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Hello Squaw Valley Mutual Water Company members.

BILLING

The Board thanks you for paying your July bills within the 90-day period. The less follow-up and calling our accountant has to do, the less this activity costs, which we all pay for. And none of us would like to have to shut off anyone's water service.

CONSTRUCTION

The entire project work paid by USDA loan #2 is now complete.

There have been 3 inspections by the contractors, County personnel and the USDA, all of which found no issues. The start date for the 30-day notification period to all subcontractors began on October 26.

The next step is to close out the construction loan, and begin payments to the USDA. Up until now we have been paying monthly interest on a construction loan whose rate has skyrocketed, and this has cut into our construction funds. The USDA loan is at a fixed annual 3.5%. There is a checklist of items that must be completed, and we are working our way through that.

We have had less than 3% in change orders, which is remarkable for a project of almost \$5,000,000. Most of these have been related to poor documentation on the existing system.

WATER USAGE

There seems to be some confusion on our meter-reading program. We read the meters once per month (on or about the first day of the month) and post the monthly usage to the home page of our website (squawvalleymutualwater.com). We do not read the meters during the month. We encourage our members to monitor the monthly report to look for unusual water usage. We are not responsible for your water usage or leaks after our water meter. If the "leak flag" appears on our reading, we will notify you but the flag does not measure flow and only indicates activity within the 24 hours prior to the reading. The most likely cause of unusual high usage is running toilets.

CELLULAR ENDPOINT PROGRAM

We closed out the first solicitation for the cellular endpoints for the water meters when we received 31 responses. We have ordered the devices. Installation will depend on delivery and the weather. Stay tuned.

WEBSITE

We have been working on a new, easier to navigate, modern website. It will go live on Nov 10th.

Included will be a feedback form so you can provide comments and bug reports

WATER TANKS

We got the final report on the upper tank inspection, and it is in good condition, so no immediate action is needed. We will need to factor a recoating of interior and exterior in about 5-6 years. It will cost more than the lower tank, as it is 50% larger.

In early 2024 we will send a bid package for the work to recoat the lower tank. We had previously estimated that it will cost about \$200,000.

INTERTIE

OVPD has provided an interim set of drawings of how the emergency intertie of our water systems could be constructed. We expect there to be updates based on further clarifications and modifications. Still to occur is an agreement on cost sharing for the construction and how water usage will be charged.

BACKFLOW PROGRAM

Running this program was a nightmare this summer, and we are looking into a better and less time-consuming method for 2024. A formal penalty policy for not reporting is being evaluated by the Board. We are mandated by California state law to obtain 100% compliance by our members.

OVPD NEWS

Mike Geary has resigned as general manager of the OVPD effective March 31, 2024. A search will begin soon for a successor.

NEXT BOARD MEETING -

The next board meeting will be January 19 at 4:00 PM. Information for these meetings can be found at squawvalleymutualwater.com/board-meetings.

Thanks

David Stepner, President

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Accounting Support

You can reach our accounting firm at manager@squawvalleymutualwater.com.
or everyone in our financial team at accounting@squawvalleymutualwater.com .

Emergency Service

Please use our emergency number (442-888-5036) only for true water emergencies.
For other notifications, please use the email service@squawvalleymutualwater.com