

Hello MEWA Members and happy 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2023!

We have some updates and news to share so let's get right to it:

**1. NEW Board Members & Roles:** At our July annual meeting, Chris Brandewie and Paul Terranova were elected as MEWA Board members in anticipation of outgoing President Nick Neelan stepping down and Executive Director Jeff Johnson moving to Wisconsin. At our subsequent September board meeting, Chris and Paul accepted Vice President and President positions respectively. Chris is an Army veteran, served in the Peace Corps and now water/wastewater operator and engineer consulting for small water systems. He lives in the Denver area with his Brazilian wife and enjoys park time with his son, mountain biking, most snow sports and is building a cabin with his brother Todd in Pan-Ark. Paul is also an Army veteran and civil engineer with experience managing transportation projects and programs of all sizes. He and his dietician wife Meredith have two very active German shorthair pointer dogs Starr and Banksy. Paul enjoys trail running, biking, lake time, skiing and picking up trash (and there's PLENTY of it in Lake County). In Jeff's absence, our longest serving Board member & Secretary Lora Flinn will be assuming membership/certificate duties. Welcome guys, thank you Lora, and we will miss you Nick and Jeff! Thank you all in advance for your patience as we get our new Board members up to speed and distribute the multiple MEWA hats that Jeff wore for many years.

**2. WATER METER PICKUPS/INSTALLS:** We are still transitioning to usage billing in 2024 so if you have not done so already, please pickup and install a water meter before the end of the year. Please contact Board member Brent Groenke at [brent.groenke@yahoo.com](mailto:brent.groenke@yahoo.com) and he will also provide you names of installers if you need one. We will be testing out the meter reading equipment this fall and getting baseline water meter readings in early January.

**3. 2024 BILLING:**

-Certificate holders **with no water use** will receive a bill for their yearly membership fee in the amount of \$360-\$400 (exact amount TBD) in early January.

-Certificate holders **with residential water service and a water meter installed** will start receiving quarterly bills in early January for the quarterly portion of their yearly membership fee (\$360-\$400/yr) PLUS usage fees starting in early April. \*We anticipate total yearly costs for members using less than 32,000 gal/year (which represents our decreed augmentation plan of 90 gal/day) to be equal to or less than the previous \$690/\$710 yearly fee. Subsequent quarterly bills will be sent out in April, July & September.

-Certificate holders **with residential water service and no water meter installed** will start receiving quarterly bills in early January for the quarterly portion of their yearly membership fee (\$360-\$400/yr) PLUS usage fees starting in early April. \*\*However, we anticipate total yearly costs for members without water meters to be significantly higher than the previous \$690/\$710 yearly fee. Without knowing what your actual usage is, we will assume higher usage and charge accordingly. Subsequent quarterly bills will be sent out in April, July & September.

**4. AQUA-FLO Freeze Protection units:** Hopefully you had a chance to see the demonstration unit at the Ross Wellhouse this summer that was on loan from Parkville Water District in Leadville. MEWA is taking delivery of 10 Aqua-Flo units <http://www.groupwd.com/wd-aquaflo> this month. Member cost will be around \$1800 and thank you to longtime Board member Steve Kearn for securing us bulk utility pricing. We anticipate this being a one-time MEWA bulk

purchase and can't guarantee that future member costs will remain unchanged. Please contact Brent Groenke at [brent.groenke@yahoo.com](mailto:brent.groenke@yahoo.com) for more information and to pay/take delivery of your unit.

5. **FREE WOOD:** MEWA asked our waterline contractor Werderitch (they also do road maintenance and snow plowing on behalf of the Metro District) to clean up felled trees from recent waterline work into manageable-sized logs that are being stored at the Pavilion rather than it all going to the dump. These logs are being offered to MEWA members with accounts in good standing and water meters picked up/installed (if you are unsure of your account status please email [mewawater@gmail.com](mailto:mewawater@gmail.com) ). A couple of other ground rules:

-MEWA members only at this time. Please email [mewawater@gmail.com](mailto:mewawater@gmail.com) to let us know you are interested.

-For residential use only, not for firewood resale. Please take it to your property to cut/split it to size, we don't want all the noise concentrated in the Pavilion area.

-Grab 'n go, don't take it all. A reasonable amount at this time would be enough to fill a normal pickup bed or small trailer. If there is leftover wood after this first round we will open it up for second helpings.

-Be safe, don't get hurt. MEWA is not liable if you do get injured.

-Please leave the area cleaner than you found it, don't leave a mess.

-If this goes well, then hopefully we can do something similar in the future!

THANK YOU and please reach out to [mewawater@gmail.com](mailto:mewawater@gmail.com) with any questions/comments/concerns!

-your MEWA Board