

DIVIDER PAGE

MINUTES AND FINANCIALS

RAINBOW WATER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

Date: September 13, 2023

Time: 5:30 PM

Place: Rainbow Water District Office/Virtual

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON: Marla Casley, Jim McLaughlin, Doug Keeler, Mindy Kephart, and Lou Allocco

STAFF PRESENT: Jamie Porter, Jodi Sanders, and Eric Carlson

Doug Keeler opened the Board Meeting at 6:20 pm.

AGENDA REVIEW

No new items

REVIEW ITEMS

1. The minutes from the August 9, 2023, Rainbow Board Meeting were presented for approval. Marla noted the date of the minutes was incorrect and that Jim McLaughlin was not listed as attending the meeting. Marla Casley moved to approve the minutes as amended. Lou Allocco seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
2. The financial reports for August 2023 were presented for approval. Jim McLaughlin moved to accept the financial reports and pay the bills. Mindy Kephart seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
3. August 2023 Financial Report Review: Doug Keeler reviewed 8 transactions and approved the August 2023 audit trail report. The missing checks report for August 2023 was reviewed and approved, check numbers are 17006-17072 and there were no breaks in sequence. There were no new vendors.

BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

1. Jim McLaughlin reported that LCOG was at the City of Springfield Block Party.
2. Doug Keeler would like staff and the board to consider installing a gate across the entrance of the driveway for security. Doug also noted that he would like a professional security audit performed to assess the security of the RWD office location.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

1. Jamie shared that Consor is putting together a survey to send to our customers to gather information that would be used in a 75th Anniversary calendar. He asked the Board for input on the questions and style of the survey.

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2. Jamie asked the Board for input on a 75th Anniversary block party or Customer Appreciation Day in August 2024. Marla and Mindy volunteered to work on a party planning subcommittee.
3. Jamie presented several options for a micro logo that will be used as a tab marker when looking up Rainbow online.
4. Eric reviewed the requirements of the Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory project that is underway nationwide. Rainbow has started gathering information and the first reports are due to the State of Oregon in the Fall of 2024.
5. Eric reviewed the progress of the leak detection survey being performed by a SUB contracted employee. They have found several potential leaks that Eric and staff will follow up on to fix, if necessary.
6. The City of Springfield is still considering a mural proposal for the Kelly Reservoir.
7. Jamie asked for the Board's approval to run for the position of Treasurer for the Pacific Northwest Section of the AWWA. The application process includes the Board President signing a letter of support so there is no conflict with him attending several meetings and a yearly conference. The Board gave their approval.

The Board discussed extending an invitation to SUB's Board President to participate in a joint work session regarding the operational changes that have been proposed. President Keeler will draft a letter to be mailed tomorrow.

The next board meeting will be held on October 11, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm

RAINBOW WATER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

Date: September 20, 2023

Time: 12:00 PM

Place: Rainbow Water District Office/Virtual

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marla Casley, Doug Keeler, and Mindy Kephart,

STAFF PRESENT:

Jamie Porter and Jodi Sanders

Doug Keeler opened the Board Meeting at 12:00 pm.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

1. Jamie presented resolution No. 2023-18, A Resolution Declaring Surplus Vehicles. There are two trucks that are going to be auctioned at the Lane County Auction. Marla Casley moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-18. Mindy Kephart seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
2. The Blue River Water District has lost their licensed operator and has requested that Eric be their temporary Direct Responsible Charge (DRC) while they are looking for a replacement. Jamie requested Board approval to amend the IGA to include temporary DRC services, as well as updating the office support that we are already providing. The Board is in support of amending the IGA to include these services. Board approved by consensus.

Doug Keeler adjourned the meeting at 12:05 pm.

RAINBOW WATER DISTRICT

September 30, 2023

VENDOR	PURPOSE	Water & Fire Fund	PAID/ACH
AT&T	Hot spots for on call serviceman	43.23	*
Alarm Solutions	Quarterly alarm monitoring for office and Chase WTP	267.00	
Amazon	Hazard signs and office supplies	110.27	
AnSer	Answering service	90.00	
Century Link	Fax line	76.98	*
Comcast Business	Cable, Internet and phone service	476.38	*
Commercial Air	HVAC quarterly maintenance	294.00	
Consolidated Supply	Curb and corp stops	640.28	
Conсор	Professional consulting services	6,422.00	
Core & Main	8 - 3/4" radio read registers	2,360.00	
Dennis Murphy	Refund credit balance	6.44	*
Edge Analytical	Water testing and DBP's	969.80	
EWEB	I5 pump power	11,646.59	
Ferguson	Inventory restock and Service line supplies	2,014.08	
Galardi Rothstein Group	SDC consultant - final project billing	555.00	
Internal Revenue Service	Payroll withholding and taxes - September 2023	14,718.88	*
Jan Cabaniss	Refund credit balance	104.65	*
Jerry's	Supplies for Chase painting and maintenance	336.46	
Jill Lindsay	Mileage	53.06	
Justin Wittmer	Chase field mowing	1,500.00	
Keller America	Drying tube assembly	306.33	
Kelley Connect	Copier invoice	152.70	
Key Bank	Mastercard Charges	1,412.62	
Lane Forest Products	Landscaping materials	71.98	
MW Coffee	Coffee for office	21.50	
NAPA Auto Parts	Truck maintenance supplies	15.38	
Nash Janitorial	Office cleaning	320.00	
One Call Concepts	UNC tickets	154.00	
Oregon Department of Rev	Payroll withholding and taxes - September 2023	3,727.51	*
Oregon Treasury Dept.	WBF Quarterly assessment	0.24	*
PacificSource Administrators	FSA fees - September 2023	805.00	*
Paramount Supply	Inventory restock and Service line supplies	258.46	
PERS	Pers voluntary contributions - September 2023	479.80	*
PERS	PERS Withholding and expense - June 2023	16,880.23	*
Rebecca Beltran Brown	Refund credit balance	130.95	*
SDIS	Employee insurance - October 2023	10,874.79	*
SDIS	FY 2022-23 Workman's comp audited premium	1,261.94	
Sherwin Williams	Chase wellfield paint	1,994.54	
Springbrook	Civic Pay Transaction fees for July 2023	1,283.50	
Springfield Utility Board	Pump power and fiber optic	12,050.16	
Stoddard Power Systems	I5 Electrical Upgrades	13,927.00	*
Streamline	Website service	260.00	
Ttech Settle - Springbrook	ACH Services for September 2023	377.50	
USPS	Permit 99	3,000.00	
Valvoline	Oil change for #7	110.46	
VOYA - ING	Deferred compensation program - September 2023	4,596.45	*
		117,158.14	
Approved by		10/11/2023	

RAINBOW WATER DISTRICT

KEY BANK CHARGES

8/31/2023

BILLING CYCLE:

