



Mission: To provide the highest quality water at the most affordable price for current customers and to provide for the expansion of the District as growth occurs.

Greetings Neighbors,

Water Quality: The Board continues to monitor water quality so if you feel your quality is not what it should be, let us know by calling **303-987-0835**.

New Technology: In last month's newsletter, I explained that the Board was looking into a system called the AltelaRain ® Module Treatment System, a water distillation system. This technology was developed as a solution for dealing with wastewater from the fracking industry. Our District is one of two districts that are breaking new ground and leading the way in incorporating this technology as a solution for the brine created by the Reverse Osmosis (RO) process when producing our drinking water.

Every water district in the state that operates a RO plant has struggled with finding a solution as to what to do with the brine. The state will not allow it to be discharged into any waterway, to include a dry creek bed such as Box Elder Creek. Some of the larger districts have invested great sums of money to drill very deep wells and inject the brine thousands of feet below ground and others have been able to mix their brine into their sewage wastewater treatment plants. Neither of those solutions are financially viable to a small district like ours. If we can gain approval from the state to discharge the distilled water into Box Elder Creek AND we can finance the procurement of the system without an unreasonable increase to your water bill and property taxes, this system could be a long term solution to our brine problem. The list of Pros and Cons as I see them are:

Pros

1. We solve our brine disposable problem. Instead of sending several hundred thousand gallons of water to our evaporation ponds each month, it is reduced to just several thousand gallons.
2. We recover several hundred thousand gallons of water each month that is now an asset to the District that can be used as augmentation water or be sold to another entity.
3. We can pump less water from our wells, thereby causing less stress on the aquifers.
4. We can increase the amount of time that we run our RO plant which will cause a corresponding increase in the quality of water delivered to your homes.
5. We have a treatment system that is scalable to meet the needs of future growth in our service area. Growth is good in the aspect that future new home owners that join our district will help pay for the costs of this system.

Cons

1. Cost. There is a significant Capital cost to purchase and install this system and we will have to build a new building at our Box Elder Creek Ranch facility to house this system. Additionally, there will be an increase in our Operating and Maintenance costs to operate this system. That means an increase to your water bill and/or property taxes.

This is not a "done deal". In order to conduct additional fact finding that will help us decide if this is right for us, the Board has directed that our Engineer submit an application for a Discharge Permit to the State Water Quality Control Division. The Discharge Permit will provide the details on the water quality limits that we would have to meet to discharge the distilled water into the creek. This will cost us \$2,100.00. Additionally, we have given direction to our Engineer to develop a testing protocol in conjunction with Altela whereby we will provide Altela with our brine to treat and test the quality of the distilled water to see if it will meet the water quality requirements as stated in the Discharge Permit. This test will also give us an estimate on the operating costs we will incur to treat our brine. Dependent on the outcome of these two events, the Board hopes to make a decision on the procurement of this system before the end of this year.

Now is the time to make your voices heard on this issue. I encourage you to attend our next board meeting to express your comments and concerns or to simply learn a little more about the issues affecting your Water District.

Come to our meeting: Our next Board meeting will be on October 6th at the United Power Building. One thing to note is the door locks at 5:30pm. If you drop by after 5:30pm, to the right of the doors are some windows. We keep the blinds open and keep an eye out for those who are a little late in arrival. Hope to see you all at our next meeting!!

Regards,

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