LOWELL STRISSEL 406-397-3169 DAN HYBNER 406-355-4354 LARRY FOSSEN 406-292-3320 ROB MOOG 406-292-3288

CHAD HEDGES, MANAGER 406-397-3387 406-262-3403 chedgeshcwd@gmail.com BILLING P.O. BOX 2267 HAVRE, MONTANA 59501

<u>OFFICE</u> 104 SECOND STREET P.O. BOX 95 HINGHAM, MT 59528 OFFICE 406-397-3387 FAX 406-397-3288

www.hillcountywaterdistrict.com

CCR Report Direct Link: HTTPS://HILLCOUNTYWATERDISTRICT.COM/CCR1 KEVIN SPRINGER 406-372-3122 TINA WOOD 406-292-3325 JASON MYERS 406-397-3281 SHANE BORLAUG 406-376-3270

> TAMMY R. PIKE OFFICE MANAGER 406-397-3387 406-390-0283 tpikehcwd@itstriangle.com

MAY 2024 AGENDA

May 1, 2024 - 7:30 p.m. at the District's office at 104 Second Street at Hingham, Montana.

Recognition of visitors; Public comments, limited to any matter not on this agenda and within the jurisdiction of the District Board; 3-minute time limit per speaker.

Call to order and approval of minutes of previous meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Public comment to discuss an ordinance amending Section 1.4 regarding water rates and Section 1.5 regarding bulk rates. Discussion will be on increasing the District's water rates for monthly services.

OLD BUSINESS:

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Employee Report
- Review of Proposed Ordinance
 - a. Ordinance Amending Section 1.4 pertaining to water rates and Section 1.5 pertaining to bulk rates—first reading.
- Financial Report

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

OTHER:

- Delinquencies
- Bills

NEXT REGULAR MEETING - June 5, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

The regular meeting of the Hill County Water District was held on April 9, 2024, at the District's office at Hingham, Montana.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: No visitors were present.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Lowell Strissel, who acted as Chairman. All board members were present, except Kevin Springer and the chairman declared a quorum present. Also present was Manager Chad Hedges and Secretary Tammy Pike.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No other members of the public were present or made any comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

The Chairman asked for corrections or additions to the minutes of the March 6, 2024, regular board meeting previously received by all board members. On motion by Shane Borlaug, seconded by Dan Hybner, the Board approved the minutes of the March 6, 2024, regular board meeting as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

<u>EMPLOYEE REPORT</u>: Chad Hedges reported the pumps and motors for Joplin have been installed.

Mr. Hedges advised on installing remote switches on pump 3 at BPS#1 and BPS#2.

Mr. Hedges also advised the cellular endpoints have arrived and will be switched out with endpoints that are showing incomplete satellite readings.

Mr. Hedges reported Tammy Pike's pickup should arrive in 3 to 4 weeks.

Mr. Hedges also reported that surge protectors will be installed on all pumpstations.

DISTRICT SERVICES: The Board discussed individuals requesting new water service

connections. The Board was advised several individuals were given approval last year to obtain new water service connections. Since 2023, no other new water service connections have been approved as the District has reached capacity and has seen a shift in its ability to pump enough water to meet further demand. Due to the District's system starting to fail, the District will also halt sales of bulk keys and will limit usage at bulk stations to its current customers. The District will resume approval of new service connections and bulk key sales if its ability to meet further demand changes or upon purchase of water from the North Central Montana Regional Water Authority.

<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>: Tammy Pike referred the Board to the 2nd quarter financial report completed by Douglas Wilson & Company, P.C. and the Profit & Loss Statements included with the meeting materials. Ms. Pike noted water system revenues were down 5% from the previous year, expenses were up 9% from the previous year and the net position decreased 10% from the previous year. The Board reviewed the reports and discussion took place. On motion by Jason Myers, seconded by Shane Borlaug, the Board approved the reports as presented.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

WATER QUALITY REPORT: Tammy Pike referred the Board to the Water Quality Report included with the meeting materials. A copy of said Report is appended to these minutes. Ms. Pike advised the Report has been posted on the District's website and a copy will be provided to all users with their monthly statement and will be posted with the Minutes in all post offices.