Employee	Date	Vendor	Purpose	Amount	GL No.	Receipt
Jamie Porter	8/2/2023	Microsoft	Office Software	62.50	5300	X
	8/3/2023	Moi Poki Grill	SUB- City lunch	19.20	5300	X
	8/7/2023	Crash Plan	Office Software	9.99	5300	X
	8/8/2023	Adobe	Office Software	29.99	5300	X
	8/14/2023	Zoom	Office Software	15.99	5300	X
	8/25/2023	Microsoft	Office Software	69.99	5300	X
	8/25/2023	Newspapers.com	Temporary Register Guard Subscription	74.90	5300	X
	8/10/2023	OHA	MWD Refund	(248.00)	9150	X
			Sub Total	34.56		
Eric Carlson	8/7/2023	Sizzler	LUCC Lunch EC, BS, CP and WS	74.72	5300	X
	8/10/2023	Grainger	Supplies for DCWA and SDOAH	106.13	9250/9450	X
	8/29/2023	ABPA	Annual seminar for EC and BS	280.00	5360	X
			Sub Total	460.85		
Brian Scott	8/8/2023	McDonalds	Crane training meals/Per Diem	8.05	5360	X
	8/8/2023	Fred Meyer	Crane training meals/Per Diem	40.66	5360	X
	8/8/2023	Fred Meyer	Crane training meals/Per Diem	105.78	5360	X
	8/9/2023	Fred Meyer	Crane training meals/Per Diem	15.83	5360	X
	8/9/2023	Taqueria La Fuente	Crane training meals/Per Diem	23.00	5360	X
			Sub Total	193.32		
Wyatt Sayles	8/9/2023	Sherwin Williams	Reservoir maintenance	-	5285	X
			Sub Total	58.04		
Charles Petersen		No Charges		-		
			Sub Total	-		
Jodi Sanders	8/4/2023	MOD Pizza	C2C Subsection Lunch	11.48	5300	X
	8/10/2023	The Flower market	Appreciation Dinner flowers	475.00	5330	X
	8/11/2023	Albertsons	Board and safety meeting snacks	61.02	5300	X
	8/11/2023	Jersey Mikes	Board meeting meal	59.77	5300	X
	8/16/2023	ABPA West	Eric Carlson chapter dues	85.00	5300	X
	8/24/2023	USPS	Stamp Rolls	396.00	5290	X
				1,088.27		
		Grand Total	1,835.04			

Ordinary Income/Expense	Sep 23	Budget	% of Budget	Jul - Sep 23	YTD Budget	% of Budget	Annual Budget
Income							
4010 - Water Sales - District	126,450	120,750	105%	390,787	368,000	106%	1,169,964
4015 - Water Sales-SUB	79,660	57,000	140%	312,543	282,000	111%	792,770
4020 - Service Connection Charges	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	800
4030 - DRC's	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	2,400
4040 - Interest Income-Water	580	300	193%	984	900	109%	3,600
4050 - Reimbursed Labor	4,080	500	816%	4,840	1,500	323%	2,000
4060 - Account Processing Fees	305	250	122%	780	750	104%	3,050
4065 - Late Fees	450	0	100%	1,270	0	100%	0
4070 - Reconnection Charges	50	0	100%	375	0	100%	0
4080 - Gain/Loss on Sale of Assets	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	4,000
4085 - Water Fund - Transfers In	0	0	0%	0	148,216	0%	448,216
4090 - Miscellaneous Income	937	0	100%	1,948	0	100%	19,500
4095 - Fire Hydrant Maintenance	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	4,700
4100 - Bad Debts Recovered	0	0	0%	558	0	100%	0
4120 - Marcola Contract Income	2,229	2,000	111%	7,193	6,000	120%	18,000
4140 - Shangri La Contract Income	498	500	100%	1,346	1,500	90%	6,000
4160 - DCWA Contract Income	1,147	1,000	115%	3,255	3,000	109%	12,000
4180 - Shenandoah Income	855	500	171%	3,696	1,500	246%	6,000
4190 - Blue River Contract Income	1,153	500	231%	2,404	1,500	160%	7,000
Total Income	218,394	183,300	119%	731,979	814,866	90%	2,500,000
Gross Profit	218,394	183,300	119%	731,979	814,866	90%	2,500,000
Expense							
5000 - Personal Services							
5001 - Staff Wages							
5002 - Salary - Operations				15,742			0
5004 - Salary - Admin	26,910			72,407			0
5006 - Hourly - Operations	17,344			52,806			0
5008 - Hourly - Admin	2,601			9,573			0
5001 - Staff Wages - Other	0	57,632	0%	0	172,897	0%	695,465
Total 5001 - Staff Wages	49,195	57,632	85%	150,528	172,897	87%	695,465
5010 - Deferred Comp Company Expense	1,464	1,450	101%	4,754	4,350	109%	17,400
5016 - Extra Value Bonus	0	0	0%	20,420	18,000	113%	18,000
5050 - Part Time & Emergency Pay	2,193	2,500	88%	6,160	7,500	82%	30,000
5055 - Vacation Pay Expense	6,098	0	100%	17,715	0	100%	0
5056 - Sick Pay Expense	1,060	0	100%	3,571	0	100%	0
5057 - Sick Leave Buy Back	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	17,500
5060 - Social Security Expense	3,598	3,900	92%	12,227	11,700	105%	46,800
5065 - Medicare Expense	841	875	96%	2,860	2,875	99%	10,750
5070 - Workers Compensation Expense	0	0	0%	0	5,000	0%	7,500
5080 - Employee Insurance Expense	9,177	12,000	76%	27,530	59,411	46%	167,411
5081 - Employee Life Insurance Expense	433	0	100%	1,298	0	100%	0
5082 - FSA Fees	80	0	100%	540	0	100%	0
5083 - OR-WBF Assessment Expense	11	0	100%	35	0	100%	0
5100 - PERS Expense	14,903	14,750	101%	50,892	44,250	115%	177,000
5110 - Unemployment Expense	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
5120 - Payroll Advance	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Total 5000 - Personal Services	89,053	93,107	96%	298,530	325,983	92%	1,187,826
5200 - Materials & Services							
5210 - Purification Expense	8,095	10,000	81%	11,178	30,000	37%	120,000
5215 - Purification Exp-Source	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	5,500
5220 - Telephone & Telemetry	693	2,000	35%	3,949	6,000	66%	24,500
5230 - Pump Power & Electric	24,842	20,000	124%	49,836	60,000	83%	240,000
5240 - Maintenance-Vehicles	4,248	3,000	142%	6,711	9,000	75%	36,000
5245 - Maintenance - CWTP	172	1,000	17%	5,896	3,000	197%	12,000
5247 - Maintenance - WCCP	3,035	1,000	304%	8,732	3,000	291%	12,000
5250 - Maintenance-Pumps/Wells	0	500	0%	19	1,500	1%	6,000
5260 - Maintenance-Mains	1,090	500	218%	2,276	1,500	152%	6,000
5270 - Maintenance-Meters & Services	1,678	500	336%	2,006	1,500	134%	6,000
5275 - Maintenance - Land	0	0	0%	0	3,000	0%	9,000
5280 - Maintenance - Other	1,759	500	352%	4,952	1,500	330%	6,000
5285 - Maintenance-Reservoirs	94	0	100%	6,604	0	100%	3,000
5290 - Customer Postage	175	1,250	14%	2,384	3,750	64%	15,000
5295 - Utility Billing Program Expense	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
5300 - General Office Expense	1,468	1,500	98%	5,941	5,000	119%	25,500
5305 - Transaction Fee Processing	2,830	2,500	113%	3,762	7,500	50%	30,000
5310 - Special District Expense	0	0	0%	0	2,000	0%	2,000
5320 - Bad Debt Expense	0	125	0%	309	375	82%	1,500
5325 - Contract Workers	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	10,000
5330 - Budget & Election Expense	2,736	0	100%	2,736	0	100%	2,000
5340 - Community Outreach	0	125	0%	200	375	53%	1,500
5360 - Dues, School & Convention Exp	558	2,000	28%	1,543	2,500	62%	20,000
5365 - Emergency Preparedness	0	0	0%	950	0	100%	0
5380 - Street Light Expense	498	600	83%	1,002	1,800	56%	7,200
5200 - Materials & Services - Other	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Total 5200 - Materials & Services	53,971	47,100	115%	120,986	143,300	84%	600,700
5350 - CWTP - Loan / Interest Exp	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	148,216
5400 - Contractual							
5410 - Insurance Expense	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	52,000
5420 - Legal Expense	783	1,500	52%	1,458	4,500	32%	18,000
5425 - Network - IT	0	2,500	0%	0	3,500	0%	10,000
5427 - IT - Subscriptions	3,509	750	468%	3,204	2,250	142%	9,000
5430 - Audit & Accounting Expense	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	15,660
5440 - Engineering Studies - PFAS	1,543	3,000	51%	1,543	9,000	17%	54,500
5470 - Financial Advisor	0	0	0%	0	6,000	0%	6,000
5480 - Engineering Studies	0	0	0%	0	13,000	0%	23,000
Total 5400 - Contractual	5,835	7,750	75%	6,205	38,250	16%	188,160
5500 - Capital Outlay							
5510 - Mains	0	30,000	0%	0	60,000	0%	90,000
5520 - Service Lines	0	0	0%	0	2,000	0%	5,000
5530 - Meters	0	0	0%	0	2,000	0%	5,000
5540 - Hydrants	0	5,000	0%	0	10,000	0%	20,000
5550 - Tools, Vehicles & Equipment	0	1,000	0%	0	3,000	0%	16,200
5560 - Office Furniture & Equipment	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
5570 - Well Rehabs	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
5580 - Wells and Wellfield	15,650	0	100%	15,650	0	100%	0
5585 - Telemetry & Control System	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	5,000
5590 - Purification Equipment	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
5595 - Streetlight Replacement	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
5600 - Reservoirs	0	0	0%	0	25,000	0%	25,000

