### ORDINANCE 2015-05

# SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE OPERATING RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING WATER AND WASTEWATER FOR THE FOUR CORNERS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT (each unit metered)

### **RECITALS**

WHEREAS, The Operating Rules and Regulations were adopted by Ordinance (Ordinance 05-01 adopted on May 24, 2005) of the Four Corners County Water and Sewer District (District) and have been modified by the adoption of Ordinance 05-01A and 2014-01; and

WHEREAS, the Montana Legislature modified the law governing the creation of condominium regimes which are in compliance with zoning; and

WHEREAS, that modification allows buildings with separate rental units to convert to condominium units without additional review; and

WHEREAS, the District's Rules and Regulations currently allow buildings with multiple rental units to not require separate meters and also require condominium units to be metered separately; and

WHEREAS, the conversion from rentals to condominiums changes not only the owners but also the requirements for payment, it is necessary in order to ensure fair treatment of all customers to require each unit constructed in the District to be served by a meter

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of the Four Corners County Water and Sewer District amends the Rules and Regulations with regard to the meters on units by amending the following provision:

## 1-1 DEFINITIONS

(80) "Unit" means any building or other place suitable for occupancy or for carrying on business, whether or not a person is actually present, and that is habitually used for personal use or employment. Units in a building separately secured are separate units.

# **CHAPTER 10- METERING**

## 10-1 MANDATORY WATER METERS

Except for fire lines, every unit shall be metered by the District. The District shall normally read all District water meters for commercial accounts monthly and all District water meters for domestic accounts at least <u>bi-monthly</u> to determine customer usage and/or customer wastewater contributions for billing purposes. In months when the District water meter cannot be read, the District may estimate the meter reading and use the calculated water usage wastewater contribution to render the bill for the customer involved. The District shall not estimate a meter

reading for a customer more than four consecutive months without first making every effort to read the meter in question.

Individual Water Meters for Multiple Units:

Unless allowed by the District Board, all single family homes are required to have a water meter. Every unit in in a building is required to have individual water meter for each unit that has water or sewer service. Types of buildings include but are not limited to: residential apartments, condominiums, town house, mixed use unit, single unit or multi-unit office, single or multi-unit commercial buildings.

# **Exceptions:**

The District recognizes that certain situations may make metering a large commercial or condominium building with multiple meters not practical, or feasible. Owners may request common meter(s) for larger projects for good cause shown. The Board at its discretion may approve or deny such a request.

## 10-2 DISTRICT'S RESPONSIBILITY

It shall the District's responsibility to:

- (1) Determine the size of the District water meter to be installed on any water service line connected with the District water supply system and provide water meters for purchase by Customers:
- (2) Inspect and test all District water meters prior to installation on water service lines to ensure that such meters meet or exceed the standards of the American Water Works Association for such type meters;
- (3) Replace all 5/8-inch through 1-1/2 inch District water meters at intervals determined by the District:
- (4) Test and replace, if needed, all 2-inch District water meters every 3 years and all 3- inch and larger District water meters at intervals determined by the District;
- (5) Ensure that all District water meters are properly sealed prior to installation on water service lines and before changing any customer account to a new party; and
- (6) Periodically check all District water meters that are in service for tampering, bypassing, or any other acts of water theft.

### 10-3 CUSTOMER'S RESPONSIBILITY

It shall be the customer's responsibility to:

- (1) Purchase from the District, install, and maintain a District water meter, and any required remote-reading equipment on every water service line connected with a unit and the Water System;
- (2) Provide a location for installation of the District water meter that is readily accessible and that is properly protected from damage due to freezing or other adverse conditions;

Furnish, install, and maintain an approved outside meter box/vault, when required by the District Manager, as well as any pipe, fittings, meter loops, valves, expansion tanks,

backflow prevention devices and surge protection devices on commercial accounts, pressure reducing devices, telephone lines/jacks, and other appurtenances required to meet the standards of the District for the type metering facility involved;

Obtain the written approval of the District in advance of installing the plumbing for a large District water meter (1½" and larger), whether it be set inside or outside the building to be served; and

Protect the District water meter from tampering, bypassing, or any other acts of water theft.

All other provisions of Rules and Regulations not otherwise amended remain in full force and effect.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Four Corners County Water and Sewer District after first reading and second reading. This Ordinance shall be in effect 30 days after the date of the second reading.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading and Approval: DATED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2015.

President Cory Klumb

President Cory Klumb

Attest: Maralee Sullivan, Secretary

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Approval: DATED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.

President Cory Klumb

Glerk Heather West

,