RATE INCREASE PROPOSAL: Tammy Pike discussed her conversation with Jody Hellegaard of North Central Montana Regional Water Authority. The Authority has turned in its proposal for the construction of the District's segment of water line to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. Once the proposal has been approved, it will be put out for bid. Construction of the water line could start as early The Authority anticipates providing water to the District in 2027. Ms. Pike advised when the District purchases water from the Authority they will also be required to pay their allocation fee of \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000. Ms. Pike provided documentation to the Board and advised the District does not have the funds to cover the fees and would need to consider increasing rates. Ms. Pike advised the costs from the District's vendors have increased throughout the years and the rates the District charges have not been increased since 2012. Ms. Pike went over a proposal to help defray costs which consisted of increasing the fixed rate \$3 each year, increasing the variable rate \$.50 each year and increasing the bulk rate \$.60 each year for the next five years. The District would hold public meetings in May and June of each year for the next five years and the new rate would become effective in July of each year. Ms. Pike also provided the Board with a proposed Ordinance amending sections 1.4 and 1.5 of the District's Rules and Regulations. A copy of said proposed Ordinance is appended to these minutes. The Board reviewed the documentation and after further discussion and on motion by Larry Fossen, seconded by Rob Moog, the Board approved the rate increase proposal and advised Ms. Pike to move forward with setting up the public hearings. Ms. Pike will also post a Notice of Hearing in public places in each community, post on the website and will insert the Notice in each bill.

OTHER BUSINESS:

<u>DELINQUENCIES</u>: The Board reviewed the report on current delinquencies.

<u>BILLS</u>: The Board reviewed the list of monthly bills; a copy of the list of current bills is appended to these minutes. On motion Tina Wood, seconded by Larry Fossen, the Board approved all such bills for payment.

Since the Board had no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Tammy R. Pike, Board Secretary

Next Regular Meeting – Wednesday May 1, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. at the District's office at 104 Second Street, Hingham, Montana.

Register: 1021 · Cash in Bank-Independence Bank

From 03/07/2024 through 04/09/2024 Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

