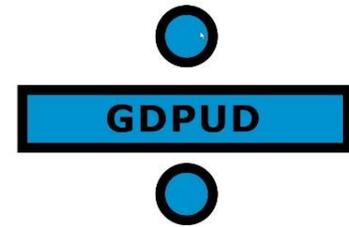


**REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2021**  
**AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.A.**



**AGENDA SECTION: NEW BUSINESS**

**SUBJECT: STAFF BRIEFING ON THE 2018 PUBLIC REVIEW OF IRRIGATION ORDINANCE 2005-01 AND REQUEST FOR BOARD DIRECTION**

**PREPARED BY:** Gloria Omania, Interim Board Clerk

**APPROVED BY:** Jeff Nelson, PE, Interim General Manager

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**BACKGROUND**

The Georgetown Divide Public Utility District (District) provides irrigation service to customers under rules and regulations adopted by Ordinance 2005-01 (**Attachment 1**). During the Board meeting on February 13, 2018, the Board expressed their desire to review and update the irrigation ordinance and directed the General Manager to bring back a plan for a process that would provide for customer input and staff analysis.

At the Board meeting of March 13, 2018, the Board approved the General Manager recommendation that Staff conduct a series of public workshops to gather input from the community, analyze their suggestions, and make recommendations to the Board on potential updates and changes to the Ordinance. The Board requested that Staff notice and facilitate the workshops according to the Brown Act to allow for full participation by the Board Members.

On August 14, 2018, the Board approved Staff's Irrigation Ordinance Update Plan which included two public workshops. The purpose of the first workshop was to educate and inform the participants about the Irrigation Ordinance, and to gather suggestions on changes for consideration by the Board.

Over 50 people participated in the first workshop held on September 20, 2018. Participants in the public process were offered three opportunities to provide input: (1) online survey; (2) public comments during workshop; (3) written comments submitted during Workshop #1 and to the District office. Staff presented the suggestions together with the corresponding Staff analysis during the second workshop. The goal of the Workshop #2 was to get direction from the Board on which suggestions to implement or analyze in more detail with the expectation that Staff would be able to draft an updated Irrigation Ordinance for the Board's consideration at a future meeting.

Included with this report are **Attachment 2** showing the responses to the survey and **Attachment 3** listing the verbal and written comments received during the 2018 public review process. **Attachment 4** is a summary of suggested changes to the Irrigation Ordinance.

**DISCUSSION**

The current Board requested a Staff briefing of the 2018 review of the Irrigation Ordinance through a public review process and to provide an update to determine what direction to give staff to complete the process or initiate a new one. **Attachment 5** of this report is a copy of the Power Point Staff presentation.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There are no costs associated with this process at this time.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors receive the information presented regarding the 2018 Public Review of the Irrigation Ordinance and provide direction to Staff.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Ordinance 2005-01
2. 2018 Survey Responses
3. Summary of 2018 Public Comments
4. Summary of Suggested Changes to the Irrigation Ordinances
5. Power Point Presentation, including Staff Analysis of Suggested Changes to Irrigation Ordinance 2005-01

Board Meeting of March 9, 2021

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9A

Attachment 1

Irrigation Ordinance 2005-1

ORDINANCE 2005-01

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING RULES AND REGULATIONS  
FOR IRRIGATION SERVICE IN THE GEORGETOWN DIVIDE  
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Directors of the GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT, County of El Dorado, State of California, as follows:

The rules and regulations for irrigation service within the GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT ("District") are adopted by the Board of Directors of said District as hereinafter set forth.

SECTION 1. General Conditions:

(a) Control of System: District Works shall be under exclusive control and management of District personnel duly appointed by the Board of Directors.

(b) The District shall not be liable for interruption, shortage or insufficiency of irrigation water supply, or for any loss or damage occasioned thereby.

(c) The District shall not be liable for damage to person or property resulting directly or indirectly from privately owned conduits, meters or measuring devices.

