



**A Monthly Newsletter**

**June 2021**

**Serving the Community**

*“Your Independent Local Government Agency Providing Water, Wastewater, Drainage, Security, and Solid Waste Services”*

**District Meeting Schedule For June 2021**

**June 1, 2021**

Personnel @ 7:30 a.m.  
Improvements @ 8:00 a.m.  
Finance @ 10:00 a.m.

**June 3, 2021**

Communication & Technology @ 8:30 a.m.  
Security @ 10:00 a.m.

**Special Board Meeting Reserves @ 2:00 p.m.**

**June 16, 2021 District Board Meeting @ 5:00 p.m.**

**June 22, 2021 Townhall Meeting to discuss Security at RMCC @ 6:00 p.m.**

**The public is invited to attend.**

*All meeting dates and times are subject to change. Be sure to check our website, [www.rmcsd.com](http://www.rmcsd.com) for any changes*

**BE SURE TO LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

**CONSERVING WATER**

**Why use water efficiently?**

This year’s near-average snowpack evaporated or soaked into the soil rather than flowing into neighboring rivers and reservoirs. Dry conditions throughout California have continued to deteriorate.

While the Rancho Murieta region is in a strong position to meet the water supply needs of people, the dry conditions are looking increasingly dire for the environment.

We’re asking everyone to use water efficiently at home to preserve our rivers for fish and wildlife.

**Most water use occurs outdoors:**

In the Sacramento region, most of the water we use daily goes on lawns and outdoor landscaping, and about 30 percent of that is lost due to overwatering and evaporation.

There are lots of ways to save water at home, but using water efficiently outdoors can make the biggest difference of all.

**Check before you water**

**Check soil moisture before turning on sprinklers—saves 80 gallons of water per day.**

The best and most accurate way to know if your yard needs water is to check the soil’s moisture level. Here are some ways to check:

- **Use a moisture meter.** This is the most effective way to tell if you need to water your yard. Moisture meters feature an easy-to-read dial that indicates if the soil is dry, moist or wet.
- **Do the screwdriver test.** Stick an eight-inch screwdriver into the soil. If you can push it in more than three inches below the surface, you don’t need to water.
- **Dig down six to eight inches** with a small shovel or trowel and grab a handful of soil. Roll the soil around in the palm of your hand. If the soil easily forms a ball in your hand, you don’t need to water.

**Replace Sprinklers:**

- **Replace older sprinklers with more efficient rotary nozzles—saves 8 gallons of water per 1,000 square feet of yard per day.**
- **Upgrade to a WaterSense-labeled weather-based sprinkler timer—saves 100 to 150 gallons of water per day.** Learn more about “smart” sprinkler timers at <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/irrigation-controllers>
- **Add two to three inches of organic mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation—saves up to 30 gallons of water per 1,000 square feet each time you water.**
- **Adjust sprinklers to prevent overspray—saves 40 gallons of water each time you water.**
- **Water plants early in the morning to reduce evaporation—saves 50 gallons of water each time you water.**

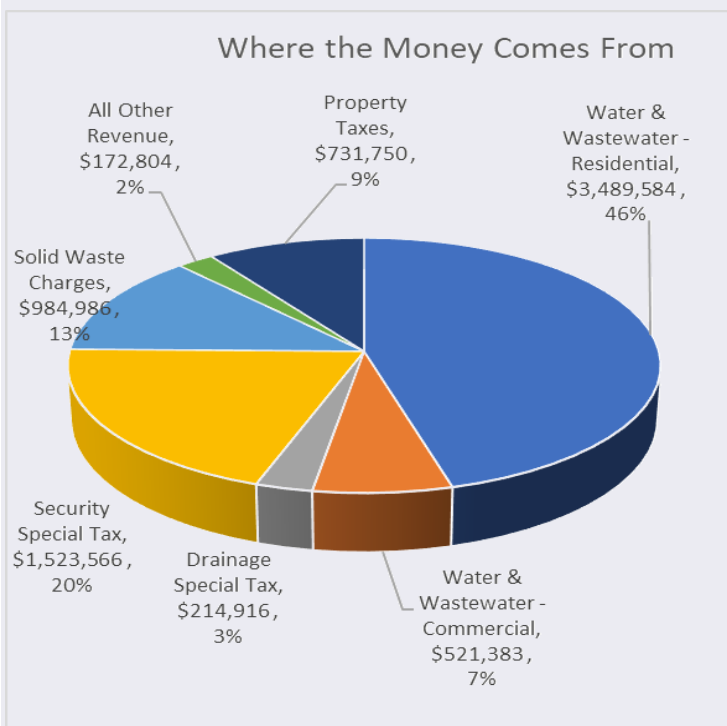
**Inside your home**

- **Check and fix leaks—saves 30-50 gallons of water per day.**  
The most common type of leak inside a home is a toilet leak, which can waste 200 gallons of water per day. That’s enough to wash seven loads of laundry every day for a month. Finding out if a toilet has a leak is simple and quick.
- Add a few drops of food coloring or a dye tab to the tank and wait about 15 minutes.
- If the color appears in the bowl, there is a leak.
- The cause of a toilet leak is often a worn toilet flapper, which can break down over time.
- And, when in doubt, be sure to consult a professional plumber.

