



**A Monthly Newsletter**

**November 2024**

**Serving the Community**

**“Your Independent Local Government Agency Providing Water, Wastewater, Drainage, Security and Solid Waste Services”**

**District Meeting Schedule For November 2024**

*All Meetings in Person*

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Tuesday  
November 5th  
7:30 a.m. - Personnel  
8 a.m. - Improvements**

**Thursday November 7th  
9 a.m. Communications  
& Technology**

**Wednesday November  
20th  
10:00 a.m. Finance**

**BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday  
November 20th  
5:00 p.m.**

**The public is invited to attend.**

*All meeting dates and times are subject to change.*

*Check our website,  
[www.rmcsd.com](http://www.rmcsd.com) for any changes.*

**MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

November 2024

Dear Rancho Murieta Residents:

Please join me in welcoming the District’s new Director of Operations, Eric Houston. Eric has worked to provide drinking water in California for 20 years and is licensed in both water treatment and distribution. Eric has also worked as a supervisor and manager during that time and is well qualified to oversee and strengthen the Operations’ team. Check out the profile story on Eric on Page 3.

The District began the effort of developing an Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) in the Fall of 2022. An IWMP compiles data regarding a region’s water supply and demand and proposes solutions to address any imbalance between those two. An IWMP is a form of the planning report required of larger water providers that contains the same kind of information. The larger water providers (those with connections over 3,000) must prepare an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) every five years. These reports support the suppliers’ long-term resource planning to ensure that adequate water supplies are available to meet existing and future water needs.

The District’s IWMP Consultants have provided information on the District’s Supply, Demand, and Imbalance Scenarios over the last two years -in the form of [robust website pages that show the extensive history of the Rancho Murieta water system.](#) [These web pages include links to all the original documents that underly this system.](#) These include water rights and actual and projected usage information. The Consultants also participated in three Town Hall meetings to explain their work on the IWMP and answer questions. The Consultants also developed an analytical Excel-based tool that allows the District to plug in various potential conditions (duration and extent of a drought and the corresponding impact on supply, increases in demand from additional development, etc.) and see how those factors impact the system.

The Consultants submitted their Draft Report of the IWMP to the District a few weeks ago and it was discussed by the Board at the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. The document, in Portable Document Format (PDF), is available to review and [download from the District website.](#) A few printed copies of the report are also available at the CSD Front Desk to check out for one week at a time.

The Board determined that a 45-Day Review Period would begin on October 16<sup>th</sup>, and, due to public comments regarding the report, directed the District Counsel and General Manager to gather names of potential technical reviewers of the report so that concerns regarding the report could be addressed.

All California water communities are required to use their water resources wisely and in a manner that always ensures the availability of safe drinking water, including during extreme droughts. IWMPs and UWMPs are important planning documents that both help a community better understand its water resources and describe demand management measures, water shortage contingency plans, and options for expanding supply or storage, as required by California law.

Mimi Morris  
General Manager

## KEEP HOLIDAY F.O.G. OUT OF YOUR KITCHEN SINK

Turkey Day is just around the corner and Rancho Murieta Community Services District encourages you to keep your sink **fat-free** this holiday season.

Throughout the year, especially during the holidays, people pour the by-products of cooking down the sink drain. Fats, oils and grease (F.O.G.) can coat and clog pipes which can cause sewer lines to back up into homes. That could mean costly clean-up and repair costs.

F.O.G. can also cause blockages further down sewer lines. And that can result in overflows or sewage back-ups into yards or streets, creating a public health risk. Oil making its way to wastewater treatment plants can disrupt the treatment process and increase the need for maintenance.

To prevent these problems, the District encourages you to dispose of your leftover F.O.G. properly. Here are some suggestions that many of your neighbors may already be following:

- Do not put fats, oil, grease or greasy food down the garbage disposal.
- Place small amounts of fat, oil, and grease in a brown paper bag and dispose of it in your organic waste container.
- Turkey fryers leave a large amount of oil. Rancho Murieta residents can call Cal-Waste Customer Service (916-354-4154) to request a 1-gallon container for disposal of used cooking oil, and separately, used motor oil. Cooking oil and motor oil cannot be collected in the same container. (In the instance that a resident would like a container for both cooking oil and motor oil, they would receive two containers.) The container will be dropped off on the day of waste collection. Residents can then fill the container at their leisure and set at the curb when the container is full on their next collection day. If you are soaking a greasy pan, first pour off grease into a container. Then place paper towels over the drain basket to catch grease and food as you pour the soaking water down the drain.

