



H₂O PIPELINE

Summer 2018

A PUBLICATION OF LA HABRA HEIGHTS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

WATER RATE INCREASE

Transparency is crucial to create clear communication with our customers. In this effort the Board held a water rate hearing on March 20, 2018.

At the hearing the Board expressed its main concerns of maintaining and improving your high-quality water system, especially fire protection, while balancing the costs to you.

Results of this hearing and based on the January 2018 water rate study by Raftelis Financial Consultants Inc. supported an increase to rates for fiscal year 2018/19, effective July 1, 2018, by approximately 7% due to rising costs of purchased water and electricity.

Water purchases and electricity are the highest costs to the District's budget. These costs are set by vendors outside of our control.

- **Electricity costs increase annually on average 6%.**
- **Purchased water costs increase annually on average 8%.**
- **Your water rates are the lowest in the local area.**

The Board evaluates water rates every year and strives to keep water rates low. With rising water and electricity costs, the Board voted to increase rates by 7% to cover these rising costs. A survey of local area water rates shows our District continues to have the lowest commodity rate and the second lowest overall rates in the region.

CONTINUING IMPROVEMENTS

The District keeps at least 6 months of cash flow for emergency reserves. The District also keeps reserves to pay for improvements to your water system. Over the next 10 years, \$6.0 million of capital improvements are proposed to be made to our water system as described in the 2015 Master Plan.

For more information please visit the District's website www.lhhcwd.com.

Mission of the District

To provide high quality potable water service at a reasonable cost to the public residing within the District boundaries.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Perumean, *President*
Pam McVicar, *Vice President*
Karen Baroldi, *Director*
Brad Cooke, *Director*
Robert Wilson, *Director*



LA HABRA HEIGHTS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

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MICHELLE ABUD AND DALE SNOOKS CELEBRATE 15 YEARS WITH DISTRICT

Michelle Abud, Management Assistant/Accountant, and Utility Worker I, Dale Snooks, celebrate 15 years of service with the District.



Ms. Abud initially started at the District as an Account Clerk, then was promoted to her current position. She provides support for every employee at the District, which makes for a busy day. While working she attained her Bachelor of Science in Business and Master of Science in Accountancy. The Board presented her with a certificate and pin at the Board of Directors meeting on May 22, 2018

Ms. Abud enjoys vacationing and spending time with her close knit family. She lives in La Mirada with her husband, Jaime and son, Michael.

Mr. Snooks and his family have a long history with the District as his father, Neil Snooks, worked over 30 years for the District. Dale Snooks has been a consistent and competent employee. He fills the gaps for the District by having long-term experience to pass on to new employees. As an appreciation for his years of service he was presented with a certificate and pin at the Board of Directors meeting on July 24, 2018.

Dale enjoys camping and spending time with his family and friends. He lives in Buena Park with his wife, Diane, and has two daughters, Casey and Kelley.



L-R: Darryl Silva, Matthew Cerda, Michelle Savage, Ivan Ramirez

NEW DISTRICT STAFF

District has hired four Utility Workers to replace the four outgoing employees as follows:

Ivan Ramirez, Utility Worker II, previously worked for City of Tustin and City of La Habra. He attained his Water Treatment 2 and Water Distribution 4 certificate. Mr. Ramirez comes to us with 9 years of experience in the water industry. He lives in Fullerton with his wife Susana.

Michelle Savage, Utility Worker I, began her water industry career at City of La Habra. She attained a Water Treatment 2 and Water Distribution 2 certificate. Ms. Savage lives in La Habra with her husband, Grant Krause and two sons, Morgan and Cody.

Darryl Silva, Utility Worker I, gained experience in the water industry at Golden State Water Company. Mr. Silva attained his Water Distribution 1 certificate. He lives in La Habra with his wife, Jaqueline, and two sons, Caleb and Titus.

Matthew Cerda, Utility Worker I, gained four years of water industry experience while at City of La Habra. He attained his Water Treatment 2 and Water Distribution 2 certificate. Mr. Cerda lives in Whittier.