

# Indian Creek Westridge Community Services District

## Annual Update on District Activities and Water Quality Report

The United States Environmental Protection Agency and the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) require that every public water system complete the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) and distribute it to their customers by July 1. The CCR summarizes the results of our monthly and annual water quality testing. You can find and read the CCR on our website. Access the website by typing in [indiancreekwestridgecsd.myruralwater.com](http://indiancreekwestridgecsd.myruralwater.com), the report can be found by clicking on Water Quality Report on the right side of the homepage. If you haven't already done so, please subscribe to our website. You can do so by clicking on the red button Sign Up for Alerts. There is no cost to you to subscribe. As a subscriber you will receive automatic text and email alerts about District activities, water outages, traffic diversions, etc. If you don't have access to the website or just want a hardcopy of the CCR, contact district manager Terry Tye at 760-920-1472.

Meter mandate update: On Oct 23, 2024 the District held a public hearing on a proposed rate increase to fund meter installation mandated by SB552. District customers rejected the rate increase with a 74% vote against the increase. Subsequently Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil engaged and worked with the District manager to find a solution. The senator introduced SB463 and the manager cosponsored the bill. SB463 would have provided relief from the mandate but unfortunately the Senate Appropriations Committee sent SB463 to its death in the Suspense File. The District now awaits advice from the SWRCB on how to come into compliance with the mandate.

The SWRCB has now mandated that all public water systems complete the Cross Connection Control Plan (CCCP) by July 1, 2025. The goal of this effort is to guarantee that our system is protected from contamination of the water supply by equipment, sprinkler systems, herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, and other sources residing on individual customer's properties. Contamination of the water supply is prevented by utilizing devices known as backflow prevention devices. These are installed by the customer or District, must be inspected annually, and the cost burden is the responsibility of the customer. The District has completed and submitted our CCCP to the SWRCB. We have conducted and completed our Hazard Assessment Survey which requires inspection of every residence and commercial customer's property. The next step is to determine which customers are in compliance and which are not. The District will communicate to each customer what is required of them to come into compliance and what process to follow in order to do so.

The ICWSD Board is engaged in discussions considering the possibility of consolidating our system with the Sierra Highlands CSD. Consolidation is perhaps the ultimate goal of the SWRCB for small water systems. To date the Board has been opposed to the concept of consolidation. But let's remember that up until 2009 Indian Creek and Westridge were separate systems, then we consolidated and now we are just one big happy family. So this is what we are doing. We are in discussions with an engineering consulting company, Provost and Pritchard,

that contracts with the state of California. Thus far our discussions have been very limited but we did spend a good part of a day showing them our system. Nothing has been decided. The Board chair appointed a committee to comprehensively study the matter and bring recommendations to the Board.

Board of directors update: The BOD has seen significant turn over in the last 15 months with the retirement of Luis Elias, Jeff Anderson and Dave Mappus. We all remember George Batchelder and his contributions to the District. When George passed away he was replaced by Casey Dean who is now the Board chair. Sarah Petersen replaced Jeff and is now very busy as the vice chair of the Board, the ICWCSD representative to and vice chair of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (OVGA), and chair of the Consolidation committee. Randy Gillespie replaced Luis and is now the Treasurer of the Board. Muddy Watters replaced Dave and is a member of the Consolidation Committee. Ted Williams remains on the Board as the longest tenured member, the ICWCSD alternate to the OVGA, and member of the Consolidation committee. Many thanks to Ted for his enduring valued participation on the Board and contributions to the District. Kim Derr is now the lead operator with Don Buser continuing as an operator sharing his invaluable knowledge and decades of experience. Wow, talk about dedication!

On behalf of the Board of Directors,

Terry Tye  
General Manager