

December 17, 2014

NOTICE TO WATER CUSTOMERS

As you may know, the Palo Pinto County Municipal Water District #1 Board of Directors approved the Reverse Osmosis (RO) treatment of Brazos River water as the drought strategy through which we will obtain raw water in the foreseeable future. The Water District has secured the necessary water rights to access this water supply and has directed that the infrastructure work required to support this treatment process begin as soon as possible. It is presently projected that Lake Palo Pinto will be unusable as a water supply as of July 1, 2015 if additional water is not captured in the lake. Given this, the work to begin the RO process will start in early January with a completion date set for mid-April. That should provide adequate time for this treatment process to be on-line and operational by the July 1 deadline.

Unfortunately, it is projected that the infrastructure and operating expense associated with this RO process will be significant—approximately \$6.1 million. These are costs over and above that normally incurred in providing water to our customers. As such, at its meeting on December 16, 2014, the City Council approved new water rates to offset this additional expense. These rates will reflect an average increase to our customers of approximately 50-60%. Charges for sewer service and trash pick-up will not be affected by this rate increase. For the average residential customer that uses 5,000 gallons of water per month, this will result in an increase of approximately \$18 per month. These new rates will be effective with bills dated after January 1, 2015.

Although a rate increase of this size is undesirable, what can be said is that our community will continue to have water even in light of the historic drought we are currently experiencing. Nonetheless, we remain hopeful that we will receive beneficial rainfall before summer and some of this expense can possibly be avoided. Given the uncertainty that the level of Lake Palo Pinto will significantly improve over time, we will continue with the water conservation measures currently in place. Our community is to be commended for its continued conservation efforts which are making a difference and also for its resiliency in dealing with this problem. Your continued cooperation in helping us cope with this ongoing drought is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions concerning this, please contact Water Customer Service at 940-328-7720.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-34

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 90, UTILITIES SECTION, OF THE MINERAL WELLS CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REVISING WATER RATES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS:

1. That Section 90-54 (1) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mineral Wells, Texas be and it is hereby amended to read as follows:

“The following monthly water rates or charges for water furnished by the city shall prevail and shall be charged against and collected from all persons, firms, corporations, both public and private, using city water:

- (1) For all users, including special utility districts, wholesale water supply corporations and the City of Graford, there shall be a minimum monthly bill based upon the size of water meter provided. The minimum monthly bill shall be:

<i>Meter Size (Inches)</i>	<i>Minimum Monthly Bill</i>
¾ or smaller.....	\$ 20.51
1.....	34.41
1 ½.....	70.43
2.....	120.91
3.....	265.13
4.....	467.06
6.....	1,044.17
8.....	1,851.96

All water use each month shall be charged and billed at rates listed in the table below.

The monthly volume charge for single-family residences, duplexes, apartment units, churches, mobile homes or manufactured homes, and private non-profit organizations, but not including public agencies, which residences or buildings are individually metered for water shall be the Residential Rate.

The monthly volume charge for water metered for irrigation purposes shall be the Irrigation Rate.

The monthly volume charge for all other users, including commercial, industrial, governmental (municipal), special utility districts, wholesale water supply corporations, and the City of Graford shall be the General Service Rate.

<u>Volume Charge per 1,000 Gallons</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Irrigation</u>	<u>General Service</u>
0 - 5,000 Gallons	\$6.40	\$9.12	\$7.08
5,001 – 10,000 Gallons	\$7.08	\$9.12	\$7.08
10,001 – 20,000 Gallons	\$7.77	\$9.12	\$7.08
20,001 – 30, 000 Gallons	\$8.45	\$9.12	\$7.08
All Over 30,000 Gallons	\$9.12	\$9.12	\$7.08

This ordinance shall be effective from and after its passage, and the rates, fees, and charges set forth herein shall be reflected on all water bills rendered after January 1, 2015.

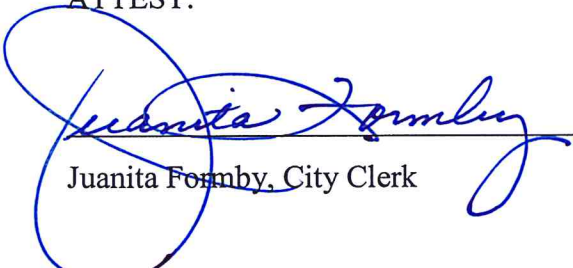
PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MINERAL WELLS CITY COUNCIL in a public meeting held December 16, 2014.

CITY OF MINERAL WELLS




 Mike Allen, Mayor

ATTEST:



 Juanita Formby, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



 George Gault, City Attorney

