



**VOLUME 23 ISSUE 1** 

#### **A Monthly Newsletter**

**January 2022** 

# **Serving the Community**

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

# District Meeting Schedule For January 2022

Committee Meetings Will Be Held Via ZOOM

January 4, 2022 Personnel—Cancelled Improvements @ 8:00 Finance @ 10:00 a.m.

January 6, 2022 Communications & Technology—8:30 a.m. Security @ 10:00 a.m.

Board Meeting Will Be Held In Person

January 19, 2022 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 for any changes

BE SURE TO LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

# **SENATE BILL 170 RMCSD Secures \$1,300,000 Funding For Special Projects**

The State of California approved the Budget Act of 2021, or SB170, which authorized over \$100,000,000 in funding to assist Special Districts and other municipalities. The funding was secured and approved, in part, thanks to the efforts of Assemblyman Kenneth Cooley, who reached out in April 2021 and requested the District provide any funding needs for special projects.

The District provided Assemblyman Cooley with the following projects in order of priority:

- Tertiary Reclamation Plant: This project will build a permanent chlorine contact system
  for the District's Tertiary wastewater recycling facility and would allow the District to
  supply tertiary recycled water in place of potable or river water use for the benefit of
  our community, offsetting potable water use. The project estimate was \$750,000, the
  appropriation is \$750,000.
- Water Treatment Plant Chlorine to Hypochlorite Conversion: This project would convert the District's Water Plant's use of chlorine gas for disinfection to using sodium hypochlorite. This conversion is a significant improvement to the safety of the community and staff by removing the use of chlorine gas, which is a very hazardous and heavily regulated substance. The gas is currently hauled through the community for storage and use at the Water Plant and this would eliminate any potential dangers to the community through delivery. The estimated project was \$352,940, the appropriation is \$365,000.
- **Granlees Diversion Intake Site Restrictions**: This project would serve to protect the intake source at the Cosumnes River and restrict public access for safety concerns. The estimated project was \$170,760, the appropriation is \$185,000.

The Budget Act of 2021 was passed in September 2021, the District was notified of its portion of the state funding in the amount of \$1,300,000 to fund the projects submitted in April of 2021. The Department of Finance, in consultation with the California Special Districts Association, developed a plan to distribute the funding provided in the Budget Act.

District Staff is working to secure bids for the necessary work, and we are anxious to get the projects under way. This funding has come as a great aide to the District and the residents of the Community.

#### PLANNED UPGRADES TO RANCHO MURIETA GATES

The long awaited upgrades to the gate arms is scheduled to take place in January, 2022. The gate lanes will be closed, one at a time, while they are upgraded. Crews will begin work very early in the morning to help avoid delays. There will be a cone placed in front of the gate lane which is being upgraded. Please be patient as we proceed with these upgrades. The new gate systems will insure a smoother experience when entering the Community. The gates can be manually operated during the upgrade.



#### **NEW DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS**

Beginning January 1, 2022, the District Office will be open

Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

We will no longer close for lunch. The District Office will be closed on Fridays.

#### **GM CORNER**

#### UPDATES TO STATE'S SOLID WASTE LEGISLATION IN 2022

As part of our continued partnership with the Community of Rancho Murieta, Cal-Waste wants to share some information regarding new legislation that is coming into effect next year. This information was presented to the Rancho Murieta Community Services District Board of Directors at their October meeting. This is the second piece of a multi-part series to share information about the State's solid waste mandates and how they will affect Rancho Murieta and Cal-Waste.

In last month's edition of the Pipeline, Senate Bill 1383 was introduced, which mandates new processes for the disposal and processing of food waste and other organic materials. The key points of the bill are a 75% reduction of disposal of organic waste buried in landfills by 2025 and rescuing at least 20% of currently disposed surplus food so that it can be provided to foodinsecure people, by 2025. These targets are driving forces to reduce methane emissions from landfills as well as helping Californians that are considered food-insecure.

The percentages of reduction likely seem ambiguous or obscure. One might wonder, how does the state track these numbers? Well, each jurisdiction is responsible for reporting to CalRecycle that they have new programs in place to meet these targets. A jurisdiction is defined as a city, community services district, a water district, or an unincorporated area of a county that is governed solely by the county. Of course, jurisdictions come in all shapes and sizes, and that is why each jurisdiction requires a specific solution to build on to their existing solid waste programs.

Cal-Waste, as your partnered waste provider, is here to help Rancho Murieta CSD put together these programs as well as report on them to CalRecycle, the State's solid waste enforcement agency. Updates to programs for SB1383 will continue to be shared here throughout 2022 as they are developed.

Employee Spotlight – Jennifer Yee — Accounting Manager

Jennifer Yee joined the District as our new Accounting Manager November 8, 2021. We were thrilled to welcome her! Jennifer is a positive addition to the team, who overcomes challenges with a constructive, relaxing manner. She spends her days at the District supervising front office staff and is looking forward to the implementation of the new Accounting Software system over the next several months. When she is away from work, she likes to read and enjoys the occasional hike. Welcome Jennifer!!!!



#### INFORMATION SOURCES

When you have a question, we encourage our customers to first communicate with us by phone or email so that we can share with you factual information and help make us aware of your concerns related to the services we provide, Water, Sewer, Security, Drainage and Solid Waste.

**Phone Numbers** 

(916) 354-3700 MAIN NUMBER (Regular Business Hours)

(916) 354-2273 (CARE) DISPATCH (24-Hour)

CSD WEBSITE: www.RMCSD.com

CSD FACEBOOK PAGE: www.facebook.com/RanchoMurietaCSD/

#### WATER SHUTOFFS TO RESUME IN EARLY 2022

Although we are not shutting off water service due to non-payment today, the Governor's shutoff moratorium is expected to end December 31, 2021. This means you will need to pay your bill or be subject to tour water being shut off until your account is current.

