

HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

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CCR Report Direct Link:
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JUNE 2022 AGENDA

Wednesday, June 1, 2022 - 7:30 p.m. at the District's shop/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.

OLD BUSINESS:

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Employee Report
2. CD Renewal
3. Ordinance 2022-1 Amending Section 1.3 Hookup Charges for New Users pertaining to fees for new water services— final reading

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

OTHER:

1. Delinquencies
2. Bills

NEXT REGULAR MEETING – July 6, 2022 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 May 4, 2022 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 Jason Myers and LaNay Kapperud and the chairman declared a quorum present. Also present was Manager Scott Decker 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 April 6, 2022 regular board meeting previously received by all board members. On motion by Larry Fossen, seconded by Tina Wood, the Board approved the minutes of the April 6, 2022 regular board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

EMPLOYEE REPORT: Scott Decker reported on taking the Neptune rep to several system endpoints to test the signal strength in preparation for the upgrade to the branch line meters.

Mr. Decker also reported on relocating two meters closer to the mainline and the new hookup on the North Kremlin line.

Mr. Decker still has not heard when a new work pickup would be available.

Mr. Decker advised that water use has picked up. We are now pumping approximately 290,000 gallons per day.

CD RENEWAL: Tammy Pike referred the Board to the Investment Report included with the meeting materials. She reported that a portion of the District's existing CD investments is subject to reinvestment in May. Ms. Pike reviewed with the Board CD

investment options and quoted rates from banks noting that Independence Bank had the best rates. On motion by Dan Hybner, seconded by Kevin Springer, the Board approved renewing the existing CD at Independence Bank for one year at a rate of .30% and authorized the officers to execute any documents required.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Tammy Pike referred the Board to the 3rd quarter financial report completed by Anderson Zurmuehlen 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 down 11% from the previous year and the net position increased 48% from the previous year. The Board reviewed the reports and discussion took place. On motion by Larry Fossen, seconded by Tina Wood, the Board approved the reports as presented.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

WATER QUALITY REPORT: Tammy Pike advised the 2021 Water Quality Report has been completed and a copy is appended to these minutes. Ms. Pike has also uploaded the report to the District's website.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES: The Board reviewed and discussed Ordinance 2022-1 amending Section 1.3 pertaining to fees for new water services wherein language was removed regarding the costs associated with the hookup fee. The Board made no changes to the Ordinance and it will be reviewed for its final reading at the next regular board meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

DELINQUENCIES: The Board reviewed the report on current delinquencies.

BILLS: The Board reviewed the list of monthly bills; a copy of the list of current bills is appended to these minutes. On motion by Rob Moog, seconded by Kevin Springer, the Board approved all such bills for payment.

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



Tammy R. Pike, Secretary

Next Regular Meeting – Wednesday June 1, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at the District's office at 104 Second Street, Hingham, Montana.

HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Montana Public Water Supply ID number 00249

2021 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 708 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 three 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 23 years of experience. He attends periodic training sessions to meet continuing education requirements. The most recent training course he received was in May 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. During 2021 the following tests were performed to identify possible contaminants in our system:

- 76 coliform bacteria tests.
- One nitrate plus nitrite test –result was within EPA guidelines.
- 10 tests on the water from our customers’ homes to determine the possible presence of lead and copper leaching out of the faucets and fixtures – results were within EPA guidelines.
- Tests on one of our wells to determine the possible presence of cyanide and six EPA regulated organic contaminants to renew a state monitoring waiver – none were detected.
- 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

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION Y/N	SAMPLE DATE	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	UNIT MEASURE-MENT	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	10-4-21	One Positive Sample	Positive Sample	0	0	Naturally occurring in the environment
Barium	N	2-11-20	0.22	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
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	2-11-20	0.20	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	9-10-21	0.12	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA's)	N	8-11-21	17	ppb	0	60	By product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	N	8-11-21	42	ppb	0	80	By product of drinking water chlorination
Uranium	N	8-21-17	1	ppb	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Contaminants

CONTAMINANT	SAMPLE DATE	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	UNIT MEASUREMENT	SMCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Sulfate	2-11-20	276	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.

SMCL - Suggested Maximum Contaminant Level - the "Suggested Maximum Contaminant Levels" (SMCL) are secondary 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.

Our testing did uncover the possible presence of coliform bacteria during October. Although coliform bacteria are usually harmless, their presence in water is an indication that other harmful bacteria may be present. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow up tests are conducted to determine if harmful bacteria are present. In our case all repeat samples were coliform free.

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 4/22

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-1

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1.3 OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT PERTAINING TO FEES FOR NEW WATER SERVICES

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of the Hill County Water District that:

Sections 1.3 of the Rules and Regulations for the Hill County Water District is hereby amended to read as follows:

1.3 HOOKUP CHARGES FOR NEW USERS.

Each new water user, whether a household or business, who wishes to receive water from the District shall pay a fee prior to hookup.

The District shall supply the following with the hookup fee:

1. A saddle;
2. A corp stop;
3. A curb stop;
4. A curb box;
5. 5/8" meter with bronze connectors
6. A double check valve; and
7. A PRV.

If a larger meter (1" meter) is requested the water user must pay the difference in price. This charge shall be applicable to any new connection.

For new water services, the water user shall pay all expenses incurred in connection with the tapping of the main. The water user shall be responsible for all expenses related to laying and maintaining the service pipes from the main to the premises of the water user. All supplies used to receive water from the District shall comply with the Montana Section of the American Water Works Association (MSAWWA) standards.

