

# Springs Hill News

WINTER 2009

Springs Hill Water Supply Corp., PO Box 29, Seguin, TX 78156 (830)379-7683

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## ARRA FUNDS

**Thursday October 15, 2009**

**Springs Hill has been notified that they are to receive \$3,130,000 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 0% Loan funds. The distribution of the funds is through the Texas Water Development Board.**

This money will be used for two projects. The first is to replace approximately 13,000 linear feet of asbestos cement pipe with PVC line. The second will be to provide upgrades to our existing Lake Placid Treatment Plant. These upgrades will consist of a parallel Treatment Train, a new 500,000 gallon ground storage tank and installation of Solar Panels. We are in the process of taking bids and all contracts have to be in place by February 2010.

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

At the last members meeting you re-elected Bernie Mueller to the Board of Directors and also elected a new director Phil Wuest. Phil was born and raised in Seguin. He graduated from Seguin High School in 1986 and then attended The University of Texas where he earned a BBA degree with a major in finance. After graduation he joined his family owned business Wuest's Inc. where he is currently the Director of Operations for Pic-n-Pac Convenience Stores.

We regret to announce that earlier this year Randy Smith moved out of our service area and no longer qualified to serve on the Springs Hill Board of Directors. The Board has the authority to replace one Board member without the membership voting on that replacement. They elected to offer the position to Fred Blumberg and he has accepted. Fred comes to us with a great amount of experience in the field of water. In 2007 he retired from GBRA after 33 years with that organization. At the time of his retirement he was the deputy general manger and chief operations officer. Currently he is a Senior Associate with Malcolm Pirnie an Independent Environmental Engineering firm. Fred earned his Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Agriculture from Texas A&M University.

**ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE** As we look for ways to reduce energy consumption consider replacing traditional light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) CFLs use 67 percent less energy than incandescent bulbs and can last up to 10 times longer,

with an average lifespan of 6,000 hours per bulb. Replacing the incandescent bulbs in your five most frequently used light fixtures with CFLs can save you more than \$60 a year in electricity. Recycling is the best option for used CFLs and there are several available options. For example, The Home Depot offers free in store collections for recycling CFL bulbs. For other options, visit [www.recycletexasonline.org](http://www.recycletexasonline.org) or [www.cleanup.org](http://www.cleanup.org).

**TELEPHONE SYSTEM** We have now updated our telephone system so when you call in after hours we have a recorded message concerning any ongoing repairs that could cause your water to be off or for you to be experiencing low pressure. If we do not mention your area then you will need to leave a message for our Emergency Crew. The dry year has caused us to have a much higher than usual leak rate. We have also purchased leak detection equipment to help us isolate exactly where the leak is. It is not perfect but it is an improvement.

**2010 ANNUAL MEETING DATE** Mark your calendars now for our 2010 meeting. We had to move it to a Monday in order to reserve a room at the Seguin ISD meeting room. So in 2010 we will meet on April 5, 2010.

## WHO DO I CALL?

MAIN NUMBER		379-7683
Jeanne Schnuriger	General Manager	x206
Carol Ronshausen	Office Manager	x211
Keith Steffen	Field Service Manager	x201
Janie Reyes	Billing questions/leaks	x204
Melva Childress	New Services/Transfers	x203
Frances Garcia	Accounts Receivable	x202
Kathy Bryant	Accounts Payable	x205

After Hours Emergencies 379-7683

## MEET A FEW OF THE STAFF

**Alan Illhardt** started here in Nov of 2008 after 16 years at Seguin State Bank and Trust. Currently he is maintaining our computer system and website while learning to operate our leak detection equipment. He is also putting together a complete gps map of our system containing all pipes, fire hydrants, valves and meters.

## Stage 1 Water Restrictions are back.

**MELVA CHILDRESS** If you are new to Springs Hill then you have probably met Melva. She sets up all the new accounts and transfers. She also creates the work orders to repair leaks and calls in the locates for us. Melva grew up in Smiley and graduated from Smiley High School. After high school she attended Texas State. Melva has been with Springs Hill a total of six years but took a two year break. Currently she lives between Nixon and Smiley. Melva has three grown children and lots of chickens.

**TEX SAENGERHAUSEN** has the most years with Springs Hill. He is in his 30th year. Tex was born in Anchorage Alaska and his parents named him "Tex" no middle name. He moved to Seguin when he was twelve and graduated from Seguin High School. Tex's passion is bowling and he has bowled two 300s. He has two grown children and his wife Susie works for Acme Brick out of their Dallas office. You will recognize Tex he is the tall one.

**Kathy Bryant** obtained her BS degree in Education from Texas A&M University in 1984. She is a Panhandle, (Levelland), native. Kathy began employment in April of 2008. She is the bookkeeper for the company. Prior to employment at Springs Hill, she was the bookkeeper for New Braunfels Christian Academy for sixteen years. Kathy is married to Bear. They have two grown children, one grandson, and a Daughter-in-law on the way.

**MICHAEL GONZALES** is another Seguin native but left to live in the Dallas area for several years. He is a certified TREC inspector and one of those people who can fix anything. He has rebuilt several areas in the office and helped clean up the out side areas. Michael asked to be transfer to the Water Production area and now has his D license and working on his C. He reports to Willie Atilano our Water Production Manager. Michael is married to Maria and they have four children currently living at home with them. He built his own home from the ground up – like I said he is one of those people who can do anything.

**W. A. MCKINNEY** has been with Springs Hill WSC for fifteen years. He is "hanging up his hat" in October. His wife, Lana, is looking forward to having him home full-time to catch up on all the "honey do's". We will miss him here at work.

**Stage 1** is a voluntary compliance but we urge you all to remember a dry winter could push us into Stage 2 and none of us want to go there again.

Please just use water wisely all the time and help conserve what we have.

The list of the recommended rules for stage 1 are as follows:

1. Water customers will be requested to voluntarily limit the irrigation of landscaped areas and non-essential water use to twice a week by address number as indicated on a published watering calendar, and to irrigate landscapes only between the hours of midnight and 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to midnight on their designated watering days. Irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at anytime if it is by means of a hand-held hose or faucet filled bucket of five gallons or less.
2. All operations of the SHWSC shall adhere to water use restrictions prescribed for Stage 1 of the Plan.
3. No washing of parking lots, driveways, sidewalks or streets unless for health or safety reasons.
4. Water served in restaurants only upon request.
5. Swimming pools must be at least 25 percent covered by evaporation shields when not in active use.
6. NO car washing at home except on watering days and times, and no runoff into street or off property.
7. Charity car washes allowed only at certified commercial car washes or those that recycle at least 75% of their water.