(d) Irrigation water is used at the customer's own risk and the customer agrees to hold the District, its officers and employees free and harmless from liability and damages that may occur as the result of defective water quality, shortages, fluctuation in flow or pressure, interruptions in service or for failure to deliver water.

(e) Pumping of water by the customer is done at the customer's risk. The District assumes no liability for damage to pumping equipment or other damages as a result of turbulent water, shortages, excess of water or other causes.

(f) No purchaser of water from the District acquires a proprietary or vested right by reason of use. No purchaser acquires a right to resell water or to use for a purpose other than that for which it

was applied nor to use it on premises other than indicated on the application. The terms, conditions, priorities and allocation of irrigation service may be altered and amended by the Board of Directors. The District does not guarantee irrigation service customers the right to future service.

(g) The District expressly asserts the right to recapture, reuse and resell all waters originating from District Works.

(h) Ditchtenders and other agents of the District shall have access to all lands irrigated from its water system and to all conduits for the purpose of inspection, examination, measurements, surveys or other necessary purposes of the District with the right of installation, maintenance, control and regulation of all meters and other measuring devices, gates, turnouts and other structures necessary or proper for the measurement and distribution of water.

(i) No bridges, crossing, pipe or other structures shall be placed in or over a canal without written permission of the District. Maintenance of the canal crossings shall not be the District's responsibility but shall rest with the owner of the crossing. Where the owner fails to maintain the crossing, the District may perform the necessary repairs or removal at the expense of the owner. Notice of the District's intent will be given, if possible, to the owner prior to the work commencing.

(j) No rubbish, garbage, refuse, chemicals or animal matter from any source may be placed in or allowed to be emptied into any ditch, canal or reservoir of the District.

(k) District canals or reservoirs shall not be used for swimming or bathing.

(l) Livestock shall not be permitted to contaminate the water supply nor destroy or damage the canal system or use thereof. Property owners are liable for any damage due to livestock.

(m) No conveyance system shall cause a cross connection with the District's water system with any other source of water.

(n) No buildings, corrals or other structures, fences, trees, lines or bushes shall be permitted upon rights-of-way or use thereof be made in any way except by written authority of the District. Construction of

fences and/or gates is not permitted without written approval of the specifications by the General Manager.

(o) Violation of Rules and Regulations: Failure to comply with rules and regulations of the District shall be sufficient cause for terminating irrigation service as determined by the Board of Directors.

(p) Any person dissatisfied with any determination of the District management shall have the right to appeal to the Board of Directors.

(q) Amendments: The Board of Directors of the District may at their discretion alter, amend or add to these rules and regulations. The Board of Directors will follow applicable laws during this process.

## SECTION 2. Application for an Irrigation Service Account:

(a) No irrigation service will be rendered until a complete application for an Irrigation Service Account has been approved and is on file at the office of the District. Applications will be accepted between January 1<sup>st</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> for the impending irrigation season. The application for service shall state that the customer agrees to abide by the terms and conditions for service as established in the Irrigation Ordinance.

(b) Applications will be approved where the District Works have sufficient capacity to meet service requested. Applications will be considered for approval utilizing the following priority system:

- Priority 1. Applications for Irrigation Service to parcels that received irrigation service during the immediate past irrigation season.
- Priority 2. Applications for Irrigation Service to parcels with the most recent active Irrigation Service Account during the previous ten (10) irrigation seasons
- Priority 3. New applications for irrigation service to parcels that have been made after the 2003 irrigation season with priority established by the earliest season applied for. Applications and priority are specific to the section of ditch the parcel is located near.

Competing applications within the same priority level, will be determined by public lottery.

(c) Applications for an increase to service will receive Priority 3 status for the requested increase.

(d) Applications must in all cases be signed by the holder of title to the property requesting irrigation service. If the property requesting irrigation service is leased, two months of charges must be paid in advance. The landowner of leased property shall be responsible for all charges or assessments.

(e) Applications for an Irrigation Service Account to benefit a parcel of land that is not adjacent to the District Works must be accompanied by a legally recorded easement that allows the conveyance of water to the parcel requesting irrigation service. The easement shall grant the District the right of ingress and egress for inspection, installation and maintenance purposes.

