



**A Monthly Newsletter**

**October 2021**

**Serving the Community**

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

**District Meeting Schedule For October 2021**

**Committee Meetings Will Be Held Via ZOOM**

**October 5, 2021**  
Improvements @ 8:00  
Finance @ 10:00 a.m.

**October 7, 2021**  
Communication & Technology @ 8:30 a.m.  
Security @ 10:00 a.m.

**October 14, 2021**  
Special Personnel @ 10:00 a.m.

**Board Meeting Will Be Held In Person**

**October 20, 2021**  
**District Board Meeting @ 5:00 p.m.**

**The public is invited to attend.**

*All meeting dates and times are subject to change. Be sure to check our website, [www.rmcsd.com](http://www.rmcsd.com) for any changes*

**BE SURE TO LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**

**MICHAEL FRITSCHI**

The District’s long search is over! We are pleased to welcome Michael Fritschi as our new Director of Operations. Michael has over 25 years of experience working in the water and wastewater industry as a public employee and as a private consultant.

Michael grew up in the Placerville area and entered the industry as a wastewater treatment operator for the El Dorado Irrigation District, after which he moved to Arcata, CA to complete his degree in Engineering at Humboldt State University.

Michael then went to work for private consulting firms and earned his professional engineering license. Michael leveraged his “hands-on” operational experience to enhance his engineering and design services. Through his career as a consultant, he specialized and focused primarily on serving the water and wastewater industry, working with multiple public agencies in California.



In addition to traditional consulting services, he also provided contract facility management services to various public wastewater facilities as a value-added service to clients. After which, he worked for 11 years at the College of the Redwoods where he assisted in the formulation of the Water/Wastewater program, and taught courses part time.

In 2011 Michael re-entered the public sector to fill a role as General Manager for the South Suburban Sanitary District where he served for 10 years and provided many systemic improvements in efficiency and helped to foster several successful projects.

**WATER SHUTOFF MORATORIUM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 30**

Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-42-20, known as the water shutoff moratorium, prevented public agencies from discontinuing water service during the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the Governor’s reopening plan, the shutoff moratorium provisions within Executive Order N-42-20 will be lifted September 30. This means we will once again have the ability to shut off water for non-payment.

**This is NOT what we want to do!** We understand that many in our community may be suffering financial hardship from the COVID-19 emergency. If you are unable to make a payment, please contact the District directly at (916) 354-3700 to arrange a payment plan. Renters can also apply for assistance through Sacramento Emergency Rental Assistance (SERA) at [www.shra.org/sera](http://www.shra.org/sera).

## GM CORNER

### FIRE HYDRANT ISSUE

The Fire Hydrant replacement began today, 9/15/21. We anticipate the work will be completed within a week or two. We are installing larger bollards as well as boulders to provide better protection for preventing the same issue from happening in the future. District's insurance company, Golden State Risk Management Association (GSRMA) is in the process of contacting the responsible party for the reimbursement of all expenses related to this incident. To date, we have identified \$29,376 in costs associated with this event. The final after action report will be presented to the Security Committee in October.

### Employee Spotlight – Ron Greenfield— Utility Supervisor

Ron Greenfield joined the District in July of 2014 as the Utilities Supervisor. Before that, he worked with utilities for 14 years. The best thing that has happened to him since he started with the District was the opportunity to fill the roll of Acting Director of Operations. This gave him a greater perspective of the inner workings of the District. While this is not his dream job which would have required him hanging off the back of a garbage truck or fire truck, it's a close second. Ron is an identical twin, and he is very close with his brother Roger. When he's not working here, he loves camping and fishing with his wife and family.



## CHANGING SEASONS –Cooler Weather and Shorter Days

As the days become shorter and the weather cools irrigation demands drop off, so irrigation timers should be adjusted accordingly. We have already experienced some early precipitation, and that means we need to shorten the run time of our outdoor irrigation systems. The most efficient system for watering your lawn and garden is using an irrigation controller (also called a timer or irrigation clock). The California Department of Water Resources recommends that you limit the number of fall watering days for lawns at two for seven minutes, twice a day; for groundcover, five days, and for drip systems 30 minutes once a day for five days per week in summer and off in winter. If you are unsure how to program your irrigation controller, the information can be found in its instruction manual, or on the manufacturer's website.

Re-Programming your timer from a summer schedule to fall, will also save on your monthly water bills.

### Water Supply

After November 1st, once the Cosumnes River system has flushed itself from the first few rain events, the District will begin pumping to start filling the Calero, Chesbro, and Clementia reservoirs to insure we have adequate supplies of water for drinking and fire protection for next year.

### Reclamation Storage

Additionally, the storage reservoirs at the waste water treatment facility are being drawn down for golf course reclamation use to insure there is plenty of room to store the wet weather wastewater flows at the Wastewater Treatment plant. The storage reservoirs will store the treated wastewater to then begin delivering water to the golf courses next spring.

## HALLOWEEN

Halloween is a wonderful holiday, but due to trick-or-treaters, there is an increase in foot traffic. According to the Center for Disease Control survey, the potential for automobile related accidents with young pedestrians increases four times on Halloween.

Since Halloween falls on a Sunday this year, we can expect celebrations to occur on more than just Halloween Day. Please be more watchful for the "trick or treaters" who may be thinking more of filling their bags than of safety.



