

**Are you receiving duplicate mailings of our newsletters?**

If you are receiving duplicate mailings of the El Valle Newsletter, i.e.: similar address with different names, OR, a newsletter going to each spouse, at the same address, etc... , please call our office at (575) 751-1700 so that we may correct our mailing list in order to avoid excess printing and mailing of our quarterly newsletter. *Thank you!*

**El Valle Office Hours**

*We are open:*

Monday through Thursday,  
8:30— 4:30 pm;  
Fridays,  
8:30—2:30 pm.

(Open through the noon hour Mon.— Fri.)

**Phase 3A Water Project Put on Hold**

The Water Trust Board did not award the District a loan/grant which would have funded the construction of Phase 3A Water Project in Llano Quemado.

El Valle had applied for an award of \$1,432,000 to construct Phase 3A, which would be the first phase of the District's Water Project. This project is in collaboration with the Llano Quemado Mutual Domestic Water Consumers' Association.

El Valle will re-evaluate and submit an application for these funds in the next application cycle at the end of 2012.

This project is fully designed, is shovel ready and we hope to move forward with it in the future.



**Makes You Think, Doesn't It?**

“About half of the water used in New Mexico comes from aquifers—those underground geological strata that will yield water readily to wells. Annual groundwater depletions have increased from less than a half million acre-feet in 1940 to one million acre-feet in 1965 to about 1.4 million acre-feet in 1990.<sup>38</sup> More significantly, 90 percent of New Mexico's population uses groundwater for its drinking water.<sup>39</sup> This is the highest percentage anywhere in the western United States and the fourth highest in the United States.<sup>40</sup> While there is a huge amount of groundwater in the state (thought to be around 20 billion acre-feet), only one-fourth of that is relatively fresh water.<sup>41</sup>”

Excerpt taken from “Taking Charge of Our Water Destiny: A Water Management Policy Guide for New Mexico in the 21st Century” by Alletta Belin, Consuelo Bokum and Frank Titus, c2002.

A copy is available for review at our office.

**Local Water Law Expert Dies**

Fred Waltz, local water law attorney passed away on April 24, 2012. He was instrumental in the adjudication of the Abeyta Water Rights Settlement approved by Congress in December of 2010.

Mr Waltz represented acequia users throughout Northern New Mexico for many years. The Board of Directors of the District appreciate his contribution to the citizens of Northern New Mexico.

**2012 NM Legislature awards District Capital Outlay funding of \$50,000 for Construction of Phase 2C**

Thank you, Governor Susanna Martinez for the Capital Outlay Award of \$50,000 to the District.

We thank our State Senators Carlos R. Cisneros, and Phil A. Griego, and State Representatives Roberto ‘Bobby’ J. Gonzales and Nick L. Salazar for sponsoring this appropriation.

These monies will fund the construction of one of the following two extensions of the sewer trunk line within Phase 2C:

- 1) Along NM Hwy 68 from south entrance of Post Office for 744 ft. to East Camino Abajo de la Loma, OR
- 2) Along the greenbelt below Valerio Road from 10 ft. up / south of the Old Santa Fe Rd., east for 693 ft.

Either option listed above will provide a much needed service to residences and businesses in the area.

**In case of backup or blockage of sewer service, contact the office at 751-1700. If the blockage occurs after hours, call Ivan Valerio at 770-6367.**

**New Option for Backflow Prevention**

El Valle's Project Manager would like to inform potential new and existing customers of a new product that allows for easy biannual maintenance of their backflow prevention valve.

We have assembled a model for examination at the District office. Please feel free to come and see it.

**El Valle de Los Ranchos  
Water and Sanitation District**

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**STAFF**

- Melene Montañó, Business Manager
- Sandra Gonzales, Administrative Assistant
- Ivan Valerio, Project Manager

**UP-COMING BOARD MEETINGS**

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

(Board Meeting followed by Public Hearing,  
6 pm, at Llano Quemado Community Center)

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Wednesday, August 8, 2012

All regular meetings are held at 3:00 p.m. at the District Office located at #8 Miranda Canyon Road, Llano Quemado. Meetings may be rescheduled by the Board. Call 751-1700 for up-to-date information.

Interested individuals are encouraged to attend. Meeting agendas are posted at the office 24 hours prior to meetings.

**The office will be closed on:**

May 28, 2012

July 4, 2012

September 3, 2012

For more information about the District see  
El Valle's Website:  
[w.elvalledelosranchos.org](http://w.elvalledelosranchos.org)

**El Valle de Los Ranchos Water and Sanitation District  
P.O. Box 2797  
Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557**

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# EL VALLE NEWS

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*Sin agua no  
hay vida."  
"Without wa-  
ter, there is  
no life."*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- F.R. Bob Romero, Chairman
- Mario Barela, Vice-Chairman
- Meliton Struck, Secretary
- Anselmo "Chemo" Valerio, Treasurer
- Gabriel Romero, Member
- Alipio Mondragon, Non-voting Member

If you have comments about this newsletter, please call the office at (575) 751-1700

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## NMED awards El Valle de los Ranchos a Grant/Loan to extend Phases 2B-2 and 2B-3

The New Mexico Environment Department has awarded El Valle de los Ranchos Water & Sanitation District a grant/loan in the amount of \$860,000 at a 50% grant/loan ratio.

This grant/loan will fund the Phases 2B-2 and 2B-3 sewer line which runs along the Rio Grande del Rancho Greenbelt.

Phase 2B-2 will take the existing sewer line from Abeyta Road (off of State Road 240) all the way to State Road 68.

Phase 2B-3 will then take the sewer line from State Road 68 to the Saint Francis Plaza and up to the South entrance of the Ranchos Post Office.

The District will conduct a Public Hearing for this project on June 13, 2012, 6 pm at the Llano Quemado Community Center. We encourage all affected parties to attend. The project should be let out to bid this July. Projected construction dates are August thru October 2012.

These two phases will provide sewer service for approximately sixty residences, as well as several businesses in the area.