(f) New applications for Out-of-District Irrigation Service Accounts will not be approved by the Board of Directors. An existing Out-of-District Irrigation Service Account that is inactive for two or more years will be deleted from the District's accounts and the service will be permanently removed.

### SECTION 3. Distribution of Water:

(a) The irrigation season shall generally be from May 1 through October 1 of each year. The Board of Directors shall consider changes to the irrigation season to respond to climactic conditions and may implement such changes by a majority vote.

(b) The District does not guarantee irrigation water under pressure from the District Works. Pressure requirements of the customer are the sole responsibility of the customer and the District shall not be liable for any damage to equipment used to provide pressure to the customer.

(c) Water is distributed under continuous flow. Water must be used continuously during all days and nights including holidays and Sundays and no allowances shall be made for failure to use water when it is made available. Failure to use water on schedule shall not entitle the customer to any rebate.

(d) Irrigation service is provided for the entire irrigation season. Customers shall pay for irrigation service for the entire irrigation season regardless of their interest or ability to use water.

(e) When interruptions to irrigation service due to failure of the District Works extend beyond five (5) days, proportionate adjustments for such water loss will be made.

(f) Irrigation customers shall pay a proportionate amount for irrigation service when the irrigation season is extended or shortened by the Board of Directors.

(g) Unauthorized connections or the taking of water in an amount greater than applied and paid for, by any means, is a misdemeanor under California Penal Code Section 498 and shall be subject to criminal prosecution under Section 498 and any other applicable laws. In addition, the District may bring a civil action for damages and may refuse future service to the parcel.

(h) Irrigation customers shall prevent any unnecessary or wasteful use of water. Should a customer permit wasteful use of water, the District may discontinue service if such condition is not corrected within five (5) days after giving the parcel owner written notice of intention to terminate service.

(i) No more than one parcel shall be served through each Irrigation Service Account except with the prior written approval of the Board of Directors. Any such approval shall be recorded against each parcel with the caveat that the agreement expires upon any change of ownership. Each Irrigation Service Account shall have independent service lines and sumps.

(j) The minimum irrigation service for each Irrigation Service Account shall be one miner's inch, from the open ditch system, and one-half miner's inch from the irrigation pipeline system. In the future, the District may consider reducing the minimum irrigation service to one-half miner's inch from the open ditch system and one-quarter miner's inch from the irrigation pipeline system.

(k) All pumped services shall utilize a sump provided by the customer and acceptable to the District.

(l) All Irrigation Service Accounts must have an appropriate measuring device which shall be installed by the District. The customer shall pay the cost thereof including costs of installation. The District shall approve the location of the measuring device.

(m) Customers receiving irrigation service who request a change in flow rate during the season shall be charged a fee set by the Board of Directors for the adjustment.

(n) Replacement of measuring devices shall be at the expense of the customer if the replacement is necessary due to abnormal wear or abuse.

(o) Alternate Boxes -The Board of Directors shall not approve any new applications for Alternate Boxes.

(p) Unusual costs incurred by the District to provide irrigation service shall be paid in full by the applicant or customer. An estimate of the expense shall be approved by the property owner prior to work commencing.

#### SECTION 4. Charges, Rates and Billings:

(a) The District will maintain a uniform rate schedule which may be changed from time to time upon action of the Board of Directors. The rate schedule, by reference, is attached hereto and made a part of these rules and regulations.

(b) Irrigation billings are made bi-monthly (every two months) in advance.

(c) All penalties shall be charged as outlined on the billings

(d) Disconnected irrigation service accounts shall pay a fee to re-establish service

(e) Irrigation service accounts requesting verification of flow will pay a fee if the delivered flow is within 10% of the contracted amount

#### SECTION 5. REPEAL

(a) Upon the effective date of this Ordinance 2005-\_\_ all previously adopted Ordinances pertinent to the Rules and Regulations for

Irrigation Service will be superceded and repealed, including, but not limited to, Ordinance 79-2, 79-8, 87-1, and 04-01.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regularly held meeting of the Board of Directors of the GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT this tenth day of May, 2005.

