



# ENTRANOSA WATER NEWS

*Committed to Providing Safe, Clean Water to All Our Members Since 1981*



January

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION  
FROM YOUR WATER AND WASTEWATER ASSOCIATION

2022



**Supply Chain Challenges** The supply-chain challenges that have gripped the nation in the past months, are being felt in rural central New Mexico as well. Entranosa has experienced significant supply challenges. For example, the standard three-quarter inch meter takes three to four months to arrive after it is ordered. Entranosa is also now experiencing the failure of batteries in meters older than 20 years, which results in our field operators having to open meter cans to read monthly usage. Non-reads due to battery failures are increasing every month, which is costing additional staff time to read and replace meters. The costs of installing new meter has increased by \$200 since 2019, which the Board took action to increase at their December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.



**New three-quarter inch meter**

**New Safety Regimen** Entranosa is now testing our employees weekly to protect each other and our membership. In addition, all employees are required to wear masks indoors and anytime they are around the general public. Please notify the office if you see an employee not wearing their mask when in close contact with members or the public.



## Cost of Business Increasing

At the December Board of Directors meeting, staff presented some preliminary budget numbers that showed a potential 12% increase in operating costs. Employee health coverage topped the list at 18%, with insurance, fuel and supplies all at double digits. The budget committee will meet on January 13<sup>th</sup> to dive into the detail with the final approval coming during the January 20, 2022 Board meeting. The strategic plan anticipated a 7% annual increase in operating costs



**PRV valve costs increased \$60 to \$140  
In three years**

resulting in a 2% rate increase. But reality shows an actual 5% increase in true costs of operation will require the Board to find potential cuts to the operation. Any rate increases will become effective Feb. 1, 2022.



**Entranosa Water & Wastewater Association**

**Office: (505) 281-8700**

**Emergency: (505) 604-5935 [www.entranosawater.com](http://www.entranosawater.com)**

**Office Hours:**

**Monday 9:00 am – 4:30 pm**

**Tuesday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm**

***Entranosa is an equal-opportunity employer.***

- ◇ **Reliably supply quality drinking water at a reasonable price to our membership, such that the Association is self-sustaining**
- ◇ **Promote water conservation**
- ◇ **Provide leadership for our Community concerning water and wastewater issues**
- ◇ **Protect our ground water resources through environmentally responsible business practices**
- ◇ **Pursue water & wastewater service opportunities in the East Mountain and Estancia Basin Regions**

**ENTRANOSA'S  
MISSION  
STATEMENT**



# ENTRANOSA WATER NEWS

*Committed to Providing Safe, Clean Water to All Our Members  
Celebrating 40 Years of Service*



**Water Hardness Reading as of 12/28/21: 14 grains**

**Average Water Usage: Dec. 5,941; gallons; Nov.: 6,056 gallons**

## Stopping Water Theft—Saving Members' Money

Since Entranosa adopted a meter tampering and water theft policy, over \$2,000 of fines have been issued and paid. An Albuquerque plumber pulled a meter can and paid over \$600 to repair it, along with a \$250 fine. Any tampering with Entranosa's meter can is the responsibility of the member, please make sure to contact Entranosa if you plan on making repairs to your yard line and need access to the meter. The water truck below was caught stealing water, which was reported by a member. The company was fined \$500 and paid the fine. The company also signed up for a hydrant meter for future legal use.



## New Board Positions

Entranosa Board welcomes new Board member Joelle Hertel who becomes "official" January 1. Joelle has been busy participating in both the November and December's Board meeting and has already proven to be an asset for Entranosa. During the November meeting, the Board approved a new roster of Board officers for 2022, electing Dennis Hodges as new Chair, Linda Barbour Vice Chair, Rob Baracker as Treasurer and Skip Mead as Secretary.

**Joelle Hertel**



## Legal Cannabis Growing

With the passage of New Mexico's recreational cannabis, Entranosa members who are interested in commercial grows have asked for water availability letters as part of the permit process. Since these are small scale irrigation projects the Entranosa Board has approved the use under a commercial grow contract. The grower must submit a proposed water budget and detailed plan of operation. Depending on the member county location, the member will be limited to between 81,250 gallons per year to 195,000 gallons per year within their current membership. If a member needs additional water, they will be required to purchase additional water rights up to one acre-foot per year or 325,000 gallons. Any non-member will pay the bulk rate, which is more than three times the membership rate. Both member and non-member will need to sign a contract that limits the time-frame and is only renewed after a grower usage is monitored over years of production and demonstrates conservation measures. The contract also allows Entranosa to terminate if federal laws are enforced.



## Entranosa's Board of Directors

**Chair:** Dennis Hodges **Vice Chair :** Linda Barbour **Secretary:** CJ "Skip" Mead **Treasurer:** Robert "Rob" Baracker

**Members:** Paul Gorder, Joelle Hertel

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