



TO: PSWID Board of Directors

DATE: May 21, 2020

FROM: Cato Esquivel  
District Manager

RE: **DISTRICT MANAGERS REPORT**

## **OPERATIONS**

### January 2020 – February 2020

The leaks that staff encountered in Pine-Strawberry communities were water service connections in Torrie Pines, 2-inch waterline in Willow Tree, 1-inch tee to ¾" water service connection in Portals 3 and replaced 5-feet of 2-inch ABS waterline with SCH 80 PVC.

### March 2020 – April 2020

We were called out at to repair a main break in Eagle Dr., Strawberry Knolls 1. The repairs were made, and water services restored by the end of the day. Staff replaced 60 LF of black ABS pipe with SCH 80 PVC pipe. Staff was also called out to a water break in the Portals. An existing service came apart at the bushing connected to the saddle. Once repaired the existing 6-inch main was reactivated.

Staff hasn't received an "After-Hour" call in months. The main repair calls we are receiving are associated with services or booster stations going offline.

### Tank Farm

As you may recall we replaced the pump and motor in December 2018, because of an electrical issue with the well pump and motor. During the weekend of May 16 & 17 we received several calls from Strawberry Creek Foothills and Strawberry Pines that the water was yellow in color.

During the week of May 11<sup>th</sup> staff took the Tank Farm well off line for preventative maintenance. The well was operating at 50 gpm since it was placed back in-service December 2018. When it recently was place back into service we think that the process of it being on and then turning it off caused sediment to be stirred up. Staff also isolated Tank 1 of the series of three to flush the sediment in the Tank 1 from the well.

The well has been off line this week to allow the sediment to settle. We will begin placing the well back online Friday, May 22 at a low pumping rate and gradually increase the gpm as needed.

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### Milk Ranch Wells 1 & 3

MR1 was placed back online in January 2020, set at 30 gpm. The NTU reading was 1.8. During the month of February 2020, its about 1.15 NTU's, in April 2020 it was about 1.05. The water from the MR wells go into two storage tanks which allows for additional detention time that allows these particles to settle. Then the water is pumped into our distribution system where it will blend with water from other sources.

### Milk Ranch Well No. 2

As you may recall, in March 2020, we pulled MR2 well motor and pump. We discovered that the shaft had sheared away from the pump. Our goal is to get this back in production in the next couple of weeks.

### Ponderosa Water Company

The District received a call from ADEQ in March 2020 requesting a meeting to discuss how the District could assist Ponderosa Water Company.

We participated in a conference call with Gila County Supervisor Martin, Albert Hunt and various representatives with ACC and ADEQ on April 30<sup>th</sup>. We explained the estimated cost of \$600,000 to replace their infrastructure. We also explained that we have a waterline project under design that will place a 6-inch main in Fossil Creek from Wagon Wheel to Old Spruce.

We also shared with the group options that the District was considering. One being the system interconnect. This is where we would install the necessary piping to connect their water system with ours. We would install a meter along with backflow devices as part of the interconnect. We would then agree on a cost per 1000 gallons. I estimated the cost per 1,000 gallons between \$11 - \$15. The estimated cost of the interconnect is approximately \$100,000.

On May 12<sup>th</sup> I met with an engineering consultant hired and working on the behalf of ADEQ. We discussed a couple of potential locations where we could have the interconnect installed. We also discuss potential issue with pressure differences, waterline breaks on Ponderosa system and that the District would not be responsible to making any repairs.

We anticipate the water usage in Pine Haven would be similar to the water being consumed in Solitude Trails, 150,000 gallons per month.

### Developing Existing Wells

In March 2020 our water production was about 5 MG per month. In March and April 2020 our water production increased to 10 MG's total for each month. The last couple of years in July 2018 and July 2019 our water production was 14 MG's. Based on this we are now investigating options to either rehab an existing well or drill a new one. We are also looking into private wells that have high water production to utilize the resource through a sharing agreement.

We have discovered two well sites that appeared to have been abandon by previous administration. One well is located at the southeast corner of Strawberry and Eagle Drives, and the other is located at the end of Walnut Ln south of Oak Rd. The wells are on Pine-Strawberry District property. The water levels for each of the wells are roughly 600-feet. We are in the process of reviewing drilling logs and

associated well information. If the well information is found to be promising, we will proceed with redevelopment of each one.