Treasurer, Mr. James Benes, announced that he would be resigning from the Board in July. Mr. Benes and his wife, Brenda, had decided to sell their home, for some 44 years, on Richard Road and were moving "home" to Gonzales, TX. The Board thanks Mr. Benes for his devotion to the District and his countless hours spent in service to this community.
- ◆ In July, Mrs. Jo Ann Friemel was appointed as Treasurer to the Fayette County WCID—Monument Hill Board of Directors. Mrs. Friemel has worked for Prosperity Bank in La Grange for more than two decades and brings a vast knowledge of accounting and banking experience to the Board. The District welcomes her and is most appreciative of her willingness to serve on the Board.
- ◆ It is expected that full certification to operate Water Well #4 should be granted sometime early 2021. There
- was a delay due to water sample analysis indicating that the District's primary water source was moderately corrosive, thus requiring the District to have a corrosion control study performed. The study indicated that the District would need to purchase and install an orthophosphate system to control the corrosivity of its water. Prior to purchase and installation of the system, the District was required to issue a report to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requesting approval of the proposed orthophosphate system. That report was submitted mid-August. Once approved, the District can move forward with the installation of the system and then request final certification of Well #4. It's been a long process since the District's primary water well, Well #1, failed in May 2016; however, an end is finally in sight.
- ◆ Unfortunately, progress on the District's Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project has been stalled in recent



## Annual Winter Water Use Averaging Begins Dec. 1st

Don't forget that annual winter water use averaging begins December 1st and extends through February 2021. Each homeowner's winter water use average during the three month period of December, January and February will be used in determining their sewer rate for the twelve month period beginning April 2021 and extending thru March 2022. If you have any questions or want to review the way sewer rates are calculated, please contact the District's Office Manager, Lori Steffek.

# News & Updates

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months due to COVID-19 creating delays with some easement issues that were discovered in late 2019, just prior to the District formally seeking bids for the project. The District is hopeful that this matter can be resolved before the end of 2020, and be able to seek bids in early 2021. Funding for this project will be provided by monies reserved from the Series 2017 Bond Sale that were specifically designated for sanitary sewer improvements.

## District Adopts New Property Tax Rate for 2020

The District recently held a duly posted public hearing on September 10, 2020, to receive public comments on its proposed 2020 ad valorem tax rate which funds the District's debt service associated with its 2017 bond sale as well as funding a portion of its operations and maintenance budget. The proposed 2020 tax rate of 0.2447 per \$100 of valuation, represents an annual increase of \$0.41, or 1.41%, on the average priced home. The Board of Directors proceeded to adopt, via Resolution, the tax rate of 0.2447 for 2020 during the regular board of directors meeting which followed immediately after the public hearing.

## 2019 Water Quality Report Now Available

The 2019 Water Quality Report for the Fayette County WCID -Monument Hill is now available online by typing in the following URL address in your browser bar:

<http://ccrwater.net/fayettecountycidmonhill-69580>



*If you're sewer clean out drain cover looks like this one, it's time to replace it! If you need a cover that has a flat top, instead of the usual protruding square nut head cover, please drop by the office, and we'll be happy to provide you with one....free of charge!*

The next regular Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 4 p.m., at its office located at 100 Country Club Drive, La Grange, Texas.

The District offices will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day on Wednesday, November 11, 2020; for Thanksgiving on Thursday & Friday, November 26-27, 2020; for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day on Thursday & Friday, December 24 -25, 2020; and for New Year's on Friday, January 1, 2021.



## Water Bill Payment Options

The District is pleased to offer the following payment options for your water bill:

- ◆ Pay by Cash, Check or Money Order via mail or drop off payment at the District Office.
- ◆ Direct ACH Draft from your bank account – this service is offered free of charge and allows the District to draft your bank account, on the 10th of each month, for the full amount of your water bill. If interested, visit the District's website at [www.monumenthillwater.com](http://www.monumenthillwater.com), from the home screen menu bar across the top of the page, click on "Forms & Reports" and scroll down to "ACH Draft Authorization Form". Simply complete the form and return it to the office.
- ◆ Make a credit/debit card\* or E-check\*\* payment online – to make a payment online, please access the secure payment portal at our website, [www.monumenthillwater.com](http://www.monumenthillwater.com), click on the green "Bill Payment Options" button located on the right side of the screen and then click on the blue "Pay Your Water Bill" button.
- ◆ Make a credit/debit card\* or E-check\*\* payment by phone – to make a payment by phone, please call our dedicated toll free pay-by-phone number **877-556-7967**.

**\* All credit and debit card transactions will be assessed a 3% convenience fee for the use of their card.**

**\*\* All E-check transactions will be assessed a \$1.00 convenience fee.**

**Please Note – Customers will need their account number and the amount of their bill in order to make credit/debit or E-check payments online and/or phone payments.**

## Emergency Alerts

It's very important that everyone sign up to receive emergency alerts from the Water District. In order to sign up for alert emails and/or text messages, please visit the District's website at [www.monumenthillwater.com](http://www.monumenthillwater.com), and from our homepage, click on the orange "Sign Up for Alerts" button on the right side panel of the screen. Your mailbox will NOT be flooded with junk mail. Need help subscribing? Not sure if you've already subscribed? Please contact Lori Steffek at (979) 968-5514 and she will gladly assist you.

## WORKING FOR YOU

Dixon McNair ~ President: (713) 805-0261  
Seth Gunn ~ Vice President: (979) 968-3473  
Bobby Gilmore ~ Secretary: (979) 968-5686  
Jo Ann Friemel ~ Treasurer: (979) 966-8926  
Chester Johnson ~ Director: (979) 966-9669  
Wayne Kocian ~ Operator: (512) 848-0041  
Lori Steffek ~ Office Manager: (979) 968-5514 (office)  
(979) 966-9383 (Emergencies)