AYES: Bob Diekon, Norman Krizl, Doug Pickell, JoAnn Shepherd and Hy Vitcov

NOES: None

ABSENT: None



\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Diekon, President  
Board of Directors  
GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

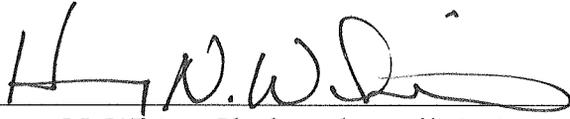
ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Henry N. White, Clerk and ex officio  
Secretary, Board of Directors  
GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

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I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of Ordinance 2005-01 duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District, El Dorado County, California, at a meeting duly held on the tenth day of May, 2005.



Henry N. White, Clerk and ex officio Secretary of the  
Georgetown Divide Public Utility District

Board Meeting of March 9, 2021

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9A

Attachment 2

2018 Survey Results

**2018 SURVEY ON IRRIGATION ORDINANCE**

**SURVEY RESPONSES (41 total responses received)**

1	How long have you been an irrigation customer	Responses	%
Answer Choices	Not a current irrigation customer	3	7.32%
	Less than 6 months	0	0.00%
	1 year to less than 3 years	4	9.76%
	3 years to less than 5 years	2	4.88%
	5 years or more	31	75.61%
	Skipped question	1	2.44%
	Total	41	100.00%
2	How much irrigation water are you currently allocated?	Responses	%
Answer Choices	None	3	7.32%
	1/2 miner's inch	8	19.51%
	1 miner's inch	20	48.78%
	1.5 miner's inch	1	2.44%
	2 miner's inch	7	17.07%
	2.5 to 4 miner's inch	1	2.44%
	5 miner's inch	0	0.00%
	6 to 10 miner's inch	1	2.44%
	More than 10 miner's inch	0	0.00%
	Skipped question	0	0.00%
	Total	41	100.00%
3		Responses	%
Answer Choices	Pasture	15	28.85%
	Animals/Stock	7	13.46%
	Orchard, Garden, Other	30	57.69%
	Skipped question	0	0.00%
Total	52	100.00%	
4	How satisfied are you overall with your service?	Responses	%
Answer Choices	Do not have irrigation Service	3	7.32%
	Very satisfied	7	17.07%
	Satisfied	17	41.46%
	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	4	9.76%
	Dissatisfied	4	9.76%
	Very dissatisfied	3	7.32%
	Skipped question	3	7.32%
Total	41	100.01%	
5	Do you have any suggestions for improving the irrigation service? (18 responses)		
	my issue is the cost of irrigation water		
	Allow for half inch rates for current customers. The water flows good and the ditch levels are pretty consistent.		
	Yes, repair leaks, install pipes and secure water. Make sure that users bear the cost of the service.		
	Maybe fix the leaks and stop people from getting free irrigation.		
	Maintainwater level high enough in ditch so that it is always available. This year has been great.		
	I am satisfied with the service but extremely disappointed in the board decision to increase the rates so high without being able to present a plan of what they are going to do with the additional funds. There was talk of what they are thinking of doing but no actual plan.		
	Spread the payments out across the year		