## Board of Directors

Tim Maybee  
President  
timaybee@rmcsd.com

Randy Jenco  
Vice President  
rjenco@rmcsd.com

Linda Butler  
Director  
lbutler@rmcsd.com

John Merchant  
Director  
jmerchant@rmcsd.com

Martin Pohl  
Director  
mpohl@rmcsd.com



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### BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
& 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
*Closed for Lunch*  
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### DISTRICT STAFF

**Tom Hennig**  
General Manager  
[thennig@rmcsd.com](mailto:thennig@rmcsd.com)

**Paula O’Keefe**  
Director of Administration  
[pokeefe@rmcsd.com](mailto:pokeefe@rmcsd.com)

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

**Accounting Manager**  
**Recruiting**

**Kelly Benitez**  
Security Supervisor  
[kbenitez@rmcsd.com](mailto:kbenitez@rmcsd.com)

**Michael Fritschi**  
Director of  
Operations  
[mfritschi@rmcsd.com](mailto:mfritschi@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)

### September 15, 2021 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Received 2020 Annual Security Report
- Adopted Resolution R2021-03 Recognizing Richard Brandt
- Received update on Security Opinion Poll

### September 2021 COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

#### Improvements Committee

- Introduced Michael Fritschi, Director of Field Operations
- Received update on Hole 14 Culvert replacement RFP
- Discussed Laguna Joaquin maintenance

#### Security Committee

- Introduced Kelly Benitez, Security Supervisor
- Received update on Security Opinion Poll

#### Finance Committee

- Discussed potential water shutoff for nonpayment
- Considered Resolution R2021-03 Recognizing Richard Brandt

#### Communications & Technology Committee

- Discussed Communications on Resident Concerns

#### Personnel Committee—Cancelled

### Development Update

Retreats East & North—We anticipate the developer will begin grading within 60 days.

MG – Legacy Villas & Suites (lot 7) - The underground work has been completed with completion of water and sewer system being tested on the first week of September and passing testing. Road and parking improvements are currently being completed.

Murieta Gardens—Lot 9 Taco Bell—No Update.

Murieta Gardens—Lot 11 Circle K/Carwash/Subway—This project is underway. We do not have a completion date.

Riverview— The project is now under way with the mass grading started. There were a few issues with the water needed for the project but that has now been resolved.

The Residences of Murieta Hills East & West— The Board waived the requirement for mandating the Residences East and West Developments to design the homes to utilize recycled water for irrigation at the August 18, 2021, Board meeting.

Updates can be found at: <http://www2.agendanet.saccounty.net/BoardOfSupervisors/Meetings/ViewMeeting?id=3572&doctype=1>

**Detailed Updates can be found on our website:**  
<https://www.ranchomurietacsd.com/development-projects>

## COMMUNITY FAQ'S

In the process of bringing continued transparency to the residents of Rancho Murieta from the RMCS D we are providing a question and answer section in the Pipeline which will also be repeated on our Website in the section called FAQ'S. Let's start with questions related to Riverview in Rancho Murieta South. This development was approved in 2007 by Sacramento County for 140 lots, along with Lakeview for 99 lots. Both were bank held until 2017 when they became Reynen & Bardis properties again. Currently the 140 Riverview lots are being developed and are the subject of several development questions.

### ***Why are Riverview Developers Reynen & Bardis allowed to use Rancho Murieta water for grading during construction?***

- They have paid for hook ups.
- There is no other source of water for keeping dust down and for keeping natural asbestos at bay.
- This is standard practice for landowners and developers.
- The county has approved this development and we have an obligation to maintain and monitor the dust that is produced during the grading process. It is not feasible for them to go offsite to get the water that is used to control the dust, so we are obligated to sell them water.

### ***How was the \$781,785 received from Reynen and Bardis distributed?***

The District received a check in the amount of \$781,785, from Reynen & Bardis, August 17, 2021. After working with EPS (who manages the 670 FSA) for the final distribution amounts, we issued the reimbursement checks on Friday, September 10, 2021. The distribution of the funds is below. As agreed, to by the signors of the 670 FSA, the District costs associated with the legal and consulting work needed to address the concerns by Reynen & Bardis, was collected from the each of the parties involved. We will continue to monitor the status of the potential the Lakeview reimbursement in the future.

<u>Original Owner</u>	<u>Current Owner</u>	<u>Reim Amt</u>	<u>Legal &amp; Consulting</u>	<u>Check Amt</u>
Residences East (PCCP)	MRK Inc.	\$252,644	\$4,177	\$247,467
Residences West (BCC)	BBC Longview, LLC	\$19,400	\$4,177	\$15,223
Retreats (CK Homes)	The Retreats LLC	160,719	\$3,544	\$157,175
Gardens (MDR & Comci'l)	Cosumnes River Land LLC	\$344,116	\$6,286	\$337,830
Totals		\$775,879	\$24,091	\$757,695

### ***Where the water is going, why is Clementia so low?***

- Clementia historically gets lower in the summer due to evaporation, this year it has been unprecedented.
- We have used water from Clementia this summer to meet our obligations to supply water to the South Golf Course.
- Normally we use recycled water for the Golf Course, but the amount of recycled water available this season has been less than normal, due to a shortage of recycled water which we attribute to the general conservation habits of residents.

### ***Why the Clementia dock is blocked off?***

- The water in the Clementia Reservoir is so low that it was starting to compromise the integrity of the dock, so it has been unbolted.
- It is not usable when the water is this low.
- The District is discussing a joint maintenance project with RMA that will take advantage of this situation.
- Hopefully we can use this time when the water is low to clean out the cove and result in a better place for swimming and recreation for years to come.

## 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.**