	Sep 23	Budget	% of Budget	Jul - Sep 23	YTD Budget	% of Budget	Annual Budget
5610 - Chase Wellfield Development	0	50,000	0%	0	85,000	0%	225,000
5620 - Building & Additions	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	15,000
5640 - Weyerhaeuser Corrosion Control	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Total 5500 - Capital Outlay	15,650	86,000	18%	15,650	187,000	8%	406,200
7035 - Capital Res Capital - Vehicles	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
Total Expense	164,509	233,957	70%	441,371	694,533	64%	2,531,102
Net Ordinary Income	53,885	-50,657	-106%	290,608	120,333	242%	-31,102
Other Income/Expense							
Other Income							
70000 - CAPITAL RESERVE FUND							
7010 - Capital Reserve - Interest	2,103	1,000	210%	6,086	3,000	203%	15,000
7020 - Capital Reserve - Transfers In	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	500,000
Total 70000 - CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	2,103	1,000	210%	6,086	3,000	203%	515,000
70500 - RESILIENCE FUND							
7100 - Resilience Fund - Transfers In	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	200,000
7110 - Resilience Fund - Interest	1,795	500	359%	5,193	1,500	346%	7,000
Total 70500 - RESILIENCE FUND	1,795	500	359%	5,193	1,500	346%	207,000
8000 - Fire Protection-Income							
8010 - Fire Protection - Tax Income	2,377	6,000	40%	7,125	13,000	55%	1,715,000
8030 - Fire Protection - Interest	1,733	250	693%	4,984	750	665%	15,000
Total 8000 - Fire Protection-Income	4,110	6,250	66%	12,109	13,750	88%	1,730,000
Total Other Income	8,008	7,750	103%	23,388	18,250	128%	2,452,000
Other Expense							
6550 - Water Fund - Transfers Out	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	200,000
7030 - Capital Reserve - Transfers Out	0	0	0%	0	300,000	0%	300,000
8500 - Fire Protection-Expense							
8510 - Fire Protection-Contract Exp	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	1,238,831
8545 - Fire Fund - Transfers Out	0	0	0%	0	148,216	0%	648,216
Total 8500 - Fire Protection-Expense	0	0	0%	0	148,216	0%	1,887,047
Total Other Expense	0	0	0%	0	448,216	0%	2,387,047
Net Other Income	8,008	7,750	103%	23,388	-429,966	-5%	64,953
Net Income	61,893	-42,907	-144%	313,996	-309,633	-101%	33,851

Rainbow Water District
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
September 2023

	Sep 23	Sep 22	\$ Change	% Change
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4010 - Water Sales - District	126,450	129,011	-2,561	-2%
4015 - Water Sales-SUB	79,660	93,900	-14,240	-15%
4020 - Service Connection Charges	0	1,827	-1,827	-100%
4030 - DRC's	0	2,931	-2,931	-100%
4040 - Interest Income-Water	580	179	401	224%
4050 - Reimbursed Labor	4,080	49	4,031	8,227%
4060 - Account Processing Fees	305	150	155	103%
4065 - Late Fees	450	420	30	7%
4070 - Reconnection Charges	50	200	-150	-75%
4085 - Water Fund - Transfers In	0	148,216	-148,216	-100%
4090 - Miscellaneous Income	937	68	869	1,278%
4100 - Bad Debts Recovered	0	73	-73	-100%
4120 - Marcola Contract Income	2,229	775	1,454	188%
4140 - Shangri La Contract Income	498	48	450	938%
4160 - DCWA Contract Income	1,147	663	484	73%
4180 - Shenandoah Income	855	1,226	-371	-30%
4190 - Blue River Contract Income	1,153	239	914	382%
Total Income	218,394	379,975	-161,581	-43%
Gross Profit	218,394	379,975	-161,581	-43%
Expense				
5000 - Personal Services				
5001 - Staff Wages				
5002 - Salary - Operations	2,340	0	2,340	100%
5004 - Salary - Admin	26,910	0	26,910	100%
5006 - Hourly - Operations	17,344	0	17,344	100%
5008 - Hourly - Admin	2,601	0	2,601	100%
5001 - Staff Wages - Other	0	48,465	-48,465	-100%
Total 5001 - Staff Wages	49,195	48,465	730	2%
5010 - Deferred Comp Company Expense	1,464	1,425	39	3%
5050 - Part Time & Emergency Pay	2,193	2,225	-32	-1%
5055 - Vacation Pay Expense	6,098	5,261	837	16%
5056 - Sick Pay Expense	1,060	1,033	27	3%
5057 - Sick Leave Buy Back	0	0	0	0%
5060 - Social Security Expense	3,598	3,468	130	4%
5065 - Medicare Expense	841	811	30	4%
5080 - Employee Insurance Expense	9,177	10,604	-1,427	-13%
5081 - Employee Life Insurance Expense	433	475	-42	-9%
5082 - FSA Fees	80	80	0	0%
5083 - OR-WBF Assessment Expense	11	14	-3	-21%
5100 - PERS Expense	14,903	13,611	1,292	9%
5110 - Unemployment Expense	0	0	0	0%
5120 - Payroll Advance	0	0	0	0%
Total 5000 - Personal Services	89,053	87,472	1,581	2%
5200 - Materials & Services				
5210 - Purification Expense	8,095	6,501	1,594	25%
5220 - Telephone & Telemetry	693	1,259	-566	-45%
5230 - Pump Power & Electric	24,842	23,993	849	4%
5240 - Maintenance-Vehicles	4,248	5,063	-815	-16%
5245 - Maintenance - CWTP	172	6,874	-6,702	-97%
5247 - Maintenance - WCCP	3,035	5,762	-2,727	-47%
5250 - Maintenance-Pumps/Wells	0	250	-250	-100%
5260 - Maintenance-Mains	1,090	0	1,090	100%
5270 - Maintenance-Meters & Services	1,678	-261	1,939	743%
5280 - Maintenance - Other	1,759	3,730	-1,971	-53%
5285 - Maintenance-Reservoirs	94	0	94	100%
5290 - Customer Postage	175	2,458	-2,283	-93%
5300 - General Office Expense	1,468	778	690	89%
5305 - Transaction Fee Processing	2,830	1,076	1,754	163%
5330 - Budget & Election Expense	2,736	2,675	61	2%
5360 - Dues, School & Convention Exp	558	2,052	-1,494	-73%
5380 - Street Light Expense	498	490	8	2%
Total 5200 - Materials & Services	53,971	62,700	-8,729	-14%
5400 - Contractual				
5420 - Legal Expense	783	0	783	100%
5427 - IT - Subscriptions	3,509	0	3,509	100%
5440 - Engineering Studies - PFAS	1,543	0	1,543	100%
Total 5400 - Contractual	5,835	0	5,835	100%
5500 - Capital Outlay				
5510 - Mains	0	39,530	-39,530	-100%
5580 - Wells and Wellfield	15,650	0	15,650	100%
Total 5500 - Capital Outlay	15,650	39,530	-23,880	-60%
Total Expense	164,509	189,702	-25,193	-13%
Net Ordinary Income	53,885	190,273	-136,388	-72%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
70000 - CAPITAL RESERVE FUND				
7010 - Capital Reserve - Interest	2,103	718	1,385	193%
Total 70000 - CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	2,103	718	1,385	193%
70500 - RESILIENCE FUND				
7110 - Resilience Fund - Interest	1,795	511	1,284	251%
Total 70500 - RESILIENCE FUND	1,795	511	1,284	251%
8000 - Fire Protection-Income				
8010 - Fire Protection - Tax Income	2,377	6,015	-3,638	-60%
8030 - Fire Protection - Interest	1,733	574	1,159	202%
Total 8000 - Fire Protection-Income	4,110	6,589	-2,479	-38%
Total Other Income	8,008	7,818	190	2%
Other Expense				
8500 - Fire Protection-Expense				
8545 - Fire Fund - Transfers Out	0	148,216	-148,216	-100%
Total 8500 - Fire Protection-Expense	0	148,216	-148,216	-100%
Total Other Expense	0	148,216	-148,216	-100%
Net Other Income	8,008	-140,398	148,406	106%
Net Income	61,893	49,875	12,018	24%