	Stop people from taking water illegally
	No.
	Obviously wish we could figure out a way to pipe it. Then I'd only need 1/2 inch.
	Lower the monthly rates
	This response is for both potable and irrigation waters, the district must have a way to stop the overflowing of the ditches especially during storm related times and times of repairs to the ditches and adjacent lands. You have demonstrated that this is possible as demonstrated by your Emergency Ditch work at the beginning and of the previous month gunite work of this month, the depositing of the many discharges to adjacent customer lands impacts must be controlled to prevent these discharges from impacting public state and federal properties including District Facilitiles by using additional settling pods, and other methods that will controlling the silt and sedimentation from mpacting downstream properties and waterways of the state and federal lands.
	Stop the leaks on my property...it is doing damage.
	GDPUD should be responsible for making sure that the water is not blocked by debris in the ditch.
	Clean the ditches out on a regular basis, like they did years ago by hand. You now have equipment to help, use it!
	Mid-May to Mid-October as service timeframe?
	My ag water was put in long before ALT was even constructed. I feel like I am now subsidizing the expanded public water system. Isn't fair.
	No
	Have flexibility on start/end date of irrigation season depending on late rainy season, Stumpy's levels, etc.
	Yes - pipe as much as possible/practical. 1) If gunnite is only solution use welded wire or rebar reinforcement --Fibermesh is not reinforcement. Unreinforced gunnite is ruined by livestock and tree roots and equipment. 2) Newsletter (quarterly) - show costs and revenues; honor "Employee of the Quarter"; tips for customers (i.e. settig up a holding/sediment tank) - customer ranch photos; surplus equipment for sale... 3) Roll Back - hold at \$154/mi. for 3 years then at \$308/m.i. if necessary) 4) Hydro generation - Goals
	Pipe the canals. Filter some portion of irrigation water.
	Maybe filter the piped water? Adjust the time period of irrigation according to the season. Reduce the rates to reduce fire danger so more customrs can afford irrigaiton water. As you can see-- subscribers are down from 2017.
	Send renewal notice to each customer to get a yes or no for the same service as the previous year.
	Improve customer service, clean the ditches and extend season. Lower the rates!! Why aren't true costs posted on the website?
	Extend season thru Oct (6 month season) when water is available.
	Yes. Spread the prop 218 increase over 10 years rathern than 5 years. The project costs presented last year were "WAG's" and not supported by actual engineering and construction estimates.
	Section 3, item g is useless if you won't enforce it. My property was on wait list 10+ years waiting for water to be available before I got water. May enforcement of 3g would be a benefit.
	Spread billing over 12 months. Extend season through October.

		Use drones to check ditches for damage, repairs, and water theft; could eliminate some payroll, benefits & CalPERS. Allow paid for water to be used off parcel to help protect against wildfires. Give payment options to users with the 100% extreme fee increase. Irrigation service dollars used only to maintain canals not treatment plants treated water user dollars to be used for both. We receive no benefits of treated water still must use wells.		
		Skipped question	4	
6		The application process was simple, and the form was easy to complete.		
	Answer Choices	Strongly agree	7	17.07%
		Agree	12	29.27%
		Neither agree nor disagree	12	29.27%
		Disagree	1	2.44%
		Strongly disagree	1	2.44%
		Skipped question	8	19.51%
			Total	41
7		How would you improve the application process?		
		Don't understand this question - application process for what?		
		Doesn't apply. I have no idea what this question is for? Application for wat??		
		Have my parcel # prefilled as I give it to you every year. I have more than one parcel and need to look it up each time.		
		haven't had to apply, just renew each year, seems fine. Online would be nice.		
		so long ago I really do not remember but I think it was easy.		
		computerize the applications		
		I've been a customer so long I don't remember a process.		
		Wouldn't		
		Provide a way to give input by the public on each and every question including files and pictures, not just what the District puts down. How can you separate the Ditch water that is a mutual use facility/ There is not any reasoning, or project description for this survey given by the District, a Nexis on the way or who requested this survey is required as a possible decision that may be controlled by the Clean Watr Act and/or NEPA and CEQA California Environmental Quality Act. notice of intent and additional relevant CEQA guidelines. The current Irrigation Ordinance must e at the beginning of the survey so the public can reference this document. There must be a clear understanding and definition of the Present Rules and Regulations as different methods have been used by the District as it chooses on any particular day/season.		
		Make it online and not needed if the service doesn't change.		
		Not sure-ben a customer since the later 1970's.		
		NA I applied over 30 years ago		
		Na		
		We rent from the account holder, so did not participate in the application process, but we are the		
		Communicate to new customer - costs for installation of "weir" or other measuring device is their 1 time expense.		
		Roll over year to year customers.		
		Not applicable. System was installed and entirely paid for by neighborhood and hundreds of hours of labor by neighbors. One year later turned over to GDPUD - one plus mile of pipe and two reducing stations - Rt 86.		
		Skipped question		
8		The current Irrigation Ordinance is fair and reasonable.		
	oices	Strongly agree	4	9.76%
		Agree	9	21.95%

