



**Doña Ana Mutual Domestic Water Consumers
Association Newsletter**
Quality on Tap!

January 2016 – March 2016

The 2016 election is currently under way for Districts 2, 4, & 5. We want to encourage everyone in districts 2, 4, & 5 to participate in the election. Early and absentee voting is under way and the general election will occur on January 20, 2016. The following candidates submitted their petitions to be placed on the ballot:

District 2 – Kurt Anderson

District 4 – Jamie Stull

District 5 – Raymond Ponteri

The results of the election will be announced at the Annual Membership Meeting. The Annual Membership Meeting will be held on January 27, 2016 at 7:00pm at the Dona Ana Elementary School. The meeting will include reports on the current issues regarding the Association, a current financial report, and various reports on operations and new infrastructure. We hope that everyone can join us to learn more about your water Association.

The Association is in the process of redrafting the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation. The Board of Directors put together a group of 10 individuals (2 from each District), a over a year ago to review the current set of By-Laws and Articles of Incorporations and make recommendations for changes. The Board of Directors is currently working on the proposed changes from the committee. Once a complete draft set is ready the Board of Directors will be holding public meetings in three separate locations, one in Radium Springs, one in the Dona Ana Village area, and one in the Fairacres area. We want to encourage everyone to attend and participate in the upcoming meetings. The Board wants to hear your input and suggestions on the draft By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation. The Board will announce the dates and times for the upcoming public meetings as they get closer.

News & Upcoming

By Jennifer J. Horton, Executive Director

"The simple act of paying positive attention to people has a great deal to do with productivity."
Thomas J. "Tom" Peters

The Association would like to welcome two new employees to our team Mr. Jaime Guzman to the Customer Service Department and Ernest Armendariz to the Operations Department. Jaime was born and raised here in Las Cruces, graduated from Las Cruces High School and NMSU with a degree in finance. In the past, Jaime has worked in local, state and federal government as an investigator and paralegal. Ernest graduated from Mayfield High School and Doña Ana Community College with an Associate in Water Technology and holds a Level 2 Water Certification. Welcome Jaime and Ernest!

News & Upcoming
By Jennifer J. Horton, Executive
Director

Projects Updates

By: Abencio Fernandez, Project Manager

“Greatness is not where we stand, but in what direction we are moving...”

Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)

Doña Ana MDWCA is currently upgrading our SCADA systems in the Ft. Selden and Doña Ana areas, and installing a completely new system in the Picacho Hills to match the other area. This will allow the Association staff to monitor the wells and the communications throughout the system as one unit. This project will also create efficiencies because it will allow the staff to operate only one type of SCADA system rather than of three different SCADA systems. We will also be upgrading the piping system at our wells to allow for a uniform set up of our wells throughout the system. New automatic flushing valves will be tied to the SCADA system allowing the flushing time to be monitored, to better prevent water hammering which will increase the longevity of our wells piping system, and also allow cleaner water to be distributed through our system. This project will also include new buildings to be placed around the wells in Picacho Hills and Radium Springs. The project was bid and awarded to DJM Construction. The project has started and is scheduled to be completed around August 2016.

Fairview Project

The Fairview project was bid and awarded to Morrow Enterprise. Construction on the project will start in January 2016 and is expected to be completed June 2016. The Fairview Project consists of 12”, 8”, and 6” waterline that will start at Burke Road and continue up Picacho Road to the intersection of Bambert and proceed south to the Fairview Estates. The Fairview Estates waterlines will be upgraded from 1.5” and 2” waterlines to 6” waterlines with fire hydrants, new valves, and new service connections. This project will allow for a reliable water source for the area along with fire protection for the residence in Fairview Area. The project also provides an emergency water connection for the Picacho MDWCA.

Picacho Hills Water Tanks Project

Souder Miller & Associates has submitted the preliminary design plans and contract documents to the New Mexico Environmental Department and Drinking Water Bureau. Comments have been received and have been addressed. The transfer for land where the tanks will be located has been completed. The project consists of two new tanks totaling 1.7 million gallons of water storage. New water lines and pressure reducing valves will be installed to allow the new tanks to be utilized through the system. Well #15 located at the corner of Picacho Hills Road and Fairview Village Road will be placed online. Well #15 is a high capacity producing well that will allow another source of water besides the two existing wells. Funding for the project has been approved and the monies have been secured. Construction is expected to start in March 2016.

Geographic Information System (GIS)

GIS is a system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of spatial or geographical data. GIS will allow us to map the three new systems for water models and analyzing the system. The Associations staff will GIS the three systems to make a map book for operations staff. This will allow the staff in the field to view maps and analyze where the systems valves and fire hydrants are and determine what size of lines are in the area. Picacho Hills is the starting point of this project because it is a new system that we have acquired with no mapping of the area. All the valves have been mapped. Fire hydrants, meters, and sewer manholes are currently being mapped at this time.

Wastewater Calculations

We would like to remind all customers who receive waste water services with Doña Ana MDWCA or Doña Ana County of the new waste water calculation dates. Your annual wastewater calculations will be based on the following readings dates:

November 15, 2015-December 15, 2015

December 15, 2015-January 15, 2016

January 15, 2016- February 15, 2016

During this time if you have had/should have any water leaks the Association is able to make an adjustment on your wastewater calculation if you can provide us with proof that the leak occurred during this time and have been repaired.

*Customer Service Department
By: Cynthia Shelton Customer Service Department Lead
"Thinkers and courtesy are at the root of a positive customer service experience."
Steph Hyden*

H₂O and You

Orlando Parra, *Operations Manager*

"Water is the driving force of all nature."

- Leonardo da Vinci

Winterizing Your Water Lines

Winter is here and we must prepare to prevent. Prevent what, you ask? We would like to prevent lines from bursting and causing costly damage, which can sometimes be irreparable damage. To winterize your plumbing during the cold you must take a few steps to prevent fixtures from freezing and causing expensive and unnecessary damage to pipe lines and the structure of your home. The first and most important step is to shut off the supply of water to outdoor spigots, swamp coolers, and sprinkler systems, and then drain them. If it is not possible to completely shut off the water supply to the outside spigots, you can simply make sure that there are no leaks on the outdoor spigots and cover them with insulation covers sold at your local hardware store. Drain your evaporative cooler, remove water line and also cover the outdoor components of your air conditioner or swamp cooler to protect them from the elements. You will need to shut off the water source to outdoor irrigation and sprinkler system to avoid rupturing lines. Depending on your irrigation system, you may also need to blow out any excess moisture with compressed air.

Doña Ana MDWCA Board

Meetings

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

Tuesday, February 09, 2016

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Tuesday, March 08, 2016

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

(All Meetings Commence at 9:00a.m.)

Annual Membership Meeting

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Doña Ana MDWCA Office Closures

Friday, January 1, 2016

Monday, January 18, 2016

Monday, February 15, 2016

Community Calendar

January 2016 - March 2016