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10/04/23

Accrual Basis

Rainbow Water District

Profit & Loss

September 2022 through September 2023

	Sep 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sep 23	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense														
Income														
4010 · Water Sales - District	129,011	89,821	72,436	67,739	64,756	66,546	66,013	68,625	72,258	191,718	104,468	159,869	126,450	1,279,711
4015 · Water Sales-SUB	93,900	66,503	52,136	50,455	54,866	52,136	57,740	58,520	70,844	85,907	114,703	118,180	79,660	955,549
4020 · Service Connection Charges	1,827	688	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,515	0	0	0	5,031
4030 · DRC's	2,931	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,931
4040 · Interest Income-Water	179	548	665	645	657	348	302	387	652	507	226	178	580	5,873
4050 · Reimbursed Labor	49	281	1,591	258	310	0	0	597	0	2,771	0	760	4,080	10,696
4060 · Account Processing Fees	150	270	225	265	150	190	145	115	285	230	220	255	305	2,805
4065 · Late Fees	420	410	330	520	430	420	410	450	420	430	470	350	450	5,510
4070 · Reconnection Charges	200	100	0	525	25	50	95	200	150	150	200	125	50	1,870
4085 · Water Fund - Transfers In	148,216	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	128,740	0	0	0	0	276,956
4090 · Miscellaneous Income	68	175	-175	-1,458	245	-74	0	0	68	136	45	966	937	933
4095 · Fire Hydrant Maintenance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,113	0	0	0	0	5,113
4100 · Bad Debts Recovered	73	0	0	0	0	0	0	115	0	0	558	0	0	745
4120 · Marcola Contract Income	775	1,194	822	1,755	1,756	1,008	1,879	3,212	2,783	7,303	1,479	3,486	2,229	29,680
4140 · Shangri La Contract Income	48	681	1,550	770	249	402	314	596	459	321	276	572	498	6,735
4160 · DCWA Contract Income	663	1,217	1,425	2,160	2,859	915	4,653	1,201	1,446	917	969	1,139	1,147	20,708
4180 · Shenandoah Income	1,226	709	421	337	432	408	499	1,012	482	447	630	2,211	855	9,667
4190 · Blue River Contract Income	239	705	487	628	770	1,317	543	706	3,559	901	635	617	1,153	12,258
Total Income	379,973	163,302	131,912	124,598	127,504	123,665	132,591	135,735	287,258	294,253	224,877	288,708	218,393	2,632,771
Gross Profit	379,973	163,302	131,912	124,598	127,504	123,665	132,591	135,735	287,258	294,253	224,877	288,708	218,393	2,632,771
Expense														
5000 · Personal Services	87,474	86,951	87,234	87,626	86,468	81,587	86,603	83,629	87,000	107,287	116,754	92,723	89,053	1,180,390
5200 · Materials & Services	62,698	50,818	51,864	42,586	46,216	45,982	45,368	48,422	40,757	106,744	1,932	65,082	53,971	662,439
5350 · CWTP - Loan / Interest Exp	0	0	148,216	0	0	0	0	0	0	-106,958	0	0	0	41,258
5400 · Contractual	0	0	0	10,608	58,878	141	9,424	3,498	10,921	21,749	-152	522	5,835	121,427
5500 · Capital Outlay	39,530	41,648	9,055	14,776	12,405	6,945	0	0	25,249	57,461	0	0	15,650	222,718
7035 · Capital Res Capital - Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	116,798	0	0	0	116,798
Total Expense	189,702	179,417	296,368	155,596	203,967	134,655	141,396	135,549	163,927	303,080	118,535	158,328	164,509	2,345,028
Net Ordinary Income	190,271	-16,114	-164,456	-30,998	-76,463	-10,989	-8,805	186	123,331	-8,827	106,343	130,380	53,885	287,742
Other Income/Expense														
Other Income														
70000 · CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	718	821	1,049	301,742	2,230	2,236	2,495	2,423	2,324	2,047	1,915	2,067	2,103	324,171
70500 · RESILIENCE FUND	511	584	747	849	975	977	1,092	1,060	1,100	122,190	1,634	1,764	1,795	135,279
8000 · Fire Protection-Income	6,589	7,186	1,073,431	490,901	23,948	16,430	38,980	9,821	7,804	36,849	2,491	5,508	4,110	1,724,047
Total Other Income	7,819	8,591	1,075,227	793,493	27,153	19,644	42,567	13,303	11,228	161,085	6,041	9,338	8,008	2,183,496

	Sep 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sep 23	TOTAL
Other Expense														
5700 · Capital Outlay Offset	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-349,139	0	0	0	-349,139
6540 · Depreciation Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	240,118	0	0	0	240,118
6550 · Water Fund - Transfers Out	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	121,000	0	0	0	121,000
7030 · Capital Reserve - Transfers Out	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	128,740	0	0	0	0	128,740
8500 · Fire Protection-Expense	148,216	0	0	300,000	619,416	0	309,708	0	0	309,708	0	0	0	1,687,047
Total Other Expense	148,216	0	0	300,000	619,416	0	309,708	0	128,740	321,686	0	0	0	1,827,766
Net Other Income	-140,397	8,591	1,075,227	493,493	-592,263	19,644	-267,141	13,303	-117,512	-160,601	6,041	9,338	8,008	355,731
Net Income	49,874	-7,523	910,771	462,495	-668,726	8,654	-275,945	13,488	5,819	-169,428	112,383	139,719	61,892	643,473

DIVIDER PAGE

RESOLUTIONS

**RESOLUTION 2023-19
RAINBOW WATER DISTRICT
RESOLUTION REGARDING A PARTIAL
SETTLEMENT OF THE PFAS LITIGATION**

WHEREAS, Rainbow Water District is a domestic water supply district under Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 264 which provides that “the power and authority given to districts is vested in and shall be exercised by a board of five commissioners, each of whom shall be an elector of the district”, and the Rainbow Water District Board of Commissioners also serves as the Local Contract Review Board, and

WHEREAS, the District’s Board of Commissioners met on October 11, 2023 to discuss the two partial settlements of the pending PFAS litigation as relates to DuPont (and entities related to DuPont) and 3M, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rainbow Water District Board of Commissioners approves proceeding with the settlement agreements with DuPont (and entities related to DuPont) and 3M and hereby authorizes and instructs retained legal counsel NOT to opt out of either settlement and to take all necessary steps for Rainbow Water and Fire District doing business as Rainbow Water District to execute any and all documents in furtherance of the same.

ADOPTED by a vote of _____ Yes votes and _____ No votes this 11th day of October 2023.

President
Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Secretary-Treasurer

DIVIDER PAGE

PROGRAM
OR POLICY
REVIEW

Understanding Water Well Rehabilitation

MARKETING SEPTEMBER 6, 2020 [WELL SERVICES](#)

As water wells age, the rate at which water may be pumped (commonly referred to as the well yield, flow, or performance) tends to decrease, especially in wells that were not properly developed when first drilled. This article briefly describes common well problems and discusses rehabilitation measures.

