Board of Directors appoints new General Manager

After a long recruitment effort, screening, and interview process, on Nov. 13, 2019 the Board appointed Phil Witt, the Assistant GM, as General Manager.

Phil Witt began working at the District 20 years ago, after 10 years in the family underground business. He quickly proved his value to the District, and after only three years as a water worker, was promoted to General Foreman. With exceptional technical skills, good judgement, and ability to build strong relationships with customers and contractors, he has successfully led the District’s operations. Phil became the Assistant General Manager in 2018. He lives in Scott’s Valley with his wife and two sons.

“Purissima Hills Water District is a very special water district where we can implement new technologies quickly.” Phil said. “That gives us a great sense of pride. I’m excited about the future, ensuring the District has a strong and resilient water system with excellent customer relationships.”

Phil’s vision for the District is to continue improving customer service and implement priorities in the capital improvement plan starting two major projects in 2020 and 2021: Elena/Taaffe/Moody Rd. Main Replacement and Conception Rd. Main Replacement.

The previous General Manager, Patrick Walter, is retired.

Financing Plan for New Projects Underway

The District’s rates continue to be low compared with similar agencies even though our rates have risen over the last three years. With construction costs on the rise, the District’s rates still do not provide the District sufficient revenue to replace aging pipeline and infrastructure in a responsible time frame. The Board and management have decided to borrow money to kick start two large water main replacement projects: 1.) Taaffe Rd. and Elena Rd. mains that will tie the north and most southern part of the District together with a large solid pipeline; and 2.) Concepcion Rd. main that has been costly to maintain. We anticipate the need to raise rates in 2021.
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This is your new Beacon device.

The device is located on your water meter. To monitor real time flow, wait to see the screen that shows gallons per minute as shown in this photo. Four screens with numbers will cycle through and one shows gallons per minute.

This screen is showing 2.1 gallons per minute are flowing.

To test for a leak, turn off all water in the garden and house, then wait for the gallons per minute screen to appear. If nothing is running, the screen will show 0.0 GAL.

If this screen still shows a number after all water is turned off, then water is running somewhere on your property in the irrigation, in the house, or from your main line coming from the meter.

Is your controller set correctly?

It is important as a homeowner to know how to properly set and use your irrigation controller. One of the main reasons for a costly bill during the fall is not having the irrigation controller set correctly. It is important to get together with your landscaper or gardener, if you have one, and make known exactly how you want your irrigation schedule to run during the winter months, if at all.