



April 2024

Serving the Community

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

District Meeting Schedule For April 2024

All Meetings Will Be Held in Person

April 2, 2024

8:00 a.m.—Improvements

April 4, 2024

9:00 a.m.—Communications

April 11, 2024

9:00—Finance

Regular Board Meeting

April 17, 2024

@ 4:00 p.m.

The public is invited to attend.

All meeting dates and times are subject to change.

Check our website, www.rmcsd.com for any changes

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

April 2024

Dear Rancho Murieta Residents –

By now you should have received the 218 Notices advising you of proposed increases to your rates for water, wastewater, and solid waste.

We recognize that cost increases are difficult for consumers and have been very mindful of the impact even the smallest increase can have on fixed budgets. We have tried to balance that with the very real need to keep the water system intact, fully functional, and compliant with all regulations. We are working diligently to improve the District’s overall financial management. Part of that effort includes finalizing audits and improving daily accounting to gain clearer understanding of the revenues and expenses for each service area.

A clear understanding of revenues and expenses helps us determine the service rates needed to fully cover operational expenses, pay for critical maintenance, and pay contracted solid waste fees. The rates also play a role in growing reserves to cover future anticipated replacement of aging infrastructure.

Staff presented an initial draft of increases that would be needed to cover the gap between revenues and expenses for three service areas: water, wastewater, and solid waste. These gaps can be covered in a few ways: through the increase of service fees, the application of the property tax revenue stream, or reduction in services. The Board authorized the release of the 218 notice which includes the highest possible rate increases that could be considered.

In the coming weeks, staff will refine our revenue and expense numbers and present a formal budget to the Finance Committee and Board and receive guidance on the mix of rate increases, expense reductions, and property tax utilization needed to craft a balanced budget.

On May 15, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., the District will host a hearing on the proposed rate increases. All are welcome at this meeting which will be held at 15160 Jackson Rd. Rancho Murieta.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message.
Best wishes,

Mimi Morris
General Manager

INTEGRATED WATER MASTER PLAN (IWMP) MEETING SCHEDULE UPDATE

April 17th Board Meeting

Consultants will review:

- Phase 1 supply
- Phase 2 demand
- Phase 3 options

Then consultants will present an interactive model of the IWMP and present the scenario model to Board. The consultants will demonstrate how climate change and hydrology will impact the water availability. The model allows for selection of alternatives, selections assumptions, and potential policy options to meet the resulting demands.

May 15th Board meeting

Consultants will work with the Board on a scenario model review. The Board will review specific alternatives, assumptions, and policy options based on model simulations for inclusion in the draft plan.

May 30th Townhall

The Scenario model will be presented to public at the Country Club Murieta Room. Director Booth will be the moderator.

July 17th Board meeting

The Board will consider options for inclusion in the draft plan. The resulting IWMP Capital Improvement Project (CIP) projects from the selected alternative options will be presented to the Board.



MARCH 20, 2024 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Approved Updated Unrepresented Salary Schedule
- Approved Updated General Manager Salary
- Received and Filed FY20-21 CSD Audit
- Discussed FY24-25 Budget and Authorized Prop 218 Mailing
- Reviewed Comprehensive Communications Schedule

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024 COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Finance Committee—Special Meeting 2/29/2024

- Received Update on FY24-25 Budget
- Discussed Draft Department Budgets
- Received FY20-21 CSD Audit

Communications Committee—Special Meeting 2/29/2024

- Discussed Draft Communications Strategy

Improvements Committee

- Discussed CIP Matrix
- Discussed Granlees Raw ater Intake Improvements Status
- Discussed Clementia Potable Use Investigation—West Yost & Associates
- Discussed Updated Integrated Water Master Plan Schedule

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

April 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

Mark Matulich
Director of Finance
and Administration

mmatulich@rmcsd.com

Michael Fritschi
Director
of Operations

mfritschi@rmcsd.com

Vacant
Security Supervisor

Amelia Wilder
District Secretary

awilder@rmcsd.com

Travis Bohannon
Chief Plant Operator

tbohannon@rmcsd.com

Ron Greenfield
Utilities Supervisor

rgreenfield@rmcsd.com

BETTER RECYCLING HABITS MADE EASY

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.

Over the last decade, there has been a significant trend in the packaging industry to promote products and their packaging as environmentally friendly and sustainable. Some companies are genuinely making efforts in this direction, but others not so much. When companies pretend to be greener than they are, it's called "greenwashing." This can make it tough when trying to recycle materials correctly. This is why we thought it was important to offer a mobile app that allows you to search for any item to find out how to dispose of it properly.

