

# CALAVERAS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

WINTER 2020 NEWSLETTER



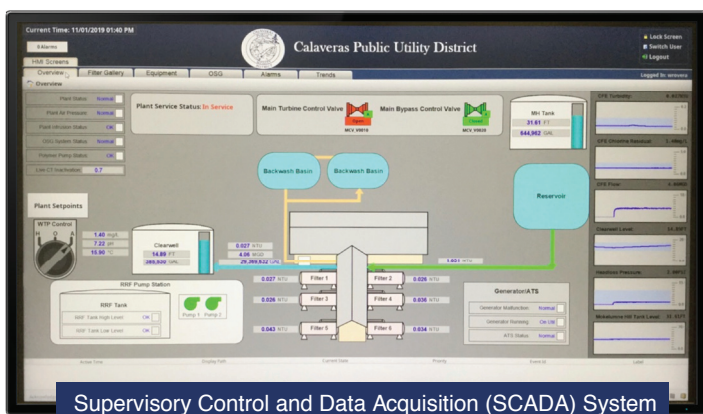
## Court Street Capital Improvement Project

The District will be extending a 6-inch water line on Court Street in San Andreas from Main Street to Highway 49. The upgraded line will support a new service connection needed for the Black Bart Restaurant along with updating an existing residential service connection. The project will complete a loop in the water system and the upgrade of two existing fire hydrants will provide improved flow for fire protection. Future capital improvement projects in the area will also benefit from this system improvement. Construction is expected to start in early 2020.

## CPUD Completes Upgrade to System Operations

As part of an ongoing effort to keep water treatment operations running efficiently, CPUD recently upgraded its automatic Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. The SCADA system allows operators the ability to control most plant operations from a remote location, which allows staff to be more efficient in responding to water treatment plant issues. The system uses cutting-edge computer technology to collect, store and process information from the water treatment system. Current information can be compared to historic system information and staff can make informed decisions quickly.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued in February 2019 and the contract was awarded to Technical Systems, Inc. The project, completed in October 2019, has already demonstrated its value to provide reliable information and quicker, more detailed accessibility to water treatment information, which staff can view both on-site and remotely via computer.



Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System

## SMART Meters

The District is installing new water meters in an effort to prevent water loss and as a result, lost revenue for uncaptured water flow. The new meters also have the ability to download water usage, which can assist customers with their leak investigations. New SMART meters are being installed as part of ongoing CIP efforts. Examples include the installation of SMART meters as part of the waterline replacement on Sunset Street and waterline replacement on Pixley Avenue, which were completed in 2018/19. Additional SMART meters will be installed as part of capital improvement projects to be completed over the next several years.

## Meet Our Board of Directors

The District has a five-member Board of Directors that serve as the governing body of the District in establishing policies and procedures and making decisions based on staff recommendations. The Board meets the second Tuesday of the month. All agendas and meeting minutes are available online at <https://www.cpud.org/board-of-directors-meetings>

**J.W. Dell'Orto, Board Chair**, joined the Board in 2016. He graduated from Chico State with a degree in Animal Science. He is a livestock rancher and resides in Mokelumne Hill with his wife and three children. His current term ends in 2020.

**John Lavaroni** joined the Board in 1991. He worked as a ditch tender for the District from 1971 to 1977. He is a local business owner and a lifetime resident of San Andreas. He enjoys golfing in his spare time. His current term ends in 2022.

**Clifford Overmier** joined the Board in 2001. He has worked in the plumbing industry his entire career and currently operates his own plumbing business. When not plumbing, Cliff supports the family ranching business alongside his wife. His current term ends in 2020.

**Richard Blood** joined the Board in 2017. Prior to his retirement in 2015, he worked as an Environmental Scientist for the California Department of Public Health for 25 years. He has lived in the Mokelumne Hill community for 29 years. His current term ends in 2022.

**The District welcomes our newest board member, Scott Speer**, who joined in November 2019. Speer is a graduate of CSU Sacramento and University of Nevada where he earned degrees in Geography. He works as a land use planner for Calaveras County and enjoys hiking, skiing and woodworking in his spare time. He has lived in San Andreas for four years. His current term will expire in 2022.

## Helpful Winter Tips!

Now that the weather has turned, it's time to think about how to keep your water system healthy during winter months!

### 1 Wrap it!

Using insulated tape to wrap exposed pipes and faucets will help prevent exposed pipes from freezing. Don't forget pipes that are under the deck or in crawl spaces.

### 2 Drain it!

Preserve your hoses until the summer season by disconnecting outdoor hoses and storing them in the garage or shed. Wrap the connection valves with insulated tape.

### 3 Shut it off!

During a major storm event, household members should know where the master water shutoff valve is located and know how to turn it off. It is usually located where the water line comes into the house from the street.

## DID YOU KNOW...

Calaveras PUD is recognized as a Special District by the State of California? As a special district, the District may receive certification from the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF) once certain criteria has been met. One such criteria is having a concise, published mission statement that summarizes the District's purpose and vision. The Board of Directors will be working with staff in 2020 to create a clear mission statement that will serve as the guiding principal for the District. Another is maintaining a website that meets accessibility and transparency guidelines, which is an ongoing effort. This step will allow the District to achieve its Certificate of Transparency.

## Thank You for Participating!

In summer 2019, the District, with the assistance of the Specialized Utility Service Program (SUSP), conducted a Median Household Income (MHI) Survey of District customers. Results from the returned surveys were compiled in a final report, which was presented to the District in August 2019. Results indicated that the District is considered a Disadvantaged Community (DAC).

The DAC classification extends opportunities to apply for specific grant funding through the State Revolving Fund (SRF), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other funding opportunities for future capital improvement projects.

## BACKFLOW ORDINANCE 88-1

Calaveras PUD is responsible for providing safe, reliable water to its customers 24/7 365 days a year. The District upholds an extensive water quality system to ensure that water delivered to our customers is kept free from harmful contaminants. One such measure is adhering to a strict backflow prevention program. Currently, the District requires a backflow device installed where plumbing may be cross-connected to prevent cross contamination of untreated, and possibly contaminated water, with treated water. Examples where a backflow device is required include properties with wells, pools or watering troughs used for livestock. Examples for commercial establishments include restaurants, schools and hospitals. During 2020, the District will be working with commercial establishments to ensure they are meeting the guidelines under the Backflow Ordinance. Visit our website to view the ordinance and backflow device specifications at <https://www.cpubd.org/faqs>.



## Cheers to the New Year!

Calaveras PUD wishes all its customers a wonderful holiday season! The District office will be closed December 24th and 25th, 2019 and January 1st, 2020 but rest assured, operations will be monitored 24/7 to ensure water safety and quality. Please call (209) 754-9442 in case of emergency.

## Best Wishes!

Congratulations to Andrew Estrada, Chief Treatment Plant Operator, who retired at the end of 2019 after 13 years of service with the District.



### Front Row:

Carissa Bear, Wyatt Rovera,  
James Moe, Kate Jesus, Donna  
Leatherman, Andrew Estrada

### Back Row:

Bret Beaudreau, Mathew Roberts,  
John Cunningham