### OCTOBER 16, 2024 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Adopted resolution R2024-12, Continuing Emergency Repairs to Recycled Water Pipe on Yellow Bridge
- Received Draft of Integrated Water Master Plan
- Continued Emergency Repair of Pipe Leak from Granlees to Calero
- Adopted Policy P2024-02 Reimbursement for Damages Caused by Murieta Village Water Main Line Breaks
- Approved CIP for Preliminary Design of Murieta Village Water and Sewer not to exceed \$100,000
- Approved Task Order RM-045 with Domenichelli & Associates for Distribution System Evaluation
- Approved Bid from TNT Industrial Contractors, Inc. for Wastewater Treatment Plant Sodium Hypochlorite Conversion, CIP #23-14-02
- Approved Bid from TNT Industrial Contractors, Inc. for rehabilitation on Water Treatment Plant #2 Filter Bed, CIP #25-200-01
- Approved Bid from Prodigy Electric for LED Conversion Lighting in District Buildings
- Rejected Application for Leave to File a Late Claim for Ricardo Mendoza

### OCTOBER 2024 COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

#### Improvements Committee

- Meter Manufacturer Kamstrup delivered a presentation on their Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) which includes robust leak detection
- Discussed Murieta Village Supply and Sewer Lines
- Discussed Repair of Broken Raw Water Conveyance Pipe from Granlees to Calero Reservoir
- Discussed Distribution System Study related to Rio Oso Tank
- Discussed Amendment to Domenichelli & Associates for Overall Distribution System Capacity Evaluation
- Discussed Lift Station 6B Rehab
- Discussed Repairs to Recycled Water Line on Yellow Bridge
- Discussed Bid Results for Water Treatment Plant #2 Filter Bed Rehabilitation
- Discussed Bid Results for Wastewater Treatment Plant Sodium Hypochlorite Conversion
- Discussed LED Conversion Lighting Project in District Buildings
- Discussed Basin 5 Maintenance Request

#### Personnel Committee

- Discussed Converting Two Non-Exempt Classifications to Exempt Classifications
- Discussed Proposed Changes to Pay for Performance Program Manual Updates to the Non-Represented Salary Schedules, and establishment of a new Non-Represented Executive Management group

#### Communications & Technology Committee

- Received update on Website and Social Media

## Board of Directors

Tim Maybee  
President  
tmaybee@rmcsd.com

Randy Jenco  
Vice President  
rjenco@rmcsd.com

Linda Butler  
Director  
lbutler@rmcsd.com

Martin Pohll  
Director  
mpohll@rmcsd.com

Stephen Booth  
Director  
sbooth@rmcsd.com



## A Monthly Newsletter

**November 2024**

**Serving the Community**

### BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Thursday  
8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
*Friday*  
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Mimi Morris**  
General  
Manager

[mmorris@rmcsd.com](mailto:mmorris@rmcsd.com)

**Mark Matulich**  
Director of Finance  
and Administration  
[mmatulich@rmcsd.com](mailto:mmatulich@rmcsd.com)

**Eric Houston**  
Director of Operations  
[ehouston@rmcsd.com](mailto:ehouston@rmcsd.com)

**Amelia Wilder**  
District Secretary  
[awilder@rmcsd.com](mailto:awilder@rmcsd.com)

**David Labrado**  
Interim Security  
Sergeant  
[dlabrado@rmcsd.com](mailto:dlabrado@rmcsd.com)

**Travis Bohannon**  
Chief Plant Operator  
[tbohannon@rmcsd.com](mailto:tbohannon@rmcsd.com)

**Ron Greenfield**  
Utilities Supervisor  
[rgreenfield@rmcsd.com](mailto:rgreenfield@rmcsd.com)

### WELCOME ERIC HOUSTON, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Eric holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Management. He also has a Water Treatment Grade 5 certificate and Water Distribution Grade 4 certificate with California State Water Resources Control Board.

His past employment highlights include:

- Drinking Water Operator with the City of Sacramento
- Supervisor with Sacramento County Water Agency in the startup and commissioning of a 60 million gallon per day drinking water treatment facility.
- Managed the drinking water for approximately 9 years for the City of Stockton.



He is the father of two children, two grandchildren, and his hobbies include cycling and outdoor hiking. Welcome Eric!!