Water Well Maintenance

Water wells require regular maintenance to ensure adequate water flow and continued water quality. Every 1-3 years water quality testing is recommended for bacteria, total dissolved solids, and land uses occurring or expected to occur within sight of the well. Additionally, if there are unusual stains, tastes, or odors in water, s testing that will help identify the source of these symptoms.

Water wells should also be inspected annually for obvious signs of damage or contamination. Additionally, be sure the area within 100 feet around the well is clear of debris or items that might pollute the water supply.

It's also recommended that you get your wells professionally inspected by a water well contractor at least every ten years. Furthermore, copies of all records related to the history of each well should be maintained:

- Water well completion report or log (if you have it) which should include information such as water well depth, date drilled, construction (including casing specifications, grouting, and screen), and water well yield flow rate in gallons per minute (gpm)
- Water quality test reports
- Past inspection reports, including video inspections
- Invoices for work done by water well contractors (including pump replacement and maintenance)
- Well equipment makes/models, warranties, invoices, and manuals

Most of these items should be available by contacting the drilling contractor, well development company, consulting engineer, or the geologist.

Well Performance Over Time

As water wells age, the rate at which water may be pumped tends to decrease, especially in wells that were not properly developed when first drilled. A drop or complete loss of water production from a well can sometime occur even in relatively new wells due to a lowered water level from persistent drought or over-pumping of the well which can dewater the water-bearing zones. More often, reduced well yield over time can be related to changes in the water well itself including:

- Incrustation from mineral deposits
- Bio-fouling by the growth of microorganisms
- Physical plugging of the "aquifer" (the saturated layer of sand, gravel, or rock through which water is transmitted) by sediment
- Sand pumping
- Well screen or casing corrosion
- Pump wear or damage

Water Well Rehabilitation

Measures taken to correct these problems are referred to as well rehabilitation or restoration. A successful well rehabilitation will maximize the flow of water from the well and minimize pumping costs. The chances for successful rehabilitation are dependent on the cause(s) of poor well performance and the degree to which the problem has progressed.

Upon noticing the loss of performance in your well have a professional water well contractor inspect your well preferably with a specialized downhole camera or video equipment.

A common measure of well performance (or capacity) is referred to as the "specific capacity" which is defined as the pumping rate (gallons per minute) divided by the drawdown or increased depth to water during pumping (feet).

Generally, a decrease of 25% or more in well yield indicates that rehabilitation is in order. Delaying rehabilitation procedures can significantly increase costs and in some cases make rehabilitation impossible.

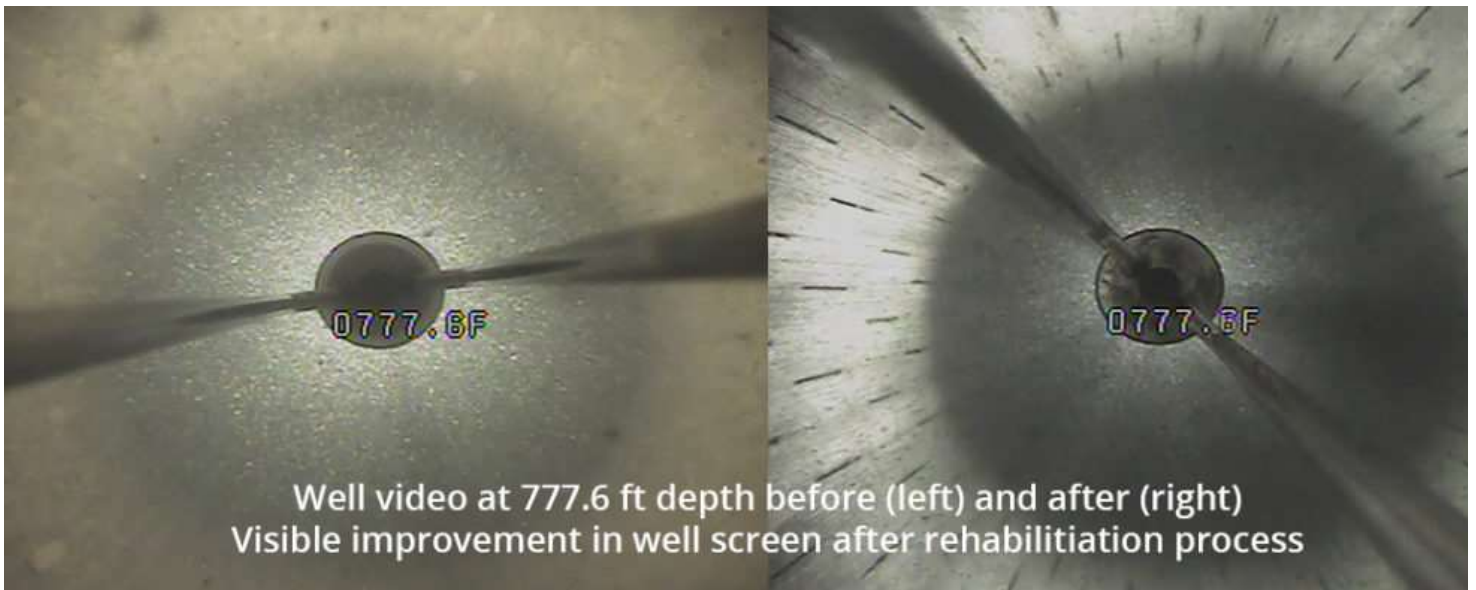
To detect deterioration of well performance, you must have a point of reference. Often this reference is the original well construction and pump test data which are normally supplied to you by the well driller (well completion report) or well log when the well was installed and developed. However, even if you do not have this information, significant changes in your well's performance are also a warning sign. Major changes in any of the following well characteristics are an indication that your well or pump needs attention:

- Decreased pumping rate
- Decreased water level
- Decreased specific capacity
- Increased sand or sediment content in the water (cloudiness)
- Decreased total well depth

Well Rehabilitation Methods

The most common rehabilitation methods for water wells include one or more of the following treatments:

- Chemicals/acids to dissolve obstructing materials in the well
- AirShock® the well with high-pressure gas (pulsing shock waves and oscillating gas bubbles)
- Physical/mechanical methods (i.e. brushes, pressure jetting, surging, etc.)
- A combination of several methods



[IMAGE: Well video images showing fouled (before) and cleared (after) well screen]

Sometimes contractors will use a combination of these methods depending upon the reason(s) for the decrease in well performance.

Reduced Yield from Incrustation or Bio-Fouling

Chemical and biological incrustation are common causes of reduced well performance. Incrustations are physical obstructions that develop on well screens and rock fractures or openings delivering water to the well screen borehole.

In severe cases, the obstructions to flowing water can render the well useless. Major forms of incrustations can occur from build-up of calcium and magnesium salts, iron and manganese compounds, or plugging caused by slime producing iron bacteria or other similar organisms (bio-fouling).

Treatment of Well Incrustation

The principal means used for rehabilitation of chemical incrustation problems involves the use of strong acid solutions to dissolve incrusting materials. These acids are typically placed in the well for 24-48 hours for optimal performance.

Once loosened or dissolved, the incrusting materials are pumped from the well with the acid solution for disposal. The type of acid to be used, its form (liquid, granular, pelletized), the procedures used to introduce and agitate the acid solution, and the severity of incrustation all play a part in determining the success of acid treatment. It is common for acid-treated older wells to completely recover or even exceed the original well yield assuming any material dislodged by the acid is properly removed from the well.

While acid treatment methods for incrustation removal are very effective, physical agitation methods like AirShock® and mechanical brushing are often used in conjunction with acid treatment to improve results.

Treatment of Bio-Fouling

The primary cause of bio-fouling, or biological clogging, of well screens and rock fractures is attributed to iron bacteria. These and other similar bacteria create a slimy, voluminous “biomat” that plugs or clogs the well screen.