**Check out the Rebates available from RMCSd at: <https://www.ranchomurietacsd.com/rebates>**

## GENERAL MANAGER'S CORNER BUDGET REVENUE UPDATE

For the Fiscal Year 2021-22, the District's Proposed Budget, including Prop 218 rate increase notifications, was released to the public at a Special Board meeting on April 1, 2021. On that date, the total proposed budget was \$7,998,988, which is an increase of \$776,461, or 11% over the previous year. This proposed increase resulted in 143 protest letters, some of which included questions. We addressed these questions by producing a frequently asked questions (FAQs) document posted on our web page.



After a thorough evaluation of the District's ability to maintain service levels, manage capital projects (which is the Board's number one goal), and provide superior service to ratepayers, we presented an update at our May 19, 2021 Board meeting. This update included a recommendation to reduce the budget by \$180,000 by eliminating a proposed position to support our recycled water program and construction inspections. This change reduces the monthly increase to all rate payors by six dollars. Our proposed balanced budget includes rate increases to water, sewer, and sewer reserve contributions and a 30% increase in Solid Waste's contract with Waste Management services. The budget also includes 2% increases for Drainage and Security charges as allowed through Measures J and K, passed by Rancho Murieta voters in 1998.

We are holding two additional budget-related meetings before the final approval on June 16. The first will be to update and answer questions at the Finance Committee on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The second will be a Special Board meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup>. We will evaluate our reserve requirements and review the District's capital improvement/replacement strategy at this meeting. We are holding this to allow the Board to take a position on District Reserves.

### Employee Spotlight – Utility Worker II —Mario Moreno

**Mario Moreno** started with the District as a Utility Worker I in April of 2014. Mario was an amateur boxer for 11 years, prior to joining the District. Now he spends his days at the District, repairing water leaks, maintaining water and sewer lines, and working on special projects, like replacing fire hydrants. While working at the District, the most exciting thing that happened was when he saw a couple in a golf cart, and the wife was calling for help. Her husband was not breathing, so with help from his coworker they put him on the ground, and Mario performed CPR for 7 minutes, until the fire department arrived, thereby saving the man's life. His favorite thing to do when he's not at work is go fishing in his boat!



Please note that everyone fishing in Rancho



**Murieta lakes/reservoirs is required to have a valid fishing license.**

## Board of Directors

Tim Maybee  
President  
tmaybee@rmcsd.com

Randy Jenco  
Vice President  
rjenco@rmcsd.com

Linda Butler  
Director  
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John Merchant  
Director  
jmerchant@rmcsd.com

Martin Pohl  
Director  
mpohl@rmcsd.com



## A Monthly Newsletter

**JUNE 2021**

**Serving the Community**

### BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
& 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Closed for Lunch -  
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### DISTRICT STAFF

**Tom Hennig**

General Manager  
[thennig@rmcsd.com](mailto:thennig@rmcsd.com)

**Paula O'Keefe**

Director of Administration  
[pokeefe@rmcsd.com](mailto:pokeefe@rmcsd.com)

**Amelia Wilder**

District Secretary  
[awilder@rmcsd.com](mailto:awilder@rmcsd.com)

**Accounting Manager**  
Recruiting

**Accountant**  
Recruiting

**Security Supervisor**  
Recruiting

**Tina Talamantes**  
Security Administration  
[ttalamantes@rmcsd.com](mailto:ttalamantes@rmcsd.com)

**Ron Greenfield**  
Acting Director of Operations  
[rgreenfield@rmcsd.com](mailto:rgreenfield@rmcsd.com)

**Travis Bohannon**  
Chief Plant Operator  
[tbohannon@rmcsd.com](mailto:tbohannon@rmcsd.com)

### COMMUNITY FORUM

#### Summer Time

It's that time of year again, SUMMER TIME! It's time to be grateful that Covid-19 is on its way to being under control and a time that we are all looking forward to the 4th of July and ETC season. With so much to look forward to, now's the time when our Community can realize what it really means to be a Community. Things like:

- Paying attention to our CC&R's
- Keeping our water safe and pure
- Reaching out with kindness and compassion to your neighbor
- Showing patience to those that serve you

Have a great summer!

### WE'RE HIRING!

The District currently has openings for Security Supervisor, Gate and Patrol Officer, Accounting Manager, Accountant and Office Technician! Please visit our website at <https://www.ranchomurieta.csd.com/employment-opportunities> for more information! The District is a great place to work, with great benefits, a positive team work environment, flexible schedules, and right around the corner from where you live!