| Date | Number | Payee | Account | Memo | Payment | С | Deposit | Balance |
|------------|--------|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------|---|-----------|------------|
| 03/07/2024 | | | -split- | Deposit | | х | 484.47 | 134,410.32 |
| 03/07/2024 | | | -split- | Deposit | | X | 777.44 | 135,187.76 |
| 03/08/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | - | | x | 90.83 | 135,278.59 |
| 03/08/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | X | 61.00 | 135,339.59 |
| 03/11/2024 | eft | Montana Dept. of Re | 2100 · State Wtihholding | 4026077-002 | 476.00 | | | 134,863.59 |
| 03/12/2024 | | • | -split- | Mobile Deposit | | X | 1,535.41 | 136,399.00 |
| 03/12/2024 | | United States Treasury | -split- | 81-0297216 | 4,086.92 | | , | 132,312.08 |
| 03/12/2024 | TP | · | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | , | х | 74.38 | 132,386.46 |
| 03/13/2024 | eft | Montana DPHHS La | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 7.19 | х | | 132,379.27 |
| 03/13/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | X | 69.45 | 132,448.72 |
| 03/14/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | X | 500.00 | 132,948.72 |
| 03/14/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | х | 95.67 | 133,044.39 |
| 03/15/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | X | 75.21 | 133,119.60 |
| 03/18/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | X | 108.79 | 133,228.39 |
| 03/19/2024 | | | 12000 · Undeposited F | Deposit | | X | 55.00 | 133,283.39 |
| 03/21/2024 | | | 12000 · Undeposited F | Deposit | | X | 112.18 | 133,395.57 |
| 03/25/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | - | | X | 95.00 | 133,490.57 |
| 03/26/2024 | | | -split- | Mobile Deposit | | x | 1,006.13 | 134,496.70 |
| 03/26/2024 | | Northwest Pipe Fittin | 2005 · Accounts Payab | QuickBooks ge | | x | • | 134,496.70 |
| 03/26/2024 | | Northwest Pipe Fittin | 2005 · Accounts Payab | QuickBooks ge | | X | | 134,496.70 |
| 03/26/2024 | 2148 | Northwest Pipe Fittin | 2005 · Accounts Payab | 40721 | 392.21 | | | 134,104.49 |
| 03/26/2024 | 2149 | Micro-Comm Inc. | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 6,111.28 | | | 127,993.21 |
| 03/26/2024 | 2150 | Northwest Hardware | 2005 · Accounts Payab | 2000666 | 5.99 | | | 127,987.22 |
| 03/26/2024 | 2151 | Northwest Pipe Fittin | 2005 · Accounts Payab | 40721 | 811.38 | | | 127,175.84 |
| 03/26/2024 | 2152 | Office Equipment Co. | 2005 · Accounts Payab | HCWD08 | 119.76 | X | | 127,056.08 |
| 03/26/2024 | | QuickBooks Payroll | 2110 · Wages Payable | Created by Pay | 8,957.59 | X | | 118,098.49 |
| 03/27/2024 | EFT | American Funds | -split- | | 2,240.39 | X | | 115,858.10 |
| 03/27/2024 | 2147 | Blue Cross Blue Shie | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 1.98 | | | 115,856.12 |
| 03/27/2024 | | Cady, Lonnie M. | -split- | Direct Deposit | | X | | 115,856.12 |
| 03/27/2024 | | Pike, Tammy R. | -split- | Direct Deposit | | X | | 115,856.12 |
| 03/27/2024 | | Hedges, Chad M | -split- | Direct Deposit | | X | | 115,856.12 |
| 03/27/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | X | 64.56 | 115,920.68 |
| 03/29/2024 | eft | Blue Cross Blue Shie | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 3,114.30 | X | | 112,806.38 |
| 03/31/2024 | | | 4320 · Interest Income | Interest | | X | 90.66 | 112,897.04 |
| 04/01/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | | 543.26 | 113,440.30 |
| 04/01/2024 | TP | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | | 150.00 | 113,590.30 |
| 04/02/2024 | | | 12000 · Undeposited F | Deposit | | | 51.15 | 113,641.45 |
|)4/02/2024 | | | -split- | Mobile Deposit | | | 12,821.53 | 126,462.98 |
| 04/02/2024 | eft | Montana State Fund | 2005 · Accounts Payab | 03-039359-9 | 5,598.11 | | | 120,864.87 |
| 04/02/2024 | eft | Hill County Electric | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 3,151.20 | | | 117,713.67 |
| | | | | | | | | - |