Rapid growth of these bacteria can quickly clog well screen pores and render a well virtually useless in a matter of months. Once iron bacteria become established in a well, they can be extremely difficult to eradicate.

Treating iron bacteria colonies in water wells is often a perpetual process that seeks to maintain well performance at an acceptable level. In general, chemical means of control are most effective. However, best results are achieved when chemical bactericides are used in conjunction with physical agitation of the borehole water to remove the biological residue.

Chemical treatment of iron bacteria problems may not be effective without subsequent agitation of the well water. Turbulent flow causes greater surface area exposure of slime growths to the chemical solution and aids in dislodging obstructions.

Since precipitation of iron in the bacteria biomatting contributes to clogging of flow spaces, rehabilitation results are usually improved when acid treatments are alternated with bactericide treatments.

Failure Caused by Physical Plugging and Sand Pumping

A portion of the loss in well performance over time can often be attributed to the slow migration of fine particles from the aquifer toward the borehole and into the well screen. In some cases, the screen itself can become clogged. To prevent pump damage, the replacement of a deteriorating screen is frequently a good decision. There are several reasons for sediment plugging including:

- Improper well design (poor screen placement, slot design, etc.)
- Insufficient or no well development during the initial well construction
- Removal of aquifer formation cementing materials holding sands together
- Screen and/or casing corrosion
- Over pumping of the well beyond its designed capacity

Treatment of Physical Plugging

The most important preventative measure to avoid physical plugging is proper well development during the initial construction. Adequate well development will stabilize the aquifer material so that subsequent pumping from the well will not result in excessive sediment removal. Removal of fine silt and clay particles introduced by some drilling fluids, or which naturally occur in certain kinds of aquifers, can only be accomplished with the use of chemical treatments.

As with other chemical rehabilitation treatments, agitation of the chemical into and out of the aquifer formation is crucial to the success of the operation. This agitation may be provided by a surge plunger, compressed air pump, or a high-velocity jet. The use of a high-velocity jet is generally recognized as the most effective means of agitation. When water from the well is re-circulated for jetting, sediment should be removed prior to reuse. Continuous removal of dislodged sediment, as done in a recirculating jet operation, gives the best results as the cleaning solution is able to penetrate more deeply into the aquifer medium.

Failure Caused by Corrosion

Corrosion of metal well casing and other components can seriously reduce the useful life of a well in several ways.

Corroded and enlarged well screen holes may lead to sand pumping, which in turn results in abrasive deterioration of pump parts and enlarged screen openings leading to excessive sediment velocities.

In this case, abrasive materials carried in high-velocity flows can lead to erosion of the screen openings. A screen or well casing that has undergone significant corrosive deterioration may collapse altogether. A final negative impact of well corrosion is that water from a seriously affected well may be such low quality that uses are limited.

Treatment of Well Corrosion

The best way to avoid or fix corrosion problems is to select appropriate corrosion-resistant casing and screen materials. Carbon steel screens are less expensive than stainless steel but are more susceptible to corrosion. Keep in mind that excessive acid-rehabilitation well treatments can also significantly accelerate general corrosion.

Failure Caused by Pump Damage

Water well pump damage is usually the result of one or more of the following factors:

- Pumping of abrasive sand or sediment
- Corrosion of pump parts
- Excessively high operating temperatures
- Pump cavitation

Abrasive deterioration resulting from sand pumping is the leading cause of pump failure.

Excessive sediment concentrations in well water can be brought about by inadequate initial well development, absence of a well screen in a loose rock formation, oversized screen openings, excessive well screen entrance water velocities resulting from undersized openings, or well screen corrosion.

Treatment of Pump Damage

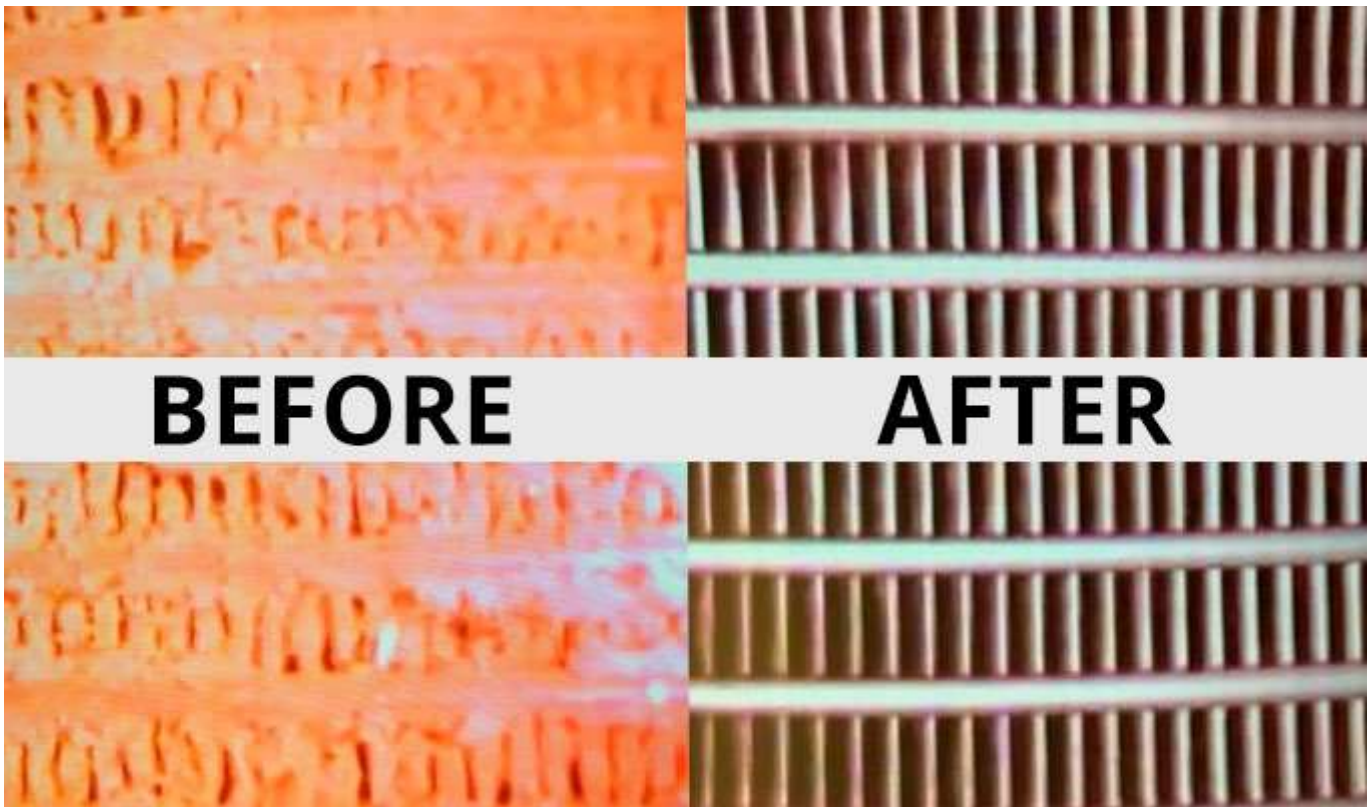
Usually, a pump will show some evidence that maintenance is in order. Most major causes of pump failure are related to mechanical problems such as bearings, stuffing boxes, impellers, and pump bowl assemblies. Maintenance, repair and replacement of the pump and motor parts should be in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations by an experienced well or pump contractor.

Correction of recurring sand pumping problems is in some cases cost-prohibitive. Total well replacement may in the long run be more economical than rehabilitation of a severely deteriorated well. This is especially true of shallow wells.

However, when drilling a new well is not feasible, it is sometimes possible to extract and replace a severely damaged well screen in the existing well. Installation of a smaller diameter screen (also known as a liner) inside the original well screen has also been used as a remedy. Various devices can also be installed to even out or reduce the flow of water entering the well and thus reduce the potential for sand pumping.