**The District Administration Office will be closed  
November 28 & 29, 2024 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.**

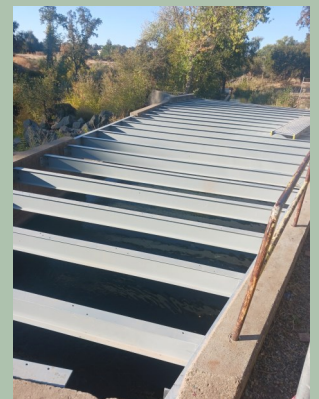
### UTILITY NEWS

#### Rehabilitation of Granlees Forebay

The Granlees Raw Water Intake Improvement Project design was completed by our District Engineer Domenichelli & Associates. The construction is underway and being completed by the firm NMI Industrial. The project had numerous components to improve the overall safety and functionality of the raw water intake also referred to as the forebay. The improvements are as follows:

1. Remove and repair all steel beams that support the existing temporary upper deck.
2. Replace the temporary upper deck with steel grating and add an additional structural beam.
3. Remove and replace all damaged steel tube frames for guardrails and reinstall new guardrail in additional locations.
4. Remove intake and exit slide gates and replace them with new slide gates.
5. Install steel access stairs and lockable access hatches on new upper deck.
6. Remove and replace existing beam cross member in forebay overflow opening and install new overflow rack.
7. Install a protective rack in front of the two intake slide gates to prevent entry into the forebay.
8. Perform minor masonry work around slide gates.
9. Renovate metal raw water intake pipe supports.
10. Clean all existing 24-inch cylindrical intake screens.

The project is nearing completion, and we expect an estimated full completion in early to mid-November just in time for the wet season and pumping to begin. Travis Bohannon has been instrumental and helped lead this effort on behalf of Rancho Murieta CSD.



## ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY YARD WORK MADE EASY WITH PAPER BAGS

*As part of our continued partnership with the Community of Rancho Murieta, Cal-Waste wants to share some information regarding solid waste with your community.*

Paper bags for yard work are an environmentally friendly and popular choice for collecting leaves, grass clippings, and other garden debris. Made from heavy-duty paper, these bags are both biodegradable and compostable, providing an excellent alternative to plastic bags. Durability is a key feature of these paper bags. Designed to withstand moisture and tearing, they are perfect for handling wet or damp yard waste. Available in various sizes, the common 30-gallon bag is ideal for typical yard work, but other sizes are also available to meet your needs.

At Cal-Waste, we put these paper bags to the test at our facility during several rainstorms last winter. The results were impressive—they remained sturdy and reliable even in wet conditions.



*Photos taken January 25th, 2024, after three weeks of winter weather.*

During the month of January 2024, the Cal-Waste Team tested paper Leaf & Lawn bags purchased from a home improvement store for their durability. On January 4th, three of these bags were filled with lawn and garden clippings and placed at the north end of the facility in Galt, CA. For the next three weeks, the bags endured over two inches of rain, temperatures from the mid-30s to mid-60s. Through this testing of endurance, the bags maintained integrity and withstood the moisture, exposure to the sun, and variance in temperatures. When examining the bags during the week of February 1st, practically a month later, the bags showed that they had deteriorated to the point where the fiber broke down. That's practically four calendar weeks of exposure to the elements.

To get the most out of your paper bags, avoid overfilling them and store them in a dry place to prevent them from getting wet before use. These convenient and environmentally friendly bags are widely available at home improvement stores, garden centers, and online, often sold in packs. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to call our customer service team at 209-369-6887.

### ***Extra Green Waste Pickup is available November, December, January and February!***

You can at no additional cost place the leaves in a plastic bag which is securely fastened and place it alongside your green container on your regular pickup day during the months of November, December, January and February!

## **The Draft of the Integrated Water Master Plan is available on our Website at:**

***<https://www.ranchomurieta.com/integrated-water-master-plan>***

Limited copies are available to borrow from the District for one week at a time. Stop by to pick up one of three copies available. Share your questions on the CSD website [here](#).

## **HOW TO CONTACT THE DISTRICT**

Visit us on the web at [www.rmcsd.com](http://www.rmcsd.com)!

- \*The District's Administration Office is located at: 15160 Jackson Road, Rancho Murieta
- \*Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 1050, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683; Main Office: 916-354-3700
- \*South Gate: 916-354-3743 **Contact the South Gate for after-hours water problems.**