### Development Update

MG—Lot 9 (Taco Bell) - No Update.

MG- Lot 10 (PDF Office)—Civil plans have been approved and are waiting for signatures.

MG – Lot 11 (Circle K Gas Station/carwash) - The project anticipates beginning on April 1, weather dependent.

Riverview— Coastland is closing out its review of Riverview's drainage and grading plans. The Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain reviews will be completed by Domenichelli and Associates.

Retreats East and North - The project reports that K Hovnanian will be purchasing the property, they submitted improvement plans and the District is waiting on updated deposits before being able to continue work.

Rancho Murieta North— The project provided deposit funds to allow continued review of the project's water and sewer plans. Drainage plans had already been through a first review with comments and plan mark-ups provided back to the project.

Residences Of Murieta Hills East — District Staff met with our District Engineer, and the Developer to discuss this project. The Developer is interested in moving forward with the original plans for this project. The Developer plans to submit a developer application packet and deposit. Conditions for both East & West projects can be viewed: <http://www2.agendanet.saccounty.net/BoardOfSupervisors/Meetings/ViewMeeting?id=3572&doctype=1>

**Detailed Updates can be found on our website:**  
<https://www.ranchomurieta.csd.com/development-projects>

## May 19, 2021 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Received 2019-20 Annual Audits for CSD and CFD 2014-1
- Discussed Reserve Study and Scheduled Special Board meeting to discuss it June 2, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.
- Discussed resuming live Board and Committee meetings
- Introduced Resolution R2021-01 to approve Proposed FY 2021-22 Budget—Conducted Public Hearing
- Introduced Ordinance O2021-01 increasing Water, Sewer, Solid Waste rates and Security and Drainage Tax
- Reviewed Security Opinion Poll Timeline
- Approved revised job specifications for Accounting Supervisor, Accountant, Office Technician, Accounting Technician and Director of Operations
- Discussed water delivery options to Rancho Murieta Country Club
- Approved bid from M-3 Construction for emergency repairs to right back drying bed for \$64,532

## May 2021 COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Improvements Committee

- Discussed work performed to the Back Right Drying Bed for \$64,532
- Discussed Basin 5
- Reviewed Capital Projects
- Discussed options for using asphalt grindings
- Discussed Rancho Murieta Village Pipe Replacement
- Capital Project

### Personnel Committee

- Discussed revised job specifications for Accounting Supervisor, Accountant, Office Technician, Accounting Technician and Director of Operations

### Communications & Technology Committee

- Discussed District Projects
- Discussed final disposition for issuance of County Citations
- Discussed IT projects that happened over the past year
- Discussed Cyber Security
- Reviewed live Board and Committee meetings
- Discussed the Annual Deer Creek Law Enforcement/EMS meeting
- Reviewed Rancho Murieta Association's

### Security Committee

- Discussed Board Room Occupancy
- Discussed final disposition for issuance of County Citations
- Discussed Security Supervisor Recruitment
- Reviewed Status for live Board and Committee meetings
- Discussed Annual Deer Creek Law Enforcement/EMS meeting
- Reviewed Security Opinion Poll Timeline
- Received update on Contract Security Services RFP

### Finance Committee

- Discussed Reserve Special Board Meeting
- Reviewed CFD 2014-1 Bond
- Reviewed FY 2019-20 Annual Audit
- Discussed RFP for Financial System Enterprise Resource Program
- Reviewed Annual Budget with Capital Improvement Projects
- Reviewed revamping of monthly Finance Report
- Reviewed Security Service Opinion Poll Timeline

## SUMMER IS COMING, SO IS JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>

### USE THE FASTPASS SYSTEM FOR YOUR GUESTS

We have had huge success with the electronic FastPass program at the North Gate. Thank you to the residents that used this system.

We want to remind everyone that the FastPass system is a full-time system and is able to be used all year. Please use it. The check-in process for your guests takes a couple of seconds versus 30-45 seconds the regular way. We encourage all residents to use this new system all the time for their guests, and especially during major holidays when Rancho Murieta experiences more gate traffic than normal.

A reminder though, this system is only at the North Gate for Northside residents. It is not available on the South at this time. Please sign up for an account on [www.gateaccess.net](http://www.gateaccess.net), either the desktop or mobile version. From there you will be able to send your guests the FastPass.

We have set up additional lanes to check in Guests that are visiting the community for special events and will keep the website and Facebook page updated when we are expecting a extra traffic.

***Remember, don't leave valuables in you vehicles!***

## HOW TO CONTACT THE DISTRICT

Visit us on the web at [www.rmcsd.com](http://www.rmcsd.com)!

\*The District's Administration Office is located at: 15160 Jackson Road, Rancho Murieta

\*Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 1050, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683; Main Office: 916-354-3700

\*South Gate: 916-354-3743 **Contact the South Gate for after-hours water problems.**