



ON TAP

"Drinking Water You Can Trust"

Vol. 36 Issue 1

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2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Association's membership growth continued through 2021. Our Membership base increased with the addition of 50 new members yet we still lost 1 member. Our growth for 2021 came to a total of 49 additional connections. The Association's members base grew to a total of 3,615 members. The 2021 Real Estate market kept pace with 2020 but did not surpass it. However, it was still a very busy year for the Association. We had 180 existing home sales on the UBWA system. The total number dipped by only 4 existing home sales as compared to 2020.

In 2021 the Association began the process of updating our Master Plan as is required by the State of Oregon. This update began in 2021 and will continue until September of 2022. The Dyer Partnership was selected for this project at a cost of \$140,000. We also continued the work on updating our SCADA/Telemetry System with the assistance of The Automation Group (TAG) out of Eugene. We purchased new computers built by Mega Bytes here in Roseburg. New waterlines were also engineered to replace the current waterlines hanging on the Conn Ford Bridge. UBWA selected Kinnan Engineering out of Camas Valley to bore a 36" hole, 25' to 30' feet under the South Umpqua river for the two new waterlines. We also ordered and took delivery of 4,200 feet of 14" HDPE pipe for the Conn-Ford Bridge project. The pipe was made and shipped from Prineville Oregon by KraH Industries. The cost of the pipe comes to about \$30.00 per foot or just under \$130,000. Also in 2021 we set up a replacement plan for the water treatment plant membranes which will begin in 2022. The Automation Group (TAG) built a new pump panel for the Moorea Pump Station. It was our hope to have it installed in 2021, but due to parts shortages, the project was delayed.

CURRENT PLANNED SYSTEM / EQUIPMENT UPGRADES AND MAINTENANCE

This year begins the replacement of the Conn-Ford bridge (the bridge by Kruse Farms over the South Umpqua river). This project is scheduled to begin in March of 2022 and go through 2024. UBWA currently has two water lines attached to the current bridge. Both of these lines serve two different areas of the system. A 36" hole will be bored under the river which will act as a casing, then the two waterlines will be pulled into the hole under the river. This will take about 6 to 8 weeks to complete. The whole project for UBWA will take about 3 months to complete. The cost of this waterline replacement and upgrade will be around \$750,000.00.

In 2022 we will also be finalizing the new UBWA Master Plan which was last revised in 1999. A Master Plan is a snapshot of where we are now, what our growth has been, how our growth is projecting, areas of system improvements, areas of system expansion and other changes that will need to be made to support future growth for the next 50 plus years.

Also in 2022 we plan on the installation of the pump control panel upgrade with a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) at the Moorea pump station. At the beginning of 2022 we will sign an agreement with Veolia to begin a 3 year process of replacing our water treatment plant membranes. UBWA has 3 membrane trains, which contain 3 membrane cassettes, which each hold 51 membrane modules. Each train update will cost \$217,309 per year for 2022, 2023, and 2024 with a total of \$651,927. As the membranes are removed from each train, Veolia will be updating the membrane tank coating along with the resealing of the tank. The cost for that is \$105,000 per tank per year. The membranes have been in operation for just over 16 years. Once this project is completed in 2023, the membranes should be set for a minimum of another 15 to 16 years. Compare this to the Winston Dillard Water District treatment plant that is just under 10 years old. They were told that they may have to replace all of their membranes at around the 10 year mark.

CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG

Planning a home improvement job? Planting a tree? Installing or replacing a fence or deck? Digging a pond? Replacing your mailbox? Do you know that it is illegal to start digging on your property without first calling 811 for an underground locate?

In 2020 the State changed some of the rules regarding the One Call System. Please check the website or stop by our office and pick up the new updated 811 Rule book.

WAIT!

Here's what you need to know first: Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling 811 before each job! Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked, but every digging job requires a call – even small projects like planting trees and shrubs. The depth of utility lines vary and there may be multiple utility lines in a common area. Digging without calling can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm you and those around you and potentially result in fines and repair costs. You may not know it but our waterlines may be running through your yard. Less than 1% of our waterlines run along or are in the road. About 99% of our installed waterlines lie within private easements across private property.

Call 811 from anywhere in the country 48hrs prior to digging and your call will be routed to your local One Call Center. Tell the operator where you're planning to dig, what type of work you will be doing and your affected local utilities companies will be notified about your intent to dig. In a few days, they'll send a locator to mark the approximate location of your underground lines, pipes and cables. The professional locators will mark the approximate location of the buried facilities with paint or flags. A call to the One-Call Center protects the homeowner/excavator from possibly being charged thousands of dollars to repair damaged facilities in the event of a dig-in accident.

Oregon law requires that anyone digging on private property, easement, or in any public right of way must call the One Call Center prior to digging. After the call is received, the One-Call Center will notify all affected utilities. The Operators then have two full business days (48hrs) to locate and accurately mark their underground facilities using color-coded paint. Each color indicates a universal color to what is buried below ground.

Remember, Know What's Below. Always Call 811 Before You Dig. It's FREE!

2022 WATER RATES

The current commodity rate of \$4.55/per thousand gallons up to 50,000 gallons and the rate for over 50,001 gallons at \$3.10/per thousand gallons will remain unchanged. The monthly allowance for the uncharged consumption of 1000 gallons also remains unchanged. The surcharge of .50¢/per 1000 gallons will remain in effect until the Association pays off the loan for the water treatment plant. The base rate for all meter sizes did increase as of January 1, 2022. The 5/8" x 3/4" meter rate went up to \$22.00, 1" rate is \$46.97, 1.5" rate is \$107.86, 2" rate is \$199.19, and the 4" rate is now \$320.96.

