

**Highland Pines Domestic Water Improvement District (HPDWID)  
March 2022 Newsletter**

**# 1: Madizell/Main Transmission Line Construction**

**Contractor Selection and Timeline**

The Project Manager is Dave Dirren of Sunrise Engineering. On August 10, 2021, HPDWID awarded the construction contract to Mountain High Excavating in the sum of 1,777,303.00. Construction began November 1, 2021 and will continue approximately 210 days.

**Update**

The water main installation on Madizell is complete, testing was done, and it has passed inspection. 1200 feet of ductile iron pipe has been installed (laying an average of 100 feet/day) on the 2.1 mile route through the Forest Service property. To date, the contractor has hammered through approximately 30 feet of rock in the Forest Service. All needed valves and air release valves are being replaced during construction and the water line will remain operational during construction. The project is on schedule with a completion date of 6/30/22.

**WIFA Loan**

The WIFA loan agreement for HPDWID in the amount of \$2,568,738 with \$716,000 in forgivable principal closed on 4/23/2021. The term of the loan is 20 years at 1.739%. Fixed monthly payments are scheduled at \$11,209.91/month for the first 5 years. HPDWID will be responsible for paying an additional \$237,000 of its own reserve dollars to complete the project. Once the project is completed, the Board hopes to lower the ad valorem tax.

**# 2: Graphical Information Mapping System (GIS)**

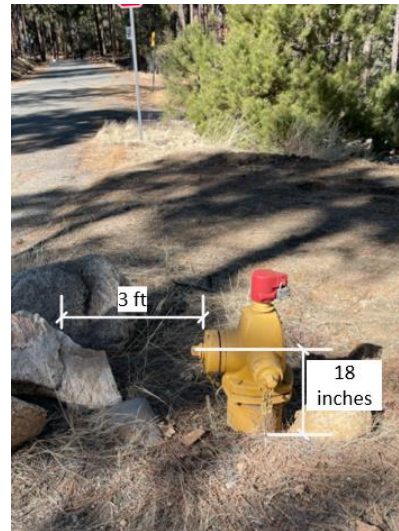
The Board approved the purchase of a \$43,500 Graphical Information Mapping System from Sunrise Engineering on 6/24/2021. The GIS system will be completed in April 2022 and users will begin training on it this summer. The GIS has created a database of HPDWID's assets (i.e., pipe location/type/date, valves, meters, fire hydrants, tanks) and gives the Board the ability to update the existing assets while maintaining ongoing changes. It improves the Board's access to data, maps and geographical information and makes the prioritization/selection of future capital improvement projects more effective.

**# 3: Fire Hydrant Maintenance in HPDWID**

Fire hydrants in Highland Pines are essentially an above-ground connection to our Highland Pines Domestic Water Improvement District water system that allows firefighters to draw water from our water tanks to control and put out fires. Here's what you need to know about having a fire hydrant on your property:

Property owners that have HPDWID fire hydrants, on their property, should look to see that the fire hydrant does not have any obstructions within a 3-foot radius of the fire hydrant (hydrants should have a 18 inch height to allow standard hydrant wrenches to rotate 360 degrees). Property owners should eliminate any obstructions within the 3-foot radius and contact HPDWID for any other hydrant issues. HPDWID and the Fire Department perform inspections and maintenance on a yearly basis. The inspection is done to identify any fire hydrant problems that need attention. Fire hydrants are also opened to identify any leakage or operational issues.

In the event of a fire, time is of the essence. Having the ability to reliably open and operate our fire hydrants, without obstruction, is the reason why HPDWID and the Fire Department inspect and maintain our Fire Hydrants.



**# 4: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Request Update**

- On 6/8/2021, the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors agreed the focus for using \$22.8M in funds should be for infrastructure improvements including water projects.
- On 7/14/2021, the HPDWID Chair and Vice-Chair met with Harry Oberg, Supervisor, representing Yavapai County District One to discuss the application process to secure funding from (ARPA). HPDWID requested \$719,000 for the following construction priorities:

1. Purchase and install new 200,000-gallon water tank (\$450,000).
2. Replace three 7.5 hp pumps to 2 25 hp pumps (\$225,000).
3. Reimbursement for GIS system (\$44,000).

On 2/10/2022 Harry Oberg's office provided HPDWID the updated timeline below for the award of ARPA funds:

**February 11, 2022** - Complete review of proposals for Grant Administration, Accounting and Compliance Services.

**February** - Request Attorney's Office to review contract with selected organization.

**March 2, 2022** - Place agenda item on BOS meeting for selection of grant administration organization.

**March** - Award Contract to grant administration organization.

**March** - Forward all water and sewer grant requests, along with recommendations, to grant administration organization.

**March** - Begin grant request review process with grant administration organization.

**April** - Place agenda item on BOS meeting for Board to approve grant award selections.

## # 5: HPDWID Annexation Policy Development

HPDWID has had several property annexation requests in the past couple of years, including one in 2021 from the Cactus-Pine Girl Scouts. To better inform the public of the steps to be taken and considerations the Board must address with each annexation request, HPDWID is developing an Annexation Policy which will be available to the public in the upcoming months.

## # 6: Water Conservation

Water is a precious resource. We cannot live without it. Water is one of the essential things that lets life thrive on this planet. Thus, the significance of water can be compared to the significance of air.

### Summer is coming!!!!

Here are a few simple things you can do at home to ease the burden on HPDWID and save money in the process.

- Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth.
- Only run the washing machine and dishwasher when you have a full load.
- Use a low flow shower and faucet aerators.
- Fix leaks.
- Install a dual flush or low flow toilet or put a conversion kit on your existing toilet.
- Don't overwater your lawn or water during peak periods and install rain sensors on irrigation systems.
- Install a rain barrel for outdoor watering.
- Plant a rain garden for catching stormwater runoff from your roof, driveway, and other hard surfaces.
- Monitor your water usage on your water bill.
- Share your knowledge about saving water through conservation and efficiency with your neighbors.

**With summer comes high water consumption readings! Remember - watering outside plants during hot weather and additional guests/weekends at the cabin increase your water use! Check for leaks and running water!!**

## # 7: HPDWID Board Meetings

Remember to check for upcoming HPDWID board meeting notices, agendas, and meeting minutes on our website at [www.hpdwid.com](http://www.hpdwid.com). In addition to the HPDWID annual budget and rates and fees, the customer portal provides access to online billing and offers enhanced bill paying capabilities.

Due to Covid-19, HPDWID board meetings are held telephonically. You are encouraged to attend whenever possible. Meetings currently scheduled (subject to change) for 2022: 4/7, 5/2, 6/9 (4:30 pm on Rock Haven – bring your own chair – this is the Public Hearing on Budget/Rates/Fees/Ad Volarem Tax), 8/11 and 11/10.

Board meeting notices are posted at least 24 hours in advance of meetings in two places: [www.hpdwid.com](http://www.hpdwid.com) and on the bulletin board at the fire station (corner of Skyline Dr and Happy Valley Rd).

**Your five-member volunteer board, with the support of Municipal Accounts and Consulting LP, Fann Environmental LLC, Sunrise Engineering, and the law firm of BPCWS, PLLC are working hard for you on all matters related to HPDWID.**

Celia Carr, Chair (2022)  
 Sandy McClintock, Vice Chair and District Clerk (2022)  
 Angelo Angeleri, Board Member (2024)  
 Dave Cook, Board Member (2024)  
 Pat Ferguson, Board Member (2024)