Register: 1021 · Cash in Bank-Independence Bank

From 03/07/2024 through 04/09/2024 Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 | eft 2153 2154 2155 2156 2157 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 2165 | Triangle Communica American Welding & Farmers Union Oil Fraser's Oil Hach Company Northwest Pipe Fittin Northwestern Energy Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog Shane Borlaug | 1145 · Accounts Recei 1145 · Accounts Recei -split- 2005 · Accounts Payab 2005 · Accounts Payab | Mobile Deposit 243730 40721 VOID: | 266.87 83.85 12.56 257.49 128.00 8,456.80 1,157.13 326.35 80.00 80.00 80.00 | x | 12.50 185.13 8,119.78 | 117,726.17 117,911.30 126,031.08 125,764.21 125,680.36 125,667.80 125,410.31 125,282.31 116,825.51 115,668.38 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
|--|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------|--|
| 04/02/2024 TF 04/03/2024 efi 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 | eft 2153 2154 2155 2156 2157 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 2165 | American Welding & Farmers Union Oil Fraser's Oil Hach Company Northwest Pipe Fittin Northwestern Energy Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | -split- 2005 · Accounts Payab | 243730 40721 | 83.85 12.56 257.49 128.00 8,456.80 1,157.13 326.35 80.00 | x | 185.13 | 117,911.30 126,031.08 125,764.21 125,680.36 125,667.80 125,410.31 125,282.31 116,825.51 115,668.38 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 eff 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 | eft 2153 2154 2155 2156 2157 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 | American Welding & Farmers Union Oil Fraser's Oil Hach Company Northwest Pipe Fittin Northwestern Energy Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | -split- 2005 · Accounts Payab | 243730 40721 | 83.85 12.56 257.49 128.00 8,456.80 1,157.13 326.35 80.00 | x | | 126,031.08 125,764.21 125,680.36 125,667.80 125,410.31 125,282.31 116,825.51 115,668.38 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 eff 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | 2153 2154 2155 2156 2157 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 | American Welding & Farmers Union Oil Fraser's Oil Hach Company Northwest Pipe Fittin Northwestern Energy Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab | 243730 40721 | 83.85 12.56 257.49 128.00 8,456.80 1,157.13 326.35 80.00 | x | 5, | 125,764.21 125,680.36 125,667.80 125,410.31 125,282.31 116,825.51 115,668.38 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TE | 2154 2155 2156 2157 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 | American Welding & Farmers Union Oil Fraser's Oil Hach Company Northwest Pipe Fittin Northwestern Energy Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab | 40721 | 83.85 12.56 257.49 128.00 8,456.80 1,157.13 326.35 80.00 | x | | 125,680.36 125,667.80 125,410.31 125,282.31 116,825.51 115,668.38 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 | 2154 2155 2156 2157 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 | Farmers Union Oil Fraser's Oil Hach Company Northwest Pipe Fittin Northwestern Energy Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab | 40721 | 12.56 257.49 128.00 8,456.80 1,157.13 326.35 80.00 | x | | 125,667.80 125,410.31 125,282.31 116,825.51 115,668.38 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | 2155 2156 2157 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 | Fraser's Oil Hach Company Northwest Pipe Fittin Northwestern Energy Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab | 40721 | 257.49 128.00 8,456.80 1,157.13 326.35 80.00 80.00 | x | | 125,410.31 125,282.31 116,825.51 115,668.38 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 | 2157 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 | Hach Company Northwest Pipe Fittin Northwestern Energy Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab | 40721 | 128.00 8,456.80 1,157.13 326.35 80.00 80.00 | x | | 125,282.31 116,825.51 115,668.38 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 2165 | Northwest Pipe Fittin Northwestern Energy Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab | 40721 | 8,456.80 1,157.13 326.35 80.00 80.00 | x | | 116,825.51 115,668.38 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 | 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 2165 | Northwestern Energy Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab | VOID: | 1,157.13 326.35 80.00 80.00 80.00 | х | | 115,668.38 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 | 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 2165 | Verizon Wireless Jason Myers Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab | VOID: | 326.35 80.00 80.00 80.00 | x | | 115,342.03 115,262.03 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | 2161 2162 2163 2164 2165 | Kevin W. Springer Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab 2005 · Accounts Payab 2005 · Accounts Payab 2005 · Accounts Payab | VOID: | 80.00 80.00 | x | | 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | 2162 2163 2164 2165 | Larry J. Fossen Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab 2005 · Accounts Payab 2005 · Accounts Payab | VOID: | 80.00 | X | | 115,262.03 115,182.03 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 21 04/04/2024 4 04/04/2024 4 04/04/2024 5 04/05/2024 TF | 2163 2164 2165 | Lowell Strissel Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 80.00 | | | 115,102.03 |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | 2164 2165 | Rob Moog | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | | | | |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | 2165 | - | • | | 80.00 | | | |
| 04/03/2024 21 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | | Shane Borlaug | 2005 4 | | | | | 115,022.03 |
| 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | 1166 | | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 80.00 | | | 114,942.03 |
| 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | 1100 | Tina Wood | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 80.00 | | | 114,862.03 |
| 04/04/2024 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | | | -split- | Deposit | | | 185.26 | 115,047.29 |
| 04/04/2024 04/05/2024 TF | | | -split- | Mobile Deposit | | | 296.71 | 115,344.00 |
| 04/05/2024 TF | | | 12000 · Undeposited F | Mobile Deposit | | | 114.13 | 115,458.13 |
| | | | 12000 · Undeposited F | Deposit | | | 92.60 | 115,550.73 |
| 04/08/2024 eff | ГР | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | | 100.00 | 115,650.73 |
| | eft | United States Treasury | -split- | 81-0297216 | 3,160.18 | | | 112,490.55 |
| 04/08/2024 eft | eft | Montana Dept. of Re | 2100 · State Wtihholding | 4026077-002 | 330.00 | | | 112,160.55 |
| 04/08/2024 eft | eft | Unemployment Insur | -split- | 031 4163 | 345.08 | | | 111,815.47 |
| 04/08/2024 eft | eft | I Bank Visa 2008 | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 1,254.59 | | | 110,560.88 |
| 04/08/2024 eff | eft | l Bank Visa 2016 | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 745.86 | | | 109,815.02 |
| 04/08/2024 21 | 2167 | ME Lab | 2005 · Accounts Payab | | 35.00 | | | 109,780.02 |
| 04/08/2024 TF | ГР | | 1145 · Accounts Recei | | | | 74.38 | 109,854.40 |
| 04/09/2024 | | | -split- | Mobile Deposit | | | 7,967.55 | 117,821.95 |
| 04/09/2024 21 | | | | | | | • | |