	Answer Ch	Neither agree nor disagree	9	21.95%
		Disagree	6	14.63%
		Strongly disagree	4	9.76%
		Skipped question	9	21.95%
			Total	41
9		What changes would you make to the Ordinance?		
		Extend the irrigation season through October. Provide an option to spread the payments over a full year.		
		Need to see the ordinance.		
		Current and proposed rates are extremely high. Evaluate a rate reduction. Allow small low use customers the option of 1/2 inch of water service.		
		None		
		I don't know what the ordinance is. I have received notices about changes but nothing that states the ordinance		
		How would I know...I don't see the Ordinance!		
		I have to Strongly Disagree because you have not explained what the "irrigation Ordinance" is.		
		Not sure what the ordinance is???		
		new water rate is too high and is slated to go much higher. Keep rate the same ow or lower which I know will not happen.		
		none		
		lower cost		
		Would help to have had the ordinance published prior to this.		
		Lower monthly rates		
		A copy of the Ordinance must be included in this Survey, before truly meaningfl tatements can be made to enable survey participants to respond to this statement.		
		A lien should be applied 90 days after a bill was due. Not based on a government fiscal year.		
		Give other options to pay. Lower the prices.		
		Haven't seen current ordinance.		
		Cost of ag water is way too much. Seasonal limitations put into place 15 years ago were bad enough. Cost increases are ridiculous.		
		None		
		1) Have protocol in place for dealing with stolen water. 2) Clarify who is allowed to walk on GDPUD easements through Private Property (so homeowners/residents have something to refer to when people (general public) use the ditch easement as a walking path). 3) Please ban the use of pesticides/herbicides on the GDPUD easement -- by workers or the people who maintain personal property. There are people who try to garden as organically as possible, and use it for livestock (we use it for gardening, and would consider doing it for livestock, except for possibility of pesticide/herbicide contamination.		
		Section 1(f) - Allow sharing with neighbors - not for profit/one parcel # billing/paying. Section 1(g) - District not to resell off Divide; Section 1(l) No livestock allowed (cattle, horses, llamas, alpacas); Section 1(?) - 1st written notice by Board - then "failure to comply" termination; Section 3(c) - change "must be" to "may be used..." 24/7; Section 3(i) - Allow sharing w/neighbors (similar to 1(f) - not for rofit by customer; Section 3(l) - Costs for measuring devide is paid by customer initially upgraded devices are exense of GDPUD; Section 4(b) - voluntary pre pay year round is acceptable.		
		Ordinance is old and need to simplify as necessary.		
		Allow adjoining parcels owned by one customer to be irrigated with owner's existing allocation, even though the water may be assigned to only one of the parcels (without apply for Board permission).		

