

Fayette County WCID – Monument Hill NEWSLETTER

Fall 2021

District Office

100 Country Club Drive
La Grange, TX 78945
Telephone: (979) 968-5514

E-Mail:

lori@monumenthillwater.com

Website:

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

- ◆ The Board of Directors made a motion at their regular August meeting to participate in Fayette County's Hazard Mitigation Plan at a buy-in cost of \$6,000, of which the district will be responsible for paying \$1,500 and FEMA paying the remaining \$4,500. By participating in the plan, the district can apply, and compete, for funds made available by the State for the purpose of specifically addressing issues that the district has identified through the hazard mitigation plan. After brainstorming, some items identified during the meeting that should be eligible for funding are the purchase of a generator and the possible upgrade of the interconnect, between the district and Fayette Water Supply Corporation, located at Spur 92 & U.S. Highway 77. Upgrading the existing 2" interconnect line to a 4" line would be beneficial to providing the district with increased, and more stabilized, water pressure and capacity during those times when the interconnect is being utilized.
- ◆ Full certification to operate Water Well #4 is still on the horizon. Due to the unexpected repairs to both ground storage and pressure tanks earlier this year, installation of the new orthophosphate system couldn't be completed until this last May. This delay also pushed back the timeline for meeting TCEQ's expanded lead and copper sampling requirements. Expanded sampling means the district will need to conduct (2) rounds of lead and copper sampling from 20 properties (instead of the normal 10 properties) located throughout the District and meeting specific criteria identified by the EPA. Samples will now be collected during the first and third quarters of 2022. Once the district receives confirmation that all samples were within acceptable limits, the district's engineer will be able to submit the final request for full certification of Well #4.
- ◆ As some may recall, progress on the District's Sanitary Sewer ➡



Annual Winter Water Use Averaging Begins Dec. 1st

Don't forget that annual winter water use averaging begins December 1st and extends through February 2022. 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 2022 and extending thru March 2023. 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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Improvement Project was stalled in late 2019 due to some easement uncertainties that were discovered during a survey. These easement issues are nearing resolution and the process of seeking bids will begin in the coming months. The District is hopeful that the project can be bid before end of 2021 and construction following in 2022. 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 2021

The District recently held a duly posted public hearing on September 9, 2021, to receive public comments on its proposed 2021 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 2021 tax rate of 0.2337 per \$100 of valuation, represents an annual decrease of \$9.34, or 1.72%, on the average priced home. The Board of Directors proceeded to adopt, via Resolution, the tax rate of 0.2337 for 2021 during the regular board of directors meeting which followed immediately after the public hearing.

2020 Water Quality Report Now Available

The 2020 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:

<https://ccrwater.net/fayettecountycidmonhill-93409>



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 14, 2021 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 Thursday, November 11, 2021; for Thanksgiving on Thursday & Friday, November 25-26, 2021; for Christmas on Thursday & Friday, December 23-24, 2021; and for New Year's on Friday, December 31, 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 in the payment box 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, 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, 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 water 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, and from our homepage, click on the red "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)