The last thing we want to do is discontinue your water service. Our goal is to help you through this difficult time, and we ask that you contact us as soon as possible.

Our Customer Service Staff are here to help. We understand the struggles people have faced - COVID-19, job loss, delays in unemployment benefits, and other personal issues. We want to work with you.

Even paying a little bit of your bill periodically will reduce the balance due and make getting back to "normal" easier when the shutoff moratorium ends. Please call us to work out a payment plan at 916-354-3700.

#### CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP SCHEDULE

Live Christmas tree pickups will occur from Tuesday, December 28<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, January 13, 2022. Please be sure to have your LIVE tree set at your curb by 5:00 a.m., and remove all decorations!



# **Board of Directors**

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November 2021

# **Serving the Community**

#### **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

Paula O'Keefe **Director of Administration** 

pokeefe@rmcsd.com

Michael Fritschi Director of **Operations** 

mfritschi@rmcsd.com

**Kelly Benitez Security Supervisor** 

kbenitez@rmcsd.com

Amelia Wilder **District Secretary** awilder@rmcsd.com

Jennifer Yee Accounting Manager

ivee@rmcsd.com

**Travis Bohannon Chief Plant Operator** 

tbohannon@rmcsd.com

Ron Greenfield **Utilities Supervisor** 

rgreenfield@rmcsd.com

#### **December 15, 2021 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

- Adopted Updated Credit Card Policy P2021-04
- Approved Contract with Tyler Technologies for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and Appropriated Funds in the Amount of \$97,426
- Declared a Contracting Emergency and Authorized the General Manager to Execute a Contract for Emergency Valve Replacement on De La Cruz
- Reviewed Committee Assignments

#### **DECEMBER 2021 COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Improvements Committee—Cancelled

Security Committee—Cancelled

#### **Finance Committee**

- Discussed Updated Credit Card Policy
- Received presentation on Tyler Technologies

- <u>Communications & Technology Committee</u>

   Received update on Emergency Communication Process
   Received Update on Reservoir Information and Education Committee
- Received update on Website FAQ's

Personnel Committee—Cancelled

# **DISTRICT BOARD/COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2022**

President	Tim Maybee
Vice President	Randy Jenco
Communications & Technology	John Merchant & Linda Butler
Finance	John Merchant & Martin Pohll
Improvements	Randy Jenco & Martin Pohll
	Tim Maybee
	Randy Jenco & Tim Maybee
Parks	Linda Butler with Randy Jenco as alternate
Security	Tim Maybee
Regional Water Authority	Tom Hennig with Tim Maybee as alternate

Personnel, Improvements and Finance Committee meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 10:00 a.m. respectively.

Communication & Technology and Security Committee meetings will be held on the first Thursday of the month at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. respectively.

#### DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Riverview: the mass grading is complete with the exception of the area that will need to be dynamited. When weather improves they will start the water and sewer installation. They plan to develop the first 5 lots off of Reynosa.

Retreats: Sewer and some storm drain has been installed along Via Robbia. Grading has been completed in the East and ripping/grubbing has occurred in the North. Water line installation will likely occur when the weather clears up.

Taco Bell: Grading and utility installation is slated to begin in mid-January.

Airport Hanger: Civil construction is complete

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

### **COMMUNITY FAQ's**

#### RESERVOIR LEVELS

We understand that the Community is very interested in the levels of the Reservoirs, so we plan to update you monthly on those levels through the winter and spring. As of December 22, 2021, we are pumping from the river and have pumped 71 million gallons since November 1. According to the data:

- Calero is 60% full
- Chesbro is 94% 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: <a href="https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ca/nwis/uv/?site\_no=11335000">https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ca/nwis/uv/?site\_no=11335000</a>

#### **LOST & FOUND**

One of the services the Security Department provides is Lost and Found. Please turn in any found items to either of the gates, and let us know if you're looking for something. A wide variety of items are stored at the gates, including telephones, keys, glasses, bicycles, clothing, blankets, etc.

#### IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION

With the approval of Measure J & K in 1998, the Security and Drainage charges on your CSD bill are Special Taxes. Consequently, the amount a **property owner** pays for these charges may be deductible. If you itemize your deductions on IRS Form 1040, Schedule A, you may deduct the aggregate sum paid for the Security and Drainage Taxes during 2021.



More information will be available in your January Statement.

### DEER CREEK/SCOTT ROAD CROSSING STREAM GAUGE

Here is the link to check the stream level of Deer Creek and Scott Road due to rains and possible flooding.

http://www.sacflood.org/sensor.php?site id=1133&device id=7&view id=1



#### **KEEP GUTTERS, DRAIN INLETS & STORM DRAINS CLEAR**

During the autumn & winter months, roof gutters and drain inlets can be easily covered and clogged with leaves and other debris, causing property and street flooding. You can help prevent this problem by keeping leaves and other debris away from the storm drain inlets in your yard and neighborhood.



#### TIPS TO SAFEGUARD YOUR HOME FROM FLOODING

While planning for a major flood due to a storm or river overflow is difficult, you can take some small precautions to ensure your home is protected against small to mild rain and flooding conditions:

- Keep your rain gutters and downspouts clear of leaves and debris.
- Ensure your downspouts direct water away from your basement or foundation.
- Be certain the ground slopes away from your home.
- Watch for small leaks in your roof, windows, doors and foundation and fix them promptly.

Verify that your sump pumps are working properly and come on automatically.

#### **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.