FIFTY SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

Umpqua Basin Water Association, Inc. will be holding the FIFTY SIXTH Annual Meeting at the Associations office on Thursday evening, March 24, 2022 at 7:30PM. However, if you can not attend the meeting, you can take this opportunity to respond with any questions or general discussion you may have for the Board of Directors, via email at office@ubwa.org. The Annual Meeting agenda will include the election of three (3) Board Members, a quick update on the current status of the Association, a review of current, future, and past projects, with an opportunity for questions or general discussion. Names of the nominees for the Board Member positions will be posted in the office of the Association. Due to COVID issues, masks will still be required for all attendees.

Board of Directors Representing Umpqua Basin Water Association, Inc.

District	Director	Area Served	Term Expires
1	Sam Carter	Garden Valley W. / Lower Garden Valley	March 2022*
2	Jeff Byers	San Souci / Braunda / Colonial	March 2024
3	Kevin Bunnell	Lookingglass / Happy Valley	March 2024
4	Mike Brinkley	Melrose	March 2023
5	Romey Ware	Fisher / Garden Valley	March 2023
6	Curtis Sandfort	Wilbur / College	March 2022*
At-Large	Scott Adams	Entire System	March 2022*

* Director Positions up for election

UBWA MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

Here at UBWA we take your membership certificate seriously and we want to ensure that your UBWA membership certificate is titled correctly, transferable without issue, bequeathed properly, and is up to date. The time to deal with these details is not during a life changing event or the sale of your home. We cannot tell you how many times during the sale of a members home, escrow gets held up for days due to the reasons of a Membership Certificate which does not reflect the current changes of ownership that may have occurred in the members lives. Not to mention the issues that develop while trying to take care of a loved ones estate, especially if someone may live in another State or Country. We require that your membership be kept current. Again, when one of the many life changing events comes your way your Membership Certificate or that of your loved ones will already be updated and the UBWA membership should be able to be processed with little to no work on your part.

Life changing events that may occur in our lives: divorce, death of a spouse or partner, death of both spouses or partners, death of a member with no heirs, creation/termination of a Trust, creation/termination of a business or LLC, or creation/change/termination of a will. I am sure that there are other events that could affect your membership.

There are tools out there like "Right Of Survivorship" that can be used so that if a life changing event comes your way, your membership can be transferred with little to no issue. For instance; when two non-married persons buy a membership they can take ownership of the membership as: Jane Doe and John Smith with Right Of Survivorship.

When you as a member first sign up for a Membership/Water Meter with UBWA you would have filled out a Membership Application and a Water Users Agreement. When you filled out the paperwork, or if the Title Company filled it out for you, the name for which was placed in the top middle box of the application or agreement will be the exact way the Membership Certificate will be issued. Working with an Attorney on estate planning? Make sure that you inform them that you have a UBWA Membership and that it needs to be included in your estate planning.

The UBWA Membership is classified as "**Personal Property**" and **DOES NOT** automatically transfer with the title or sale of the real property. Do you or other family members own property with a UBWA Membership that is out of date due to life changing events? If you have questions about any of the above information, please reach out to Jennifer in the front office and she will assist you with any of your questions or concerns.

MEMBERS CONTACT INFORMATION

Throughout the years UBWA has experienced different types of emergencies. A lot of these emergencies require us to contact you by phone, or at least email. We spend a lot of time trying to reach out to you for notifications. We constantly find that phone numbers have expired, changed, or even the email has changed. By keeping your information up-to-date we will be able to keep you informed when we have an emergency water outage or we are performing maintenance in your area. Our data base needs to be accurate. So, please reach out to us and update **ALL** of your contact information.

BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS CONNECTIONS

Have you met our newest Cross Connection Specialist team members?

Due to the demands of the State of Oregon Backflow Program, we are adding 2 new Cross Connection Specialists. We have added Michael Mann and Kyler Wolford to our Backflow Program. Both of these new Cross Connection Specialists will be well versed in the operations of UBWA's Rules and Regulations regarding Backflow. They will be working in tandem alongside Caleb Needles and Curtis Pine. They are all here to help you understand what backflow is and why it is so important. If you have not yet met either one of them, I am sure you will in the near future.

What does "cross connection" and "backflow" mean?

A cross connection is a connection between a potable drinking water pipe and a non-potable source. For example: you're planning to spray weed killer on your lawn. You hook up your hose to the faucet on your house and to the sprayer containing the weed killer. If the water pressure drops at the same time you turn on the hose, the pressure change may cause the chemical in the sprayer to be sucked back into your home's plumbing system through the hose. This is called backflow and could contaminate the water in your home system.

Water utilities deal with this issue on a much larger scale. Imagine if your hose was connected to a fire hydrant or a public access faucet (e.g. a campground), then the weed killer would be sucked into the public water supply. Backflow from customer service connections is of concern to water utilities, and has been shown to occur in 1.6% of all meter reads and in 5% of homes.

How is my water provider working to prevent backflow?

Programs include required annual testing of commercial and residential backflow devices by certified technicians. Residential and commercial buildings requiring backflow prevention devices are identified and monitored.