



## **Florissant Water and Sanitation District**

2244 West Highway 24

PO Box 565

Florissant, Colorado 80816

florissantwater@centurytel.net

719-748-3565

June 14, 2019

### **Operations of a Small Water and Sanitation District**

The Florissant Water & Sanitation District has a total of 94 residences and businesses combined. The district is made up of five unreimbursed Board members with three contractors, whose average age is 64, so yes, the Board can definitely use some new members.

I call the board elected, "appointed volunteers", because we serve four-year terms at a maximum of two terms. When a member resigns their position, we look for a replacement; we feel a duty as there must be five members at all times. The current board consists of all "appointed volunteers". Elections are held every two years. Those who have corporations in the district are not allowed to be on the board in accordance with the Colorado Revised Statutes due to possible conflict of interest. If no one decides to run for the Board, the election is cancelled through the state and county and paperwork is submitted accordingly cutting overall costs.

In order to keep cost down, the Board does not have an office manager. One of the Board members handles the cash and mail and reads the meters. They make a minimum of one trip per week to the bank in Woodland Park and to the accountant in Colorado Springs. These trips are not reimbursed. The accountant's office handles calls for the District as well as paperwork not associated with accounting; making them almost a full time office for the board as well along with their regular business. The licensed water and wastewater operators' fees are in line with small district operators across the state, however additional expenses are incurred outside of their assigned duties which are passed on to the individual customer; i.e. leak detection, meter repairs and inspection of line repairs.

Speaking of income verses expenditures *due to the new EPA mandated wastewater treatment facility we now have new expenses.* Our expenditures currently exceed our income by approximately \$2000 per month; the result will be an increase in wastewater costs of approximately \$20 per month. This rate increase will be discussed & voted upon at the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Electric and gas bills for the wastewater facility averages +\$1400 per month.
- Chemicals for this new facility have also become an added expense.
- A part-time licensed wastewater operator is now required to maintain and keep the plant in balance on a daily bases.
- Sludge must be hauled away every two months which averages \$1000/month
- Insurance has gone up as well, but because of our coverage, the insurance company did pay the recent major water leak where we had an \$18,000 repair bill.

The District remains on an extremely limited budget and is falling short in being able to address the day-to-day repairs, replacements and general maintenance; the result will be an increase in wastewater costs.

If you would like to learn more or if you have an idea to help this District, please attend a Board meeting. These meetings are open to the public and are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00PM at the water treatment facility.

Paul E. Kennedy  
President