Summary

If your well begins to demonstrate the symptoms of poor performance, don't delay in contacting a professional water well contractor. The sooner that they can inspect the well to find the problem and treat it, the more likely you are to have a successful water well rehabilitation.



[IMAGE: Well screen before and after comparison following [AirShock® treatment](#)]

Development of Water Wells

Procedures designed to maximize well yield are included in the term “well development”. Development has two broad objectives : (1) repair damage done to the formation by the drilling operation so that natural hydraulic properties are restored, and (2) alter the basic physical characteristics of the aquifer near the borehole so that water will flow more freely to the well. These objectives are accomplished by applying some form of energy to the screen and formation. Well development is confined mainly to a zone immediately adjacent to the well, where the formation materials have been disturbed by the well construction procedures or adversely affected by drilling fluids. In addition, the undisturbed part of the aquifer just outside the damaged zone may be reworked physically during development to improve its natural hydraulic properties.

All new wells should be developed before being put into production to achieve sand-free water at the highest possible efficiency. In addition, older wells often require periodic redevelopment to maintain or even improve the original well yield and drawdown conditions. Maintaining a high specific capacity (i.e. efficiency) assures that the well will be energy efficient.

In natural development, a highly permeable zone is created around the screen from materials existing in the formation. Creation of this zone is best understood by visualizing what happens throughout a series of concentric cylindrical zones in a sand aquifer surrounding the screen. In the zone next to the screen, development removes most particles smaller than the screen openings, leaving only the coarsest material in place. A little farther out, some medium-sized grains remain mixed with the coarse sediment. Beyond that zone, the material gradually grades back to the original character of the water-bearing formation (Figure 15.3). Finer particles brought into the screen are removed by bailing, pumping, or air-lift from the drilling rig compressor. Development work is continued until the movement of fines from the formation becomes negligible.

By creating this succession of graded zones around the screen, development stabilizes the formation and prevents further movement of sediment. After development, water moving toward the screen encounters sediment with increasing hydraulic conductivity and porosity. Improving the hydraulic conditions around the well will increase the specific capacity and efficiency. Thus, more water can be produced by the well, and for any yield the cost of lifting the water will be minimized.

Causes of Unstable, Sand-Pumping Wells

If the aquifer formation consists of interbedded fine and coarse materials, screen slot openings may mistakenly be chosen for the coarser layers only, allowing the finer layer materials to pass through the screen and result in an unstable sandpumping well. This is a common occurrence in air rotary drilling where thin layers of fine sand may be mixed with the coarse material in the drill cuttings brought to the surface and the finer layer will remain undetected by the driller, leading to selection of a screen with over-large slot openings. In such cases, an excessive amount of development time may be required to rearrange the material, withdrawing the finer layer next to the screen and agitating the coarser layer sufficiently to move it into the voids thus created.

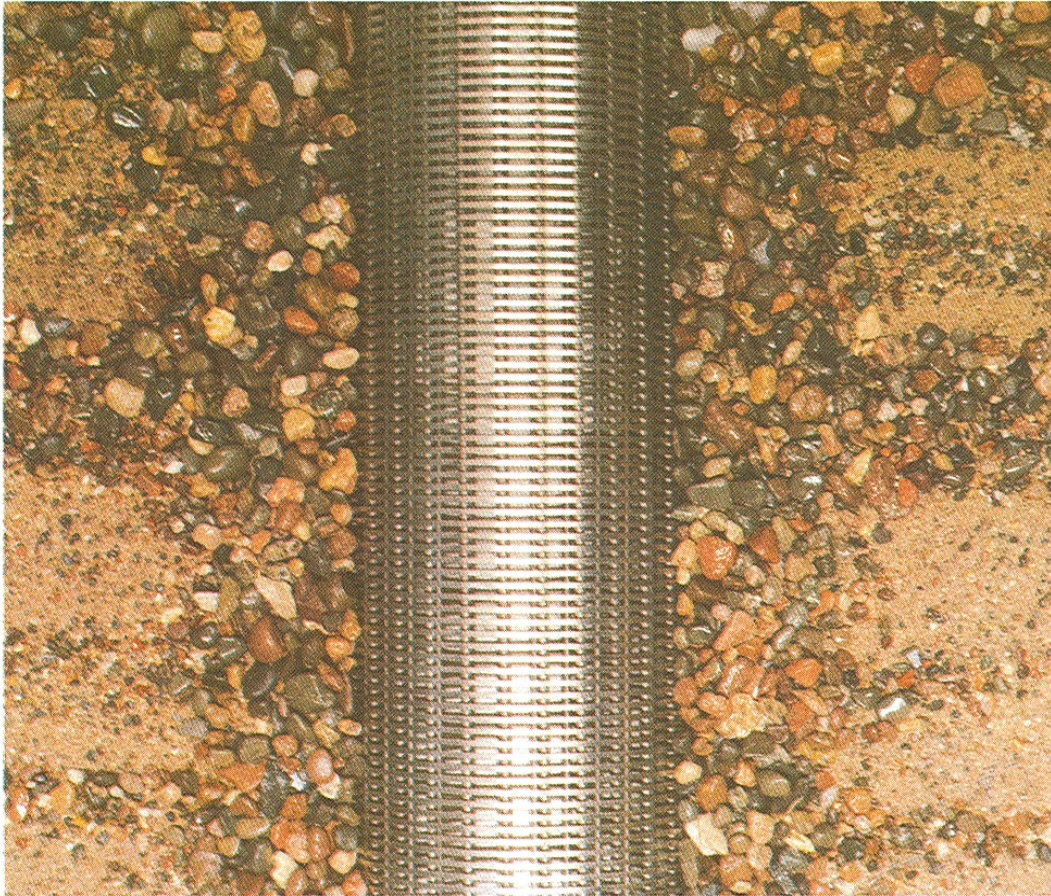


Figure 15.3. Natural development removes most particles near the well screen that are smaller than the slot openings, thereby increasing porosity and hydraulic conductivity in a zone surrounding the screen.

Another cause of instability is when a well in service is overpumped with water flowing in only one direction (toward the screen), some larger sand grains may be left in a bridged condition, resulting in a formation that is unstable (Figure 15.4). If this condition exists and the formation is agitated during normal pump on-off cycles, finer sediment may pass between the bridged material, or the bridged material may become unstable and collapse, causing the well to pump sand.

Sand bridging may also occur when a new well is developed for a short period only using air-lift from the drilling rig compressor to blow out the well. This method is usually insufficient to form a natural graded filter around the screen.

Effective development procedures should cause reversals of flow through the screen openings that will agitate the sediment, remove the finer fraction, and then rearrange the remaining formation particles (Figure 15.5). Reversing the direction of flow breaks down the bridging between large particles and across screen openings that results when water flows in only one direction. The backflow portion of a backwashing cycle breaks down bridging, and the inflow then moves the fine material toward the screen and into the well.

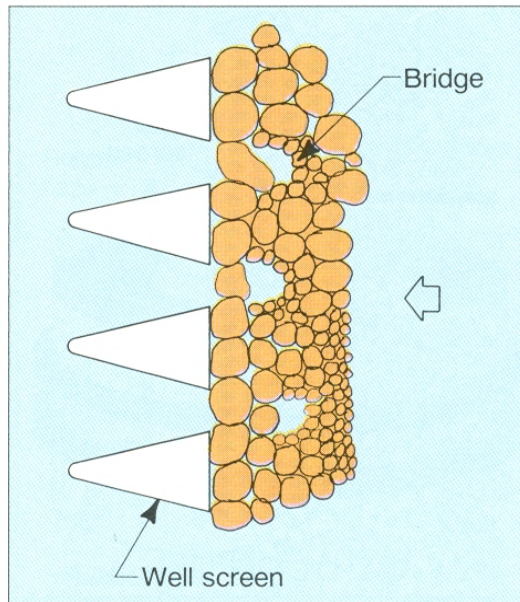


Figure 15.4. During development by overpumping, sand grains can bridge openings because flow occurs in only one direction. Once the well is placed into service, agitation by normal pump cycling can break down the bridges, causing sand pumping.

