

MUD 18 Newsletter
March 2016 – May 2016
www.mcmud18.com

Results of MUD 18 Board Election:



The MUD 18 Board consists of five directors who are elected according to the Texas Election Code. Every other year, specified positions expire so that the four year terms are staggered. This year the positions held by incumbents, Lou Tichacek and Gary Montgomery, expired. Both incumbents and resident Blair Smith filed to run in the May 7 election. Tichacek and Montgomery were elected to fill the two positions. Thanks to the 1041 residents who voted.

WMS Collection of Storm Debris: With degree of tree damage from recent wind storm, it is timely to clarify Waste Management's requirements for servicing yard debris. Yard debris will be picked up on regular trash pick-up days (Mon and Fri) if it meets the following requirements:



- Grass clippings, leaves, branches and tree trimmings must be placed at the curb in bags containers or bundles. Collection is limited to ten bags, containers or bundles per collection.
- For the safety and protection of WMS employees and equipment:
Branches and tree trimmings should be no greater than three inches (3") in diameter and be cut, tied and bundled in four foot (4') lengths weighing no more than forty to fifty pounds (40-50 lbs.)
Trash in containers over 45 gallons must be bagged. Containers over 65 gallons will not be serviced.

KUDOS for a Job Well Done: Given the amount of trees down from the recent wind storm (including many very large trees) homeowners, helpful neighbors, the POA and Golf Course maintenance crews have done an amazing job cleaning up.



Debt Refunding Yields \$227,000 in Savings: Like many homeowners who have refinanced their



home mortgage, the board has recently refinanced some of the District's older bonds to take advantage of lower interest rates. Previously the Board has refinanced bonds in 2003, 2005, 2010, 2012 and 2013. This recent refinancing will replace bonds originally issued in 2005 and 2008 at rates averaging 4.3% with new bonds averaging 3.1%. These lower rates will save District taxpayers \$227,000 over the next 13 years or an average of about \$17,500 per year. While this may not be a lot relative to the current annual debt payment of \$2.3 million, every bit helps.

Catahoula Well #2 Update: The Catahoula Well #2 has been drilled, screened, and tested. Picture shows well test in progress. The well is expected to produce 2000 gallons per minute, which will be stored in existing pressure and ground storage tanks at Water Plant #1.

The total dissolved solids (TDS) of the water is between 400 and 450 mg/l, well below the State's maximum standard of 1000 mg/l. This the lowest TDS in Montgomery County to date. The required modifications to the water plant have begun. This work includes replacing the motor control center in the existing pump house, constructing the necessary transfer piping, providing electrical service, and installing the cooling towers for the new well. Weather has delayed the scheduled completion of the project which is now expected to be in October 2016.



Once the new well is on-line, the plan is that all of the District's water will be produced from the Catahoula Aquifer. The additional water well and plant capacity will exceed minimum requirements for all of Bentwater's future water needs.

Five Year Plan: As part of the District's financial strategy and facilities management, the District's engineer and operator work together to create and implement a Five Year Plan consisting of maintenance and improvement projects. As part this year's Five Year Plan, five access driveways have been installed to improve access by the operator during maintenance work. This will allow for lower maintenance cost and minimal damage to landscaping, especially when it is necessary to remove pumps for repair or replacement. An environmentally friendly surface material called Grass-Crete is being used. The service driveway (pictured) for the lift station and generator near Miller # 10 is a recent addition. Over the last several years, all high priority access driveways have been completed.



Bentwater Civic Association Hosts Shredding Event:

On Saturday April 16th the BCA hosted a paper shredding event at the North Shore Church parking lot from 10 to 12 when the truck became full. Over 115 home owners had the opportunity to shred confidential material that could not be safely disposed of in regular recycle trash. About 10,000 lbs of shredded paper was collected. BCA board members were on hand to assist with this annual event. We applaud the BCA, the volunteers and the residents who took advantage of this recycling event. Great Job!



Trash Pickup Schedule on Holidays. When a holiday falls on a Monday or Friday, do you ever wonder if we will have trash pick-up on the normally scheduled day? Although Memorial Day, July 4 and Labor Day all fall on a Monday, WMS will provide regularly scheduled trash pick-up. The only holidays that Waste Management discontinues scheduled pick-up is on Christmas and New Year's. If you forget these holiday exceptions, you can always go to our web site www.mcmud18 and find the holiday pick-up schedule.



Sign-up for E-Blasts: If you are not receiving our E-Blasts, you are missing out on timely information. Go to our website at www.mcmud18.com and give us your email address. Your address will not be shared with anyone. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Meetings Open to the Public:

Our regularly scheduled monthly meetings are the **2nd Tuesdays at 2:30PM** in the Country Club Board Room. Meetings are open to the public. The agenda is posted on our web site and the message board in the breezeway entrance to the Country Club Grill near the Golf Pro-shop.

Sincerely,

Your MUD Board:

Lou Tichacek	President	597-7010
Linda Pierce	Vice President	597-5463
Susan McFarland	Treasurer	597-7503
Rex Cambren	Secretary	449-5761
Gary Montgomery	Assistant Secretary	597-9256

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