Montana Public Water Supply ID number 00249

2023 Water Quality Report

In compliance with the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act and in an effort to keep you informed about the quality of water and services we provide to you each day, we're pleased to provide you with our Annual Water Quality Report. This report is a snapshot of the quality of water we provided you last year. It includes details regarding the source of your water, what your water contains and how it compares to EPA and the State of Montana standards.

Our drinking water comes from an infiltration gallery next to the Marias River, south of Inverness. As the water flows from the river into the infiltration gallery (the well) the water is purified by natural riverbank filtration. To disinfect the water we treat it by running it past a powerful ultraviolet light (UV) and then to insure it's purity throughout the distribution system, we add a small amount of chlorine. We have 705 service connections in the communities of Kremlin, Gilford, Hingham, Rudyard, Inverness and Joplin. We also service branch lines North and South of those communities spanning from East Kremlin to North Joplin. We added two new service connections last year.

We want you, our valued customers to be informed about your water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the HCWD office at 104 Second Street in Hingham. You may also visit our website at www.hillcountywaterdistrict.com. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Scott Decker at (406) 397-3387. Scott is our certified operator with 25 years of experience. He attends periodic training sessions to meet continuing education requirements. The most recent training course he received was in March of last year.

DID YOU KNOW? The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and in some cases radioactive elements. Water can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in water include:

- 1) Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife
- 2) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming.
- 3) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- 4) Volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes, petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- 5) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. We send our water samples to Montana Environmental Laboratory in Kalispell (406-755-2131). They are a private laboratory that is certified by the State of Montana and the EPA to analyze drinking water. Our sampling frequency complies with EPA and state drinking water regulations.

Our sampling frequency complies with EPA and state drinking water regulations. The following tests were performed to identify possible contaminants in our system during the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023:

- 72 coliform bacteria tests all were coliform free.
- One nitrate plus nitrite test –result was within EPA guidelines.
- Tests to determine the possible presence of eleven inorganic contaminants results were within EPA standards.
- Tests to determine the possible presence of 61 organic contaminants none were detected.
- Tests to determine the possible presence of 40 pesticides & herbicides none were detected.
- Tests to determine the possible presence of radiological contaminants results were within EPA guidelines.
- Tests to determine the possible presence of 10 disinfection byproducts in our distribution system results were within EPA guidelines.

The following table lists the contaminants detected during recent testing. Some of the data in this table may be more than one year old, since certain chemical contaminants are monitored less than once per year.

Regulated Contaminants

| | | 110 | guiated Con | taiiiiiaiits | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|---|
| CONTAMINANT | VIOLATION Y/N | SAMPLE DATE | HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED | UNIT MEASURE- MENT | MCLG | MCL | LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION |
| Barium | N | 3-17-23 | 0.03 | ppm | 2 | 2 | Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits |
| Chlorine | N | 2023 | 0.8 (0.6-0.8) | ppm | MRDLG 4 | MRDL 4 | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Copper | N | 7-16-21 | 90 th % is 1.27 | ppm | 1.3 | AL= 1.3 | Corrosion of Household plumbing systems: Erosion of natural deposits: Leaching from wood preservatives |
| Fluoride | N | 3-17-23 | 0.24 | ppm | 4 | 4 | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth: Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Lead | N | 7-16-21 | 90 th % is 3 | ppb | 0 | AL= 15 | Corrosion of Household plumbing: Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate + Nitrite | N | 3-17-23 | 0.16 | ppm | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA's) | N | 8-10-23 | 16 | ppb | 0 | 60 | By product of drinking water chlorination |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) | N | 8-10-23 | 40 | ppb | 0 | 80 | By product of drinking water chlorination |
| Uranium | N | 3-15-23 | 1.5 | ppb | 0 | 30 | Erosion of natural deposits |

