

ORLAND-ARTOIS WATER DISTRICT

April 2019

2019 WATER RATE REDUCTION & APPLICATION PERIOD EXTENSION

At the April 16th Board meeting, the Directors reduced the 2019 water year rate for M&I Water to **\$83.77** per acre-foot. The rate reduction is due to lower costs from the Bureau of Reclamation. The water rates are strictly a "pass through" cost of what the District is paying for the water. With consideration of the wet spring, the Directors have extended the **Water Application due date to May 31st**. If you have previously completed an application for the 2019 year, we will not require the enclosed revised application to be signed.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Update

OAWD and several other water agencies formed the Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA). The GGA serves as a county wide Groundwater Sustainability Agency. The GGA's Board is made up of a board member from each agency. OAWD's board member is Chuck Schonauer. The goal of the GGA is to ensure the sustainability of our groundwater aquifers. Because we share the Colusa Sub-Basin with the County of Colusa, the two counties are working together on basin-wide grants and studies not only to be in-line with the law but to keep costs down.

In the coming weeks, Glenn County landowners will be receiving information on funding for the GGA. This will be a per-acre fee on County lands which are considered in the Colusa sub-basin. The Fee will be about \$1.75 per-acre and will be assessed annually. The OAWD Directors ask for your support with this fee; it is cheaper than the alternative of having the State come in and monitor local groundwater usage. With the GGA, control of groundwater will be retained locally.

The District measures several wells in the area and we are seeing that the aquifers have not fully recovered from the recent dry years. With SGMA there is the potential of pumping restrictions in the future if groundwater pumping levels are not sustainable. Using district water will help minimize possible groundwater restrictions in the future.

Director Elections

For 2019, the District has 3 Directors up for election. To become a Director, you have to own land in the District and be willing to participate in monthly board meetings. If you are interested in becoming a Director please contact the District office to inquire about the process. The filing deadline is May 31, 2019.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at the District office.

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