



JAN NEWSLETTER | 2024

Highlights:

1. Everett Timmreck
2. Rate Increase
3. System Upgrades
4. Annual Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS

Cameron Svenson, *President*
Ryan Walters, *Vice President*
Linda Swoyer, *Treasurer*
Tyson Ruff, *Member*
Bill Moran, *Member*
Scott Sparman, *Member*

STAFF

Kristin Young ~ *Billing Manager (PT)*
Ryan Scheurich ~ *Maintenance (FT)*

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome:

Ryan Walters
Tyson Ruff

Everett Timmreck



It is with deep sorrow that we inform you of Everett's passing on October 30, 2023. A longstanding President of our association and a cherished friend to many, his absence will be profoundly felt.

A **Celebration of Life** will be held on
January 21, 2024, at 1:00 pm at the **Longview Moose Lodge**.

UPCOMING RATE INCREASE

For the last two years our expenses have exceeded our income. Last year it was just over \$5,000 but this year the difference exceeds \$20,000. This increase in expenses is largely due to the cost of repairs. Our infrastructure is aging, and this is resulting in an increase in leaks and equipment failure. In addition, the cost of the materials needed for these repairs continues to rise.

To keep up with these expenses, it is necessary to increase the base rate of service. Effective March 1st, 2024, the base rate will increase from \$80 to \$90 monthly.

SYSTEM UPGRADES

We need significant updates to ensure our ability to reliably distribute water through our system now and into the future. These updates will take time and will be costly. To that end, the Board is developing phased plans to proceed and is actively seeking funding for the first phase.





We have applied for a loan through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). We will not know until near the middle of next year if we are approved and, if so, what the loan terms will be. If this loan is approved and accepted by the board, a financial assessment of every connection in the system will be required to make the payments. The amount of this assessment will depend on the loan terms (in some cases, a portion of the loan can be forgiven) and whether the Board is successful in locating alternative funding.

The Board is also actively pursuing grant funding through the Legislature and other local and statewide agencies. Grant money does not need to be paid back, of course, but is often more challenging to qualify for and is less abundant.

Remember that the Board is made up of ratepayers like you. We have no special training and have volunteered to take on this responsibility.



STAY IN TOUCH

 (360) 747-7869
 CarrollsWaterPhone@gmail.com
 P.O. Box 78, Carrolls, WA 98609
 www.CarrollsWater.org

NEW WELL UPDATE

After reviewing our application for source approval, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) responded with a comment letter requesting more information. The Board, our water manager, and the engineering firm we are contracting with worked together to address all areas mentioned, and the application was resubmitted to DOH earlier this month. Our resubmission will be reviewed in January.

Upon approval, we will begin the final stage of construction to modify the existing pump house to accommodate the new well. The well project is being completed with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds as a grant through Cowlitz County.

MAPPING UPDATE

We've successfully mapped all active meters, wells, pump houses, reservoirs, and the booster station. Moving forward, we'll map pipes during repairs and replacements. This project will aid in both asset and logistical management, serving as a valuable resource for new board members and employees.



ANNUAL MEETING

Where: Carrolls Elementary School

Date: Wed., February 21st, 2024

Time: 6:00 p.m.

REMINDER

If you see water in an area that it shouldn't be and suspect a leak, please call us right away!

Linda: 360-901-5265 or **Kristin:** 360-747-7869



Please do not put cash in the payment box at the Carrolls Store.