

Fayette County WCID – Monument Hill NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2017

District Office

100 Country Club Drive
La Grange, TX 78945
Telephone: (979) 968-5514
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Website:
www.monumenthillwater.com

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9 am—12 pm

Board of Directors

Dixon McNair	President
Seth Gunn	Vice-Pres.
Margaret Burton	Secretary
James Benes	Treasurer
Chester Johnson	Director

Lori Steffek,
Office Manager

Wayne Kocian, Severn Trent
Environmental Services 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 5 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.

Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) Update

In December 2016, the District received the disappointing news that its 4th Quarter Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) sample results were outside of passing parameters, for the third quarter in a row. In September 2016 the District purchased and installed (2) water tank mixers, hopeful that the mixers would alleviate the TTHMs. While the tank mixers certainly had a positive effect in lowering the TTHMs (from 0.147 mg/L to 0.0893 mg/L), unfortunately, the tank mixers were obviously not the only solution that was needed. Having been unable to determine the root cause of the District's TTHM problems, the District decided to move forward with having Water Equipment & Treat-

ment Services, Inc. (WETS) conduct a pilot study of the District's water which would aid in determining the precursors and causes of their TTHM problems, as well as recommending the best methods for removing TTHMs from the water.

After completing a two month long study, WETS made the recommendation that the District re-work the existing aerator which included replacing the 20 year old media located inside of the aerator with new and improved media (at a cost of almost \$16,000) and that the point of water chlorination be moved to before aeration instead of, the existing location of, after aeration. Preliminary, independent sampling for TTHMs showed values ➡

NBT Purchases District's Bond Anticipation Note

On January 4, 2017 the District received notice from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality that their bond application package had been deemed "Administratively Complete", clearing the path to soliciting bids for its \$790,000 Bond Anticipation Note (BAN). The BAN is temporary funding for the District to use while the bond issue is taking place. Once the bond issue has been completed, the BAN will be paid off with the partial proceeds of the bond issue. The District's legal counsel and financial advisor are hopeful that the bond issue will be final by the end of July 2017.

While no BAN bids were received, the District's Financial Advisor, Bill Blich, approached the District's long-time bank,

National Bank & Trust, about purchasing the note. On February 22, 2017, at a duly posted special meeting of the FCWCID Board of Directors, the Directors agreed on the sale of the BAN to NBT. On March 3, 2017, the sale of the BAN was closed and the District received \$790,000 in funding that will enable plans to drill Water Well No. 4 to move forward. At the same February 22, 2017 Board of Directors meeting, the Board also awarded the contract for the drilling of Water Well No. 4 to Holly Water Wells at a total cost of \$275,877.35. Included in this price is the drilling of an 18" x 12" carbon steel well with .500" wall casing and .500" wall casing in the base screen pipe and liner pipe, as well as the plugging of Water Well ➡

TTHM Update

(Cont'd from page 1)

below 0.035 mg/L in all tests that were conducted after the re-working of the aerator, immediately confirming that the money spent on the re-working of the aerator had been well worth the investment. The District has applied to TCEQ for permission to amend its approved water treatment process and is currently waiting on approval before it moves the point of water chlorination as recommended by WETS.

Below you will find a table indicating the sample results for the past four quarters. As a reminder, total trihalo-methanes should be below 0.080 mg/L, at each sampling location and, as indicated in the table below, both mandated sampling locations failed for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarters of 2016. For your information, LRAA refers to the locational running annual average. It represents the average over the last four sampling periods. An LRAA above 0.080 mg/L triggers a violation by TCEQ and requires the District to send out a Public Notice to all of its membership. First Quarter 2017 samples were taken the end of March and unavailable at the time this bulletin went to print. As always, if you should have any questions concerning this matter, or wish to discuss it in greater detail, please contact the office at 968-5514.

Sampling Period	Location 1 Results (mg/L)	Location 2 Results (mg/L)
03/2016 LRAA	0.0531 0.0570	0.0476 0.0552
06/2016 LRAA	0.1470 0.0754	0.1430 0.0727
09/2016 LRAA	0.0893 0.088	0.0976 0.088
12/2016 LRAA	0.0874 0.094	0.0895 0.094

Bond Anticipation Note

(Cont'd from page 1)

No. 1. The District expects that contracts will be drawn up and executed by the beginning of April and construction will hopefully commence quickly thereafter. Completion of the new well is expected to be sometime early June 2017.

Items already purchased and installed from the voter approved bond election on November 8, 2016 are (2) tank mixers for both ground storage tanks which included extensive electrical work to get the mixers hard plumbed, (2) variable frequency drives which also required the upgrading of electrical service at Plant #2 to 460 amp, and the reworking of the aerator at the District's treatment plant. BAN funds were also spent on Engineering, Legal and Financial Advisor fees in excess of \$90,000.

WORKING FOR YOU

Dixon McNair ~ President: (713) 805-0261
Seth Gunn ~ Vice President: (979) 968-3473
Margaret Burton ~ Secretary: (979) 968-3869
James Benes ~ Treasurer: (979) 968-3058
Chester Johnson ~ Director: (979) 966-9669
Wayne Kocian ~ Operator: (512) 848-0041
Lori Steffek ~ Office Manager: (979) 968-5514 (office)
(979) 208-9173 (Emergencies)



The next regular Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 5 p.m., at the District office located at 100 Country Club Drive, La Grange, Texas.

The District offices will be closed for Good Friday on April 14, 2017 and for Memorial Day on Monday, May 29, 2017.

Pay Your Water Bill Via Auto Bank Draft

In a world that just seems to get more complicated by the day, the District can help simplify one small aspect of life by debiting your checking or savings account every month for the amount of your water bill. This service is offered at no charge and as a courtesy to our members. If interested, visit the District's website at www.monumenthillwater.com for the "FCWCID ACH Draft Authorization Form" and return to the District office or contact Lori Steffek at (979) 968-5514 for assistance.

Emergency Alerts

The District has a website where you can sign up to receive real-time emergency email and/or text message alerts. The District urges everyone to please sign up for these alerts. Your mailbox will NOT be flooded with junk mail, but rather you will be alerted when there is a situation that requires information being disseminated in an urgent manner. Several times during the past year, it's been necessary to send out emergency notifications advising members to cease all non-essential water use due to a system failure and our needing to purchase water from Fayette Water Supply Corporation. FWSC specifies that when they provide water to the District, there will be no lawn irrigation, car washing, etc. for the duration of their assistance. Please visit our website (www.monumenthillwater.com), and from our homepage, click on the orange "Sign Up for Alerts" button on the right side panel! Don't like it? You can always unsubscribe anytime!



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!