

Phase 4B-1 Sewer and Phase 2D-1C Improvements Project in Progress

Phase 4B-1 extends the sewer main from Old Santa Fe Road / SR 382 to the El Valle office on Miranda Canyon Road. This phase connects to the previously constructed 4A Project, and will provide approximately one mile of sewer main with manholes and service lines to approximately forty homes, the Llano Quemado Community Center, the Llano Quemado Head Start which serves approximately seventy-two children ages six weeks to five years old, as well as the El Valle office.

The base bid for Phase 4B-1 Project was awarded to File Construction, LLC on May 29, 2019. Construction began in June and was halted on December 20, 2019 due to winter weather. Construction resumed on February 27, 2020 and is scheduled to be completed by the end of summer of 2020.

Phase 2D-1C will provide approximately two miles of sewer main with manholes and service lines to approximately sixty homes as well as the Talpa Community Center.

This phase is a continuation of the previously constructed Phase 2D-1A/1B Project beginning at the Rudy Velarde northern property line heading upstream along the green belt to the Talpa Community Center (including several laterals along Camino Abajo de La Loma and one lateral along NM 518).

The base bid for Phase 2D-1C Project was awarded to File Construction, LLC on May 29, 2019 as well. Construction began in October and was halted on December 20, 2019 due to winter weather. Construction will resume in late summer/fall in order to accommodate the agricultural practices in the greenbelt. Funding for construction of approximately 16,000 feet or 3.03 miles of this project has been obtained from the NMED Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) as well as a 2020 State Appropriation Grant of \$130,000.00.

GIS Mapping of District Infrastructure

The Southwest Environmental Finance Center has agreed to assist the District with the mapping of its infrastructure, including just short of ten miles of water main and approximately twenty-nine miles of sewer main along with two vaults and ?? Fire hydrants for the water system, and four lift stations for the sewer main.

This program provides technical assistance and access to software at no cost to the District other than the time that El Valle staff spend out in the field taking coordinates and in-house computer time.

The District is most grateful for the Southwest Environmental Finance Center generous help in mapping the District's growing infrastructure.



El Valle de Los Ranchos Water and Sanitation District has built a much needed garage to accommodate the growing needs of the District.

Funding was provided by a 2019 State Appropriation in the amount of \$100,000.00. The District wishes to express its gratitude to Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham and the State Legislators.

Please Remember to Maintain YOUR Back-flow Prevention Valve!

Due to changes in our lifestyle because of the COVID-19 outbreak, it is of outmost importance that we maintain our backflow prevention valves. This device prevents damage to your home in the case that the District's sewer main becomes backed up.

Under normal conditions your back-flow prevention valve needs to be cleaned twice per year in order to keep your system in optimal working order. Lack of maintenance may result in costly problems with your sewage flow.

Best practice under normal conditions is to maintain back flow prevention valves in early spring and early fall — *but, once again, due to changes in our daily routine over the past few months, it is recommended that you clean out your backflow prevention valve more often than two times per year.*

Please call the plumber who connected your home to the District's sewer main and installed your backflow prevention valve for instructions if you are not familiar with how to maintain your backflow prevention valve.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaintfiling_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

The District Office Is Closed To Walk-In Visits Due To COVID-19 Until Further Notice.

Please Mail In Your Payments to

P.O. Box 2797, Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557

Or Call The Office

At 751-1700 To Make A Payment With A Debit Or Credit Card. Late fees and finance charges will not be assessed at this time.

THANK YOU AND WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.

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

Mission Statement:

El Valle de Los Ranchos Water & Sanitation District is striving to promote and protect now and for future generations the quality of surface water and groundwater for the health and safety of the residents within the communities of the District.

P.O. Box 2797

Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557

(Located at 8 Miranda Canyon Road)

PHONE: (575) 751-1700

FAX: (575) 751-1690

E-MAIL: vdlranchos@qwestoffice.net

STAFF

- **Melene Montaña, Business Manager**
- **Sandra Garcia, Administrative Assistant**
- **Ivan Valerio, Project Manager**
- **Nicanor Ortega, Public Works Project Assistant**

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Regular Board Meetings:

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

All regular meetings are at 2:00 p.m. at the District Office located at #8 Miranda Canyon Road, Llano Quemado. Meetings may be rescheduled by the Board. Call (575) 751-1700 for up-to-date information. Interested individuals are encouraged to attend. Meeting agendas are posted at the office 72 hours prior to meetings.

For more information about the District see

El Valle's Website:

www.elvalledelosranchos.org

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

El Valle de Los Ranchos Water and Sanitation District

P.O. Box 2797

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EL VALLE NEWS

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“Sin agua no hay vida.”

“Without water, there is no life.”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Gabriel Romero, Chairman
- F.R. Bob Romero, Vice-Chairman
- Delfino Torres, Treasurer / Secretary
- Andrew Chavez, Non-voting Member

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Phase 3B Water Project Completed

This phase expanded the service area in the Llano Quemado west area, connecting to the existing water main at/near the intersection of Tom Holder Road / Cuchilla Road / West Romero Road. Phase 3B Water Improvement Project extended the water line continuing northwest along the south side of Cuchilla Road to near Cactus Flower Road, then south along a private drive and then west along a private drive to Cactus Flower Road. It then heads south and then east along Cactus Flower Road.

The completion of this project increases the District's capacity to provide clean drinking water and fire protection to approximately two hundred customers within almost ten miles of infrastructure.

This project was awarded to local contractor Silva's Excavation, Inc. in May 2019 and was completed in September 2019.

Construction funding for Phase 3B Water Project came from a Water Trust Board Loan/Grant in the amount of \$1,383,541.00, as well as District Funds.

Board of Directors

El Valle de Los Ranchos Water and Sanitation District is seeking letters of interest for two (2) positions to be appointed to the Board of Directors.

Letters of interest should be submitted to Business Manager Melene Montaña at the El Valle Office, P.O. Box 2797, Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557 by May 30, 2020.