



THE PIPELINE

Summer 2014
Issue 76

Serving this Community
since 1943.

Keeping Lakewood Water District
Customers Informed

*www.lakewood-water-dist.org

*Click on:

- ⇒ About Us
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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

President:
Lawrence R. Ghilarducci, Jr.
Vice President:
John S. Korsmo, Jr.
Secretary:
Gregory J. Rediske
General Manager:
Randall M. Black

The Board of Commissioners meets
the 3rd Thursday of each month
at the District
office - 3:30 pm.
Public Welcome



*www.lakewood-water-dist.org

Commissioner Meeting Highlights

March

Resolutions Adopted: No. B-1414 (new Hydrant Meter policy) and B-1415 (issuance of water revenue bonds).

The Board adopted general District financial policies, practices, and limits.

April

Resolutions Adopted: No. B-1416 (application for Public Works Trust Fund Loan)

Board-awarded projects: Lakeholme Road SW R&R Project to Pape & Sons Construction, Inc.; the District's AMI Meter Replacement Program Project to Sensus.

May

Resolutions Adopted: No. B-1418 (updating Public Disclosure policy) & No. B-1417 (Conditions of Service, outlining the District's authority and practices as it relates to maintaining District valves, meters, and services).

Board-awarded projects: Sylvan Park R&R Project to Pape & Sons Construction, Inc.

For more information, please visit our website.*

Dear Fellow Customers,

At the writing of this letter, we have just gotten this year's Water Quality & Annual Business Report (Annual Report) in the mail to you. We hope you read it and enjoy it.

Perhaps the biggest thing coming next around the bend is our AMI Meter Replacement Program. **Starting in July, all meters in the District will get replaced.**

To help serve you better, the District will be installing an AMI—Automated Meter Infrastructure—system throughout our Water District. This project will include enhancing nearly every residential and commercial water meter in Lakewood Water District with new, state-of-the-art technology that can wirelessly communicate meter reads and water usage information to the District daily. This will provide better leak detection, improved customer service, cost savings, and many other efficiencies to the District and, therefore, to you.

Sample AMI System

The project will begin in July and take about 4-5 months to complete. Postcards will be sent to you 15-30 business days prior to installation, and before leaving the site, door hangers will be left at the main entrance to the property informing the residents of the status of the visit.

Our communities' drinking water will remain safe throughout the project with limited interruptions, as water will need to be turned off at each residence to install new meters.

For more information on this project, please go to our website at www.lakewood-water-dist.org and follow the AMI icon/link. Once the meter installation starts, customers can find updates on our website, including when we're coming to your neighborhood.

Most sincerely,
Your Board of Commissioners



Big Blue Van

Q: What's big and blue and drives all over.... Lakewood that is?

A: One of the newest members to the District's fleet—a Ford cube van customized as a mobile work station outfitted with all the tools and parts needed for most any job in the field as well as niceties such as a workbench and a comfortable work space

Over the years, the face of Lakewood Water has changed. The population has grown, our infrastructure has increased, State and Federal regulations have changed and been added, and many of the components we use to bring our customers water have become more complex and maintenance-intensive. That is why we are excited to have this cube van in our current crop of vehicles.

We've always had a variety of vehicles to perform specific tasks in the field—from a right-hand drive vehicle for meter reading to fully equipped 2-ton diesel trucks for installation of new mains and hydrants. This new van will also serve a specific role primarily for the crew who oversee and maintain our well sites, pumps and motors, elevated tanks, water treatment, and quality control.

Since this aspect of the District—like many others—is multifaceted, it made sense to acquire a vehicle that would allow our Pumping Crew technicians to immediately address any problem they may encounter in a given day. So we have turned this new van into a mobile work station outfitted with all the tools and parts needed for most any job as well as niceties such as a workbench and a comfortable work space.

In the past, much time and energy was spent traveling back to our main shop or supply stores to get what was needed. We are confident this will change for the better, and early reports from the techs who are using this new van back that up.

In the end, we just wanted to inform our customers of this purchase to let you know that we never take you or the rates you pay for granted. We are always looking for ways to become more efficient and truly feel this recent purchase will help us in that goal. So look for Zac and the big blue van in your neighborhood soon!



Spotlight on our Staff —Amber Dickens



Amber joined our LWD team on September 3, 2013 as a Customer Service Representative I. Her job duties include assisting customers with any question and/or concern they may have, always with a big, beaming smile on her face. Amber says, “I love being a part of such a great team. Everyone at LWD is extremely supportive and always willing to help. I feel so lucky to be working here. I also love working with our customers. It always makes me smile when the customers share their stories, whether over the phone or here in our office.”

When not at work, Amber loves to bake, especially cupcakes (and she’s always quick to share her masterpieces with her coworkers ☺). Her favorite pastime is going to different concerts; she truly enjoys music. She also enjoys hiking, being outdoors, and surrounding herself with loved ones.

Amber comes from a close family and especially enjoys her nieces Lola and Mia and her nephew Ryder. Amber grew up in University Place and went to Curtis Senior High School. She went on to graduate from the University of Washington in 2011 with a BA in Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences and a minor in mathematics. As one might guess, her favorite colors are purple and gold, and her favorite animal is a Husky.

In closing, Amber wanted to say, “Thank you, Grandma Noreen, for referring me to Lakewood Water District!” (It was Grandma, a long-time, faithful LWD customer, who saw the employment ad and told her granddaughter about the opportunity.) That being said, our whole LWD team thanks Grandma Noreen!