Unregulated Contaminants

| CONTAMINANT | SAMPLE DATE | HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED | UNIT MEASUREMENT | SMCL | LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION |
|-------------|----------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------|-----------------------------------|
| Sulfate | 3-17-23 | 238 | ppm | 500 | Naturally occurring |

DEFINITIONS:

MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal-The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

SMCL - **Suggested Maximum Contaminant Level** - the "Suggested Maximum Contaminant Levels" (SMCL) are seconday drinking water standards established by the EPA that set non enforceable MCLs for contaminants that affect water's taste, color, odor, or appearance.

PPM - Parts per million or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

PPB - Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

AL - Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

pCi/L - Pico Curies per Liter - a very small unit of measurement of radioactivity.

What do these tables tell us?

As you can see our system had no MCL violations. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects of exceeding the MCL, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL for a lifetime to have a one in a million chance of having any adverse health effects. Although we have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected, the EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by contaminants that are naturally occurring or manmade. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791, or online at www.epa.gov/safewater.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, or online at www.epa.gov/safewater.

Lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components of the service lines and home plumbing systems. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in private home plumbing systems. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested by a certified laboratory like the one we send our samples to (Montana Environmental Laboratory, 406-755-2131). When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap until the water temperature has stabilized (usually for 30 seconds to 2 minutes) before you use the water for drinking or cooking. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure to lead is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791, or online at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

In 2007 Montana Rural Water Systems completed a source water protection plan for our system. This report provides additional information on the potential vulnerability of our wells to contamination. This report is available for review from Scott Decker. It is also available online at https://deq.mt.gov/water/programs/dw#accordion1-collapse2. The report can be summarized in the following table:

Significant Potential Contaminant Sources

| Source | Contaminant | Hazard Rating | Barriers | Susceptibility | Management |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Septic Systems (Marias) | Sewage, Nitrate, Nitrite, Pathogens | Low | None | Low | Growth management |
| Cultivated Cropland (Marias) | Pesticides and Nitrate | Moderate | Dilution, clay soils | Moderate | Best management practices |

We have been working hard to improve our water. The Hill County Water District is committed to providing our customers with safe, pure water and we are pleased that our water meets or exceeds all established state and federal standards. Thank you for reviewing this report.

Prepared by Montana Environmental Lab, LLC 3/24

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-1

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 1.4 WATER CHARGES AND 1.5 STAND PIPE CHARGES OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

BE IT ORDAINED by the Hill County Water District that:

Section 1.4 Water Charges of the Rules and Regulations of the Hill County Water District, is hereby amended to read as follows:

1.4 Water Charges:

Water rates for Hill County Water District users shall be as follows:

3/4", 5/8" & 1" residential - \$48 monthly plus \$3.00/1,000 gallon.

11/2" residential & commercial - \$88 monthly plus \$3.00/1,000 gallon.

2" residential & commercial - \$168 monthly plus \$3.00/1,000 gallon.

3/4", 5/8" & 1" agricultural taps - \$48 monthly plus \$3.00/1,000 gallon, charged and payable only in months when actually used.

A user shall be defined as a household or business establishment which is connected to a Hill County Water District service line, whether or not water is used in the month of the charge, unless an exception within these rules relieves the user from a fee.

An ag tap user shall be defined as a hydrant/tap used for servicing livestock, gardens, trees and lawns and shall never be connected to any buildings.

Section 1.5 Stand Pipe Charges of the Rules and Regulations of the Hill County Water District, is hereby amended to read as follows:

1.15 Bulk Station Charges:

By_

Secretary

| | Water being metered at bulk stations shall be charged at the rate of \$3.60/1,000 gallons. |
|-------|--|
| 2024. | PASSED and approved by the Hill County Water District on this day of |
| | HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT |
| | By |
| ATTE | President ST: |