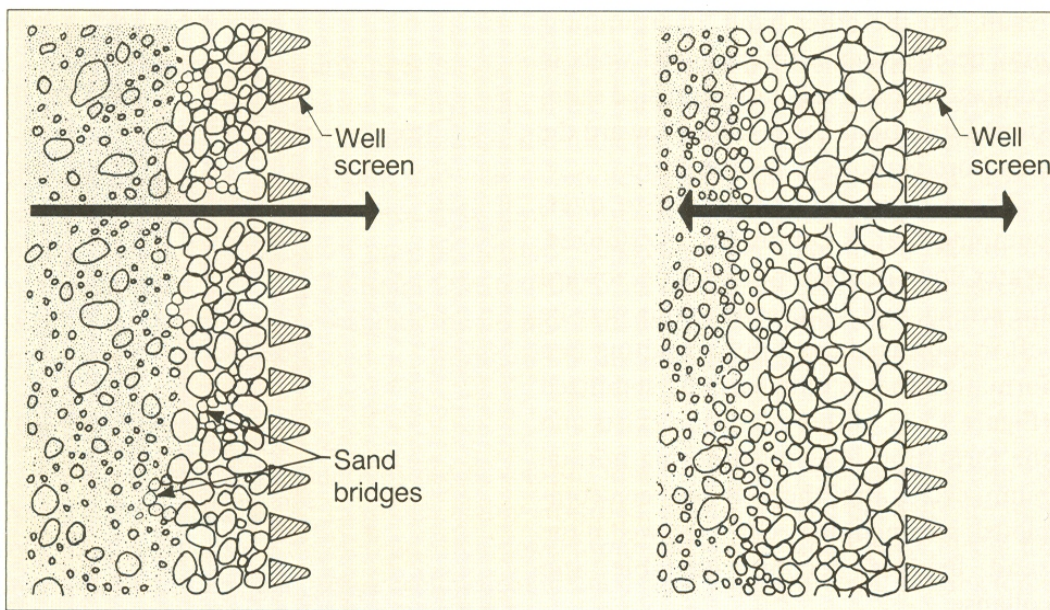


Figure 15.5. Effective development action requires movement of water in both directions through screen openings. Reversing flow helps break down bridging of particles. Movement in only one direction, as when pumping from the well, does not produce the proper development effect.

Different types of formations are developed more effectively by using certain development methods. For example, highly stratified, coarse-grained deposits are most effectively developed by methods that concentrate energy on small parts of the formation. In uniform deposits, development methods that apply powerful surging forces over the entire well bore produce highly satisfactory results. Other development methods that withdraw or inject large volumes of water or air quickly can actually reduce the natural hydraulic conductivity of formations containing a significant amount of silt and clay.

Different well development procedures have evolved in different regions because of the physical characteristics of aquifers and the type of drilling rig used to drill the well. Any development procedure applied should be able to clean the well so that it produces sand-free water.

Mechanical Surging

The traditional method of development is to force water to flow into and out of a screen by operating a plunger up and down in the casing, similar to a piston in a cylinder. The tool normally used is called a surge block. Periodically during the surging process fine material drawn in through the screen is removed from the borehole using a suction bailer.

Before starting to surge, the well is bailed to clean the bottom of accumulated sand and scale. The surge block is lowered into the well until it is beneath the static water level, but above the screen or packer and the initial surging motion should be relatively gentle, allowing any material blocking the screen to break up, go into suspension, and then move into the well. The surge block must be operated with particular care if the formation above the screen consists mainly of fine sand or silt which may slump into the screen. As water begins to move easily both into and out of the screen and the well appears to be stabilizing, the surging tool is lowered into the screen and worked progressively downward. Particular attention is given to zones that produce a large amount of sand, or other zones that appear to be blocked requiring harder surging action to loosen the formation material and increase the flow of water.

Surging and bailing are continued until little or no sand can be pulled into the well. Total development time may range from about two hours for small wells to many days for large wells with long screens.

Reference :

Driscoll, F.G.; *Groundwater and Wells*; Published by U.S. Filter/Johnson Screens, St. Paul, Minnesota; 2nd Ed. 1986.

DIVIDER PAGE

INFORMATION ONLY

Artificial intelligence tech behind ChatGPT guzzles Iowa water, researchers say

Published: Sep. 11, 2023, 11:39 a.m.



A Microsoft data center is seen near Interstate 35, Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2023, in West Des Moines, Iowa. Microsoft has been amassing a cluster of data centers to power its cloud computing services for more than a decade. Its fourth and fifth data centers in the city are due to open later this year. AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall

By Matt O'Brien and Hannah Fingerhut | The Associated Press

The cost of building an artificial intelligence product like ChatGPT can be hard to measure.

But one thing Microsoft-backed OpenAI needed for its technology was plenty of water, pulled from the watershed of the Raccoon and Des Moines rivers in central Iowa to cool a powerful supercomputer as it helped teach its AI systems how to mimic human writing.

As they race to capitalize on a [craze for generative AI](#), leading tech developers including Microsoft, OpenAI and Google have acknowledged that growing demand for their AI tools carries hefty costs, from expensive semiconductors to an increase in water consumption.

But they're often secretive about the specifics. Few people in Iowa knew about its status as a birthplace of OpenAI's most advanced large language model, GPT-4, before a top Microsoft executive said in a speech it "was literally made next to cornfields west of Des Moines."

Building a large language model requires analyzing patterns across a huge trove of human-written text. All of that computing takes a lot of electricity and generates a lot of heat. To keep it cool on hot days, data centers need to pump in water — often to a cooling tower outside its warehouse-sized buildings.

In its [latest environmental report](#), Microsoft disclosed that its global water consumption spiked 34% from 2021 to 2022 (to nearly 1.7 billion gallons, or more than 2,500 Olympic-sized swimming pools), a sharp increase compared to previous years that outside researchers tie to its AI research.

"It's fair to say the majority of the growth is due to AI," including "its heavy investment in generative AI and partnership with OpenAI," said Shaolei Ren, a

researcher at the University of California, Riverside who has been trying to calculate the environmental impact of generative AI products such as ChatGPT.

In a paper due to be published later this year, Ren's team estimates ChatGPT gulps up 500 milliliters of water (close to what's in a 16-ounce water bottle) every time you ask it a series of between 5 to 50 prompts or questions. The range varies depending on where its servers are located and the season. The estimate includes indirect water usage that the companies don't measure — such as to cool power plants that supply the data centers with electricity.

“Most people are not aware of the resource usage underlying ChatGPT,” Ren said. “If you're not aware of the resource usage, then there's no way that we can help conserve the resources.”

Google [reported](#) a 20% growth in water use in the same period, which Ren also largely attributes to its AI work. Google's spike wasn't uniform -- it was steady in Oregon where its [water use has attracted](#) public attention, while doubling outside Las Vegas. It was also thirsty in Iowa, drawing more potable water to its Council Bluffs data centers than anywhere else.

In response to questions from The Associated Press, Microsoft said in a statement this week that it is investing in research to measure AI's energy and carbon footprint "while working on ways to make large systems more efficient, in both training and application."

"We will continue to monitor our emissions, accelerate progress while increasing our use of clean energy to power data centers, purchasing renewable energy, and other efforts to meet our sustainability goals of being carbon negative, water positive and zero waste by 2030," the company's statement said.

OpenAI echoed those comments in its own statement Friday, saying it's giving "considerable thought" to the best use of computing power.

“We recognize training large models can be energy and water-intensive” and work to improve efficiencies, it said.

Microsoft made its first \$1 billion investment in San Francisco-based OpenAI in 2019, more than two years before the startup introduced ChatGPT and sparked worldwide [fascination with AI advancements](#). As part of the deal, the software giant would supply computing power needed to train the AI models.

To do at