In instances where there is a change in ownership to a household or business with an established connection to a Hill County Water District service line, a fee of \$50 shall be assessed for the change in service. (Amended by Ordinance No. 2012-2 dated May 2, 2012.)

PASSED and approved by the Hill County Water District on this ____ day of _____, 2022.

HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

By _____
President

ATTEST:

By _____
Secretary

HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

5/4/2022 2:49 PM

Register: 1021 · Cash in Bank-Independence Bank

From 04/07/2022 through 05/04/2022

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
04/08/2022	TP		1145 · Accounts Recei...			X	36.88	158,645.93
04/10/2022	TP		1145 · Accounts Recei...			X	61.38	158,707.31
04/11/2022	eft	Montana Dept. of Re...	2100 · State Wtihholding	4026077-002-...	698.00	X		158,009.31
04/12/2022	eft	United States Treasury	-split-	81-0297216	3,927.68	X		154,081.63
04/12/2022	eft	Unemployment Insur...	-split-	031 4163	84.37	X		153,997.26
04/13/2022	TP		1145 · Accounts Recei...			X	88.83	154,086.09
04/14/2022			-split-	Deposit		X	1,747.91	155,834.00
04/18/2022	TP		1145 · Accounts Recei...			X	60.00	155,894.00
04/22/2022			-split-	Deposit		X	15,175.91	171,069.91
04/26/2022			12000 · Undeposited F...	Deposit			104.36	171,174.27
04/26/2022		QuickBooks Payroll ...	2110 · Wages Payable	Created by Pay...	8,108.41	X		163,065.86
04/27/2022	1600	Core & Main	2005 · Accounts Payab...		181.42			162,884.44
04/27/2022	1601	D P C Industries	2005 · Accounts Payab...		20.00			162,864.44
04/27/2022	1602	Montana DEQ	2005 · Accounts Payab...		170.00			162,694.44
04/27/2022	1603	Northwest Pipe Fittin...	2005 · Accounts Payab...	40721	2,990.40			159,704.04
04/27/2022	1604	Office Equipment Co.	2005 · Accounts Payab...	HCWD08	95.70			159,608.34
04/27/2022		Cady, Lonnie M.	-split-	Direct Deposit		X		159,608.34
04/27/2022		Pike, Tammy R.	-split-	Direct Deposit		X		159,608.34
04/27/2022		Decker, Scott N	-split-	Direct Deposit		X		159,608.34
04/29/2022			-split-	Deposit		X	4,546.39	164,154.73
04/29/2022			4320 · Interest Income	Interest		X	5.26	164,159.99
04/29/2022	eft	Blue Cross Blue Shie...	2005 · Accounts Payab...		3,598.36	X		160,561.63
05/02/2022			-split-	Deposit			98.10	160,659.73
05/02/2022	TP		1145 · Accounts Recei...				69.98	160,729.71
05/03/2022	eft	Hill County Electric	2005 · Accounts Payab...		3,925.40			156,804.31
05/03/2022	eft	I Bank Visa 2008	2005 · Accounts Payab...		272.69			156,531.62
05/03/2022	eft	I Bank Visa 2016	2005 · Accounts Payab...		925.22			155,606.40
05/03/2022	eft	Northwestern Energy	2005 · Accounts Payab...		1,336.50			154,269.90
05/04/2022	eft	Triangle Communica...	2005 · Accounts Payab...		266.17			154,003.73
05/04/2022	1605	American Pipe & Su...	2005 · Accounts Payab...		609.45			153,394.28
05/04/2022	1606	American Welding &...	2005 · Accounts Payab...		78.72			153,315.56
05/04/2022	1607	Anderson Zurmuehlen	2005 · Accounts Payab...	Client No. 360...	1,600.00			151,715.56
05/04/2022	1608	Daniel Hybner	2005 · Accounts Payab...		80.00			151,635.56
05/04/2022	1609	Fraser's Oil	2005 · Accounts Payab...		1,353.36			150,282.20
05/04/2022	1610	Jason Myers	2005 · Accounts Payab...		80.00			150,202.20
05/04/2022	1612	Kevin W. Springer	2005 · Accounts Payab...		80.00			150,122.20
05/04/2022	1613	La Nay Kapperud	2005 · Accounts Payab...		80.00			150,042.20
05/04/2022	1615	Lowell Strissel	2005 · Accounts Payab...		80.00			149,962.20
05/04/2022	1616	North 40 Outfitters	2005 · Accounts Payab...		201.94			149,760.26
05/04/2022	1617	Northwest Pipe Fittin...	2005 · Accounts Payab...	40721	740.80			149,019.46

HILL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

5/4/2022 2:49 PM

Register: 1021 · Cash in Bank-Independence Bank

From 04/07/2022 through 05/04/2022

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment C	Deposit	Balance
05/04/2022	1618	Rob Moog	2005 · Accounts Payab...		80.00		148,939.46
05/04/2022	1619	Tina Wood	2005 · Accounts Payab...		80.00		148,859.46
05/04/2022	1628	Larry J. Fossen	2005 · Accounts Payab...		80.00		148,779.46
05/04/2022	1629	Verizon Wireless	2005 · Accounts Payab...		351.60		148,427.86
05/04/2022	1630	ME Lab	2005 · Accounts Payab...		25.00		148,402.86