	<p>Somewhere in it there should be some guidelines as to the pay structure and expenses of the district personnel, its benefits, CalPERS, etc. Perhaps something about outsourcing some of the canal maintenance and repairs to cut down on those ongoing expenses. Perhaps investigate drone use-- seems to work well for other government agencies.</p>
	<p>It would be helpful to specify what happens when a property is sold which has irrigation water, does the same right to the water transfer from the old owner to the new owner automatically? Hank White told me several years ago the right to the water did indeed transfer to the new owner and I assume that is demonstrated by the priority system for approval of applications - Priority 1 Application for irrigation service to parcels that received irrigation service during the immediate past irrigation season. The assume the key word is parcel not property owner.</p>
10	How do you think this change will improve the irrigation services?
	The hot summer weather is lasting well into the fall. Some customers might find alternate payment options easier to budget.
	reducing cost will allow more people to utilize irrigation water.
	Revenue will be gained. Revenues were lost this year because the new higher charges for irrigation water forced many customers to reduce or stop their irrigation water purchases.
	N/A
	?
	we will be able to afford the water.
	I don't know what the change being proposed is.
	Haven't yet seen the proposed ordinance.
	Lower monthly rates
	Unknown without the additional information that should be in this survey. Purpose of this study must be given and the potential impacts that may occur.
	It won't. It will just piss off more customers.
	Not sure which "change" you are referring to here. If it's regarding my suggestion to move the service dates, I would say that this will help bridge the water a little later into the Fire season.
	Great already.
	1) There will be a mechanism in place that will make it easier to address theft of water, so ongoing issues can be curtailed more promptly and we (people who live next to the ditch) don't have to maintain as high a level of vigilance because of people cutting through this property to access the GDPD ditch to steal water. 2) This would give residents greater credibility where general public use of the ditch trail has caused privacy or safety concerns. 3) This would reduce the likelihood of pesticide/herbicides making it into the ag water that people use for food and livestock.
	- Sharing will promote more green hence reduce wildfire potential (Section 1(f) & 3(i); --Livestock (i.e. cattle & horses, llama, alpaca = accelerated erosion; Measuring device - should only be initial expense to new customers; Prepay - allows budgeting new rates - year round.P70
	Added money for new customers to system.
	It will help to level out fluctuations in flow at various points. It will help the property owner with fire protection. It would eliminate the Board approval step. Some Board members have acted in a punitive or negative way to some requests...depending on who submitted it.
	At some point in time GDPUD must look at ways to control ongoing expenses for the costs and retirements of all employees past and future.

**Board Meeting of March 9, 2021**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 9A**

**Attachment 3**

**Public Comments**

**Board Meeting of March 9, 2021**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 9A**

**Attachment 3**

**Public Comments**

**2018 REVIEW OF IRRIGATION ORDINANCE  
SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Pertains to</b>
Use irrigation service dollars only to maintain canals not treatment plants. Use treated water dollars for both.	Budget
Outsource some of the canal maintenance and repairs to cut down on those ongoing expenses. Perhaps investigate drone use--seems to work well for other government agencies.	Budget/Maintenance
Pipe as much as possible	CIP
Pipe the canals. Filter some portion of irrigation water.	CIP
Improve customer service.	Customer Service
Hydro generation - Goals	Hydro
Stop the overflowing of the ditches especially during storms and during repairs to the ditches and adjacent lands to prevent impacts to public state and federal properties by using additional settling ponds, and other methods that control the silt and sedimentation from impacting downstream properties and waterways of state and federal lands.	Maintenance
Stop the leaks on my property...it is doing damage.	Maintenance
GDPUD should be responsible for making sure that the water is not blocked by debris in the ditch.	Maintenance
Clean the ditches out on a regular basis, like they did years ago by hand. You now have equipment to help, use it!	Maintenance
If gunnite is only solution, use welded sere or rebar reinforcement. Fibermesh is not reimbursement.	Maintenance
Clean ditches	Maintenance
Use drones to check ditches for damage, repairs, and water theft (could eliminate some payroll, benefits & CalPers).	Maintenance
Obviously wish we could figure out a way to pipe it. Then I'd only need 1/2 inch.	Pipe Ditches
Quarterly Newsletter -- show costs and revenues; honor "Employee of the Quarter;" tips for customers (i.e. setting up a holding/sediment tank); customer ranch photos; surplus equipment for sale...	Public Information
Post costs on website.	Public Information
Repair leaks, install pipes and secure water. Make sure that users bear the cost of the service.	Repairs
Fix the leaks.	Repairs
Allow sharing with neighbors, not for profit/one parcel # billing/paying.	Section 1(f)
Allow sharing with neighbors, not for profit.	Section 1(f)
District not to resell off Divide.	Section 1(g)
Clarify who is allowed to walk on GDPUD easements through private property so homeowners/residents have something to refer to when people (general public) use the ditch easement as a walking path)	Section 1(h)
Ban the use of pesticides/herbicides on the GDPUD easement -- by workers or the people who maintain personal property. There are people who try to garden as organically as possible, and use it for livestock (we use it for gardening, and would consider doing it for livestock, except for possibility of pesticide/herbicide contamination.	Section 1(j)
No livestock allowed (cattle, horses, llamas, alpacas)	Section 1(l)