With the Cal-Waste Recycles Right Mobile App, you can easily check if items are recyclable, avoiding false claims on packaging. Use the Waste Wizard to search for items and properly dispose of things like furniture, electronics, and other items that have been sitting around. If you can't find something in the Waste Wizard, you can submit it as a "suggested item." We're always reviewing these suggestions to update the Waste Wizard and to help you recycle smarter.

As always, you can call our customer service department with any questions that require more details at **(916) 354-4154**. **Scan this code to download our Mobile App and use the Waste Wizard.**



WE'RE HIRING!

The District currently has openings for part-time, on-call Security Gate Officers! Please visit our website at <https://www.ranchomurietacsd.com/employment-opportunities> for more information! With a positive teamwork environment and flexible schedules we are a great place to work, and right around the corner from where you live!



RESERVOIR LEVELS

We understand that the Community is very interested in the levels of the Reservoirs, so we plan to keep you updated on those levels through the winter and spring. As of March 27, 2024 we are pumping from the river and continue to pump daily (if possible) to fill the Reservoirs. Without the stoplogs, the reservoirs are:

- Calero is 100% full
- Chesbro is 73% full
- Clementia is 100% full

The District can fill the Reservoirs from the Cosumnes River from November 1st until May 31st. The flow at Michigan Bar must be 70 cubic feet per second, and the water must be free from debris. You can monitor the flow at:

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ca/nwis/uv/?site_no=11335000

6 WAYS TO REDUCE OUTDOOR WATERING THIS SPRING

It's spring, which means warmer temperatures and as a result, outdoor water use is on the rise. While it's important to be water conscious throughout the year, the spring and summer require increased attention to irrigation schedules and outdoor water use.

Experts estimate that 50 percent of the water we use outdoors goes to waste from evaporation, wind, or runoff due to overwatering.

While buying a timer for your irrigation system seems like the obvious solution, more times than not the system is installed with set times and never seasonally adjusted; leading to unnecessary water waste during the cooler months. With that in mind, we've compiled a few tips to help you beat the heat and keep your water use under control:

1. TIMING IS EVERYTHING

Know how much water your landscape actually needs before you set your sprinkler. Your local nursery can offer recommendations for how much water certain plants need in your region and best times to water. Generally, it's best to water lawns and landscapes in the early morning and evening, after the sun goes down, because significant amounts of water can be lost due to evaporation during the heat of the day.

2. TUNE UP YOUR SYSTEM

Inspect irrigation systems and check for leaks and broken or clogged sprinkler heads.

Fix sprinkler heads that are broken or spraying on the sidewalk, street, or driveway.

Did you know? Just one broken sprinkler head can waste up to 25,000 gallons of water over a six-month irrigation season.

3. SEPARATE YOUR PLANTS INTO ZONES

When planting, assign areas of your landscape different hydro-zones depending on sun/shade exposure, soil and plant types, and type of sprinklers, then adjust your irrigation system or watering schedule based on those zones' specific needs. This helps you avoid overwatering some areas or under-watering others.

Even if your property doesn't have a sprinkler system, there are a number of simple steps you can take to promote a healthier lawn and garden with less water this summer:

4. STEP ON IT

Grass doesn't always need water just because it's hot out. Step on the lawn, and if the grass springs back, it doesn't need water. An inexpensive soil moisture sensor can also show the amount of moisture at the plant's roots and discourage overwatering. You can pick one up for free at the District Office. (While supplies last.)

5. LEAVE IT LONG

Raise your lawn mower blade. Longer grass promotes deeper root growth, resulting in a more drought-resistant lawn, reduced evaporation, and fewer weeds.

6. GIVE YOUR HOSE A BREAK

Sweep driveways, sidewalks, and steps rather than hosing them off. And don't forget to check for leaks at your spigot connection and tighten as necessary.

AVOID CREDIT CARD FEES BY SIGNING UP FOR BANK DRAFT/ACH PAYMENTS!

Setting up bank draft/ACH payments is easy and can be done by simply filling out the form on the back of your monthly statement and submitting it along with a voided check by mail or in person to the District office. Please be sure to write your District account number directly on the voided check or on the sign-up form. The balance due will be debited from your bank account on the 15th each month with no additional fees. Sign-up requests received on or before the 20th of the month will allow for enough time to facilitate setup and automated payment of your next bill.

HOW TO CONTACT THE DISTRICT

Visit us on the web at 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.**