

News from the GM

MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

DISTRICT NEWS

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- This month's Regular Board meeting is being held July 18th in the AM. Please call the office to confirm.
- **PLEASE UPDATE YOUR PHONE NUMBERS!!!** We need to be able to reach you!
- Please call the office with any questions or to receive financial assistance with your bill.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

District News	1
Information	2
Mission Statement	2
District Water Usage	2
Water District Maintenance	2
Phone Numbers	2

URGENT—ALERT – URGENT– ALERT— URGENT—ALERT – URGENT– ALERT— URGENT

It looks like we are winning on the Water Tax Front!

I received an email from the Association of California Water Agencies that stated the following:

On Sunday June 9, the 2019 Conference Committee on the Budget approved a safe drinking water funding solution for disadvantaged communities in California that do not have access to safe drinking water. The solution, which does not involve a water tax, will be put in place through the enactment of the 2019-'20 State Budget and related trailer bill language. Here is the proposal in a nutshell.

In the first year, Fiscal Year 2019-'20, the safe drinking water funding solution will be funded with \$100 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) and \$30 million from the General Fund. This will be part of the 2019-'20 Fiscal Year State Budget .

After the first year, the funding will be 5 percent of the GGRF continuously appropriated – capped at \$130 million per year. Beginning in Fiscal Year, 2023-'24, the agreement includes General Fund funding as a backstop if 5 percent of the GGRF is less than \$130 million in any year. The funding will sunset in 2030.

Trailer bill language will also set up a fund and provide the framework for the funding program.

The Legislature will take up the budget late this week. We look forward to the enactment of the solution. We will let you know when that happens.

Hooray! All your calls and letters from the association have made a difference! They have finally backed off the Water Tax idea (at least for now). Thank you for your interaction and for talking with your friends and associates. You would still be shocked to learn how many people had no idea that this was going on. Even the news and print media didn't talk about it.

I didn't receive any comments last month on changing the meeting times from afternoons to mornings. It's a shame, I would really have liked to give the Directors some feedback about your wishes and or concerns. Sometimes apathy is a good thing; I'm going to take it as a positive indicator of the work our Board is doing. You're happy, content and drinking the best water out there. Staff recommendations are still going to be morning meetings. It just makes sense. Why pay for extra hours, electricity and resources during times the office is normally closed. If you have a concern about the change, please call, email or just drop by, I'll be glad to bring you up to speed.

OFFICE CLOSURES FOR THIS MONTH

This month the office will be closed during the week of the 22nd thru the 26th. This allows the District to complete billing during the hours the office is normally open.

EMERGENCY and after hours please call 760-912-9400



M A R I A N A R A N C H O S
C O U N T Y W A T E R
D I S T R I C T

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The opinions expressed belong to the General Manager and may not reflect those of the Board.

“The mission of the Mariana Ranchos County Water District is to efficiently serve our customers with the highest quality water, 24/7.”

For the month of May

2013 Usage	2019 Usage
680,700 cubic feet	440,500 cubic feet
5,091,636 Gallons	3,294,940 Gallons
GREAT! 😄	35.28% Decrease

www.mrcwd.org

Agendas for meetings of the MRCWD Board of Directors are always available online at our website. You can view them 1 day in advance for a Special meeting and 3 days in advance for a Regular meeting.

W A T E R D I S T R I C T M A I N T E N A N C E

Our new Rate Structure is working well. Most folks haven't really paid much attention to it. They will begin to catch on in the coming months. Our tracking has improved as well. When you log onto the website you will be able to see how you fare against the community based on meter size. Don't forget to look at your correct size, 3/4" or 1" as the case may be. Within the next five years we will all be 1" meters, but for now there are many more 3/4" meters out there. Remember, increased volume means more flow not PSI!

We are continuing the swap out to 1" meters this month. As we spoke about before, all the meters involved in the East End Main Line Replacement project will be 1" radio read meters. We have also identified over 50 meters for immediate replacement to radio read that will help during our monthly reads. Now our field techs won't have to go onto private property, open fences and gates, be on the lookout for vicious dogs and dangerous areas. We can also omit areas where we need 4 wheel drive to get into. These kinds of changes will significantly reduce the District's liability exposures. It will also reduce the amount of time required to read our meters. Now the field techs can be more productive on other District projects, instead of riding around, jumping in and out of the Kubota every month. Good things are happening!

Speaking of the East End project. We have completed Flora Vista Street and have installed the new valve on Bella Vista Street. We will begin laying pipe in the coming weeks. This line is almost twice as long as our previous run, 1/2 mile in length. These improvements are just further proof of the excellent stewardship your Board of Directors are providing!