



## *Memo*

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To: Board of Directors  
From: Tom Weddle, General Manager  
Date: 7/16/24  
Subject: Manager's Reports

**Field Maintenance** - This past month we have replaced four water services. These were old leaking lines. We also replaced an old leaking fire hydrant lateral. This was a bigger two-day job. The lateral was about 13' long which took up most of the road on Zermatt. Since this was not a normal sized area, we had to rent a small mini excavator. We spent the first day digging it up and removing the old line, cleaning up the trench so it was ready for day two and road plating it. The second day, the crew installed a new cast iron lateral. The goal was to complete the job before fireworks since it was on the lake side.

Felsen well has a problem again. We went to turn it on and flush it to do our routing monthly samples. When we came back to it, there was no water coming out. We checked the VFD (variable frequency drive). It has very low Hz and very low amps. We called Sam Crum, he got us in contact with Ivan who works with these. He has never seen the issue, so he is getting in contact with the company that makes them to troubleshoot further. While learning more about the VFD, I realized an issue we had with the Wilson Vert VFD. It is too small for the application there since it came from Cypress. Cypress was a 5hp pump, and Wilson is a 7.5hp pump. When installing VFD's, they need to be one rating higher than the pump. So, a 5hp pump needs a 7.5 hp VFD. A 7.5hp pump needs a 10hp VFD. Since Pinecrest has not yet been upgraded to a VFD, we will move the Wilson VFD to Pinecrest because it is a 5hp pump. We ordered a new 10hp VFD to be installed at Wilson Vert.

Sam Crum came up to visit the Old Mill Springs site. He took measurements to see if we could place a new vertical well there. We have plenty of property, a small tank and a building already there. He agreed that there is a ton of water in that area. He is preparing a well permit for us and we are prepping the site for inspection.

The district has been looking into other affordable and comparable options other than ACLARA. Aclara has virtually no customer service and they charge a lot of money for everything. We pay to have mobile programming on iPad with licenses for each field guy. Plus, a yearly service fee for using the app. Not to mention all the other fees to

use their service. We investigated Neptune's page to see what other company is compatible with them. We found Neptune makes a register that is smart, and has a transmitting unit built into it. They also have their own software called Neptune 360. In this software the CSR's can input the customer info directly into their file and that goes to the meter. No more field programming and mistakes from that. No need to pay for that service anymore. The other items are close to the same prices or cheaper. They make their stuff backwards compatible, so you are not forced to upgrade. There are two ways to read the meters as well. You can read them drive by. You also can connect your cell phone and show the customer the meter logs and what time usage occurs a while in the field.

**Employee Retirement** – We had a sit down with Lincoln Financial to discuss our current 457 plan. It being an older plan, there are some more current options that will reduce the management fee for the employees by close to a point. We have another meeting scheduled with the representative from Lincoln to further discuss our options.