

Alta Sierra Mutual Water Company
A Mutual Benefit Non-Profit Corporation

Annual Membership / Shareholders Meeting

Date: Saturday September 5, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM

Place: The Amphitheater at Hwy 155 and Greenhorn Summit

Election: We have four candidates running for this year's Board Positions, due to the lack of quorum for the last two elections, term expiration, and a deceased member. The Ballot/Proxy is a self-mailer and is included in this package. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please be sure to vote, sign and mail your Ballot. Or you may choose to assign your Proxy vote to a designated member of your choice by printing their name on the proxy line and signing the Ballot. You can then mail the Ballot to the designated member or return it to the water company for handling. The Ballots must be received prior to the meeting. **Members are encouraged to participate in the voting process to help ensure the necessary quorum is achieved to validate the election.** If you have any questions concerning the Ballot/Proxy call (760) 376-4111.

Capital Improvement Funding: The Membership approved a 5-year Assessment Program for (2023-2027) of \$25.00 per month per share. The money will be used to continue the pipeline upgrade

The current Billing for property with a (service connection) is \$60.00 per month. Vacant lots with water rights, but no service connection (repair & replacement fee) is \$30.00 per month. This money covers the operating cost of the water company. The Assessment money of \$25.00 per month is dedicated to the pipeline replacement.

Future projects for system improvements or State Requirements will require a separate Assessment.

System Improvement Projects Scheduled for this Year:

- No pipeline construction is planned for this year. The current assessment collection balance was not high enough to cover the construction of the new Old State Rd section. Construction of just part of this section was determined to be not cost effective. This project has been deferred until the summer of 2027.
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The water system upgrade is necessary because of our aging distribution system. Additionally, in many cases the current spacing between water lines and septic system leach fields do not meet Code. The American Water Works Association now requires a 25-foot space between water lines and septic systems. There is no "Grandfather Clause" in our case because of the potential Health issues. However; we are able to maintain our

State Operating Permit because we have not had a Water Quality Violation since 2007. But the fact is, our water system is vulnerable to contamination from sewage systems and is not in compliance with the State Water Resources Control Board.

The first effort to begin funding the pipeline upgrade began with the 2007-2011 Assessment Program. In 2015, we looked into the State sponsored low interest loan program for small water systems. Various loan options were available to us at 1.5-2.0% the downside was that the loan would require several restrictions; state oversight / documentation, licensed contractors, state prevailing wage rates, each job/loan would be limited to a specific short-term project.

As a Utility Company, we are allowed to conduct our own water system upgrade as long as we meet the necessary training, engineering and permit requirements. It will take several years to complete the project. Funding the improvements through membership assessments is the least expensive way to go.

Property Owner Construction Projects: It is crucial that property owners contact the Water Company before starting construction projects. Water lines need to be identified to ensure that the line will remain accessible and that your construction project does not violate the spacing requirement. In many cases, individual homeowner service lines can be relocated to meet the minimum spacing requirement.

Membership Requirement: Some Members have decided not to pay the required membership fees (Repair and Replacement Fee) on their vacant/undeveloped property. Unfortunately, forfeiting your “Right to Water” for that property may pose a problem at a later date, especially if you plan to develop or sell that property separately. Once a membership has been terminated for non-payment, that specific Lot cannot be retrieved on a balance due basis, this is also true for developed Lots with a water connection. If the Share/Membership for the property has been terminated the Lot owner must re-apply for a new Membership on that property and pay all past Assessments all over again from the time the company was formed in 1949 forward, plus pay whatever the Water Connection fee is at the time. A paid Membership in “Good Standing” assures the landowner that water will be available to that specific Lot on request. In some cases, if the Lot is not buildable, used as a driveway or just open space it may be desirable to let the Share terminate as long as the membership requirement is understood.

ASMWC 2025 “Consumer Confidence Report”: The report addresses the water quality from our source wells. You are encouraged to review the report and ask any questions you may have, by contacting one of Directors, or by calling the USEPA” S Safe Drinking Water Hotline @ 800 426-4791. The report is available on our website www.altasierrawater.com you may request a copy by calling (760) 376-4111.

Lead Exceedance Precaution: Although, the Lead threshold limit for our drinking water **was NOT** exceeded during the 2024 sampling year. We know from past years that Lead is prevalent in parts of our water system, particularly the older Cabins that have household water fixtures containing Lead. We know the source water (wells) do not

contain significant amounts of Lead. The problem occurs when the water leaches out the Lead contained in older internal piping systems and kitchen / bathroom fixtures. As a precaution homeowner are advised, to change-out old fixtures (pre-1986) and even the internal piping of the cabin if possible. If you use the cabin infrequently, be sure to allow your water system to flush before drinking the water. A copy of the Health Department "Public Information Letter" explaining the Lead problem and the things you can do to limit the effect is available on our website www.altasierrawater.com.

The Board of Directors wish to welcome all new Members and thank the Membership for their continued support.

Directors

- Tom Steele President, Bakersfield, CA (2023-2028) (661) 204-5225
- Paul Black Director, Wofford Heights, CA (2021-2026) (760) 376-4658
- Bill Preston Director, Bakersfield, CA (2022-2027) (661) 843-7069
- Art Messer Director, Alta Sierra, CA (2024-2029) (805) 312-5868
- Robert Hand Director, Bakersfield, CA (2025-2030) (661) 444-0870

Staff

- David Sprayberry, Serviceman, 10771 Oak Drive, Wofford Heights (760) 376-2316
- Annie Asher, Secretary, 10929 Laurel Drive, Wofford Heights, CA (760) 376-4111

Mailing Address Alta Sierra Mutual Water Company
P.O. Box 1268
Wofford Heights, CA 93285

Phone Number (760) 376-4111 / (661) 619-4708

E-Mail Address altasierrawater@aol.com **Internet Site** www.altasierrawater.com