1st written notice by Board, then "failure to comply" termination.	Section 1(o)
Send renewal notice to each customer to get a yes or no for the same service as the previous year.	Section 2
Fill in parcel # on renewal applications.	Section 2
Online applications would be nice.	Section 2
Computerize applications	Section 2
Make it online and not needed if the service doesn't change.	Section 2
Roll over year to year customers.	Section 2
Clarify that when property is sold, irrigation service transfers from the old property owner to the new property owner automatically. The Ordinance indicates application for irrigation service is to parcel, not property owner.	Section 2(b)
Mid-May to Mid-October as service timeframe?	Section 3(a)
Have flexibility on start/end date of irrigation season depending on late rainy season, Stumpy's levels, etc.	Section 3(a)
Adjust the time period of irrigation according to the season.	Section 3(a)
Extend season	Section 3(a)
Extend season thru Oct (6 month season) when water is available.	Section 3(a)
Extend the irrigation season through October. Provide an option to spread the payments over a full year.	Section 3(a)
Stop people from getting free irrigation.	Section 3(g)
Stop people from taking water illegally	Section 3(g)
Section 3, item g is useless if you won't enforce it. My property was on wait list 10+ years waiting for water to be available before I got water. May enforcement of 3g would be a benefit.	Section 3(g)
Have protocol in place for dealing with stolen water.	Section 3(g)
Allow paid for water to be used off parcel to help protect against wildfires.	Section 3(i)
Allow adjoining parcels owned by one customer to be irrigated with owner's existing allocation, even though the water may be assigned to only one of the parcels (without having to apply for Board permission).	Section 3(i)
Allow for half inch rates for current customers. The water flows good and the ditch levels are pretty consistent.	Section 3(j)
Cost for measuring device paid by customer initially, upgraded devices are expense of GDPUD	Section 3(l)
Communicate to new customer - costs for installation of "weir" or other measuring device is their one-time expense.	Section 3(n)
Change "must be" to "may be used"	Section 3c
My issue is the cost of irrigation water	Section 4(a)
I am satisfied with the service but extremely disappointed in the board decision to increase the rates so high without being able to present a plan of what they are going to do with the additional funds. There was talk of what they are thinking of doing but no actual plan.	Section 4(a)
Lower the monthly rates	Section 4(a)
My ag water was put in long before ALT was even constructed. I feel like I am now subsidizing the expanded public water system. Isn't fair.	Section 4(a)
Roll back. Hold at \$154/MI for 3 years, then at \$308/MI if necessary.	Section 4(a)
Reduce rates to reduce fire danger so more customers can afford irrigation water. As you can see, subscribers are down from 2017.	Section 4(a)

Yes. Spread the prop 218 increase over 10 years rather than 5 years. The project costs presented last year were "WAG's" and not supported by actual engineering and construction estimates.	Section 4(a)
Current and proposed rates are extremely high. Evaluate a rate reduction. Allow small low use customers the option of 1/2 inch of water service.	Section 4(a)
new water rate is too high and is slated to go much higher. Keep rate the same ow or lower which I know will not happen.	Section 4(a)
Lower cost	Section 4(a)
Lower monthly rates	Section 4(a)
Cost of ag water is way too much. Seasonal limitations put into place 15 years ago were bad enough. Cost increases are ridiculous.	Section 4(a)
Spread the payments out across the year	Section 4(b)
Spread billing over 12 months. Extend season through October.	Section 4(b)
Give payment options to users with 100% extreme fee increase.	Section 4(b)
A lien should be applied 90 days after a bill was due. Not based on a government fiscal year.	Section 4(b)
Give other options to pay. Lower the prices.	Section 4(b)
Allow for pre-pay year round.	Section 4(b)
Filter the piped water.	Treatment Process
Maintain water level high enough in ditch so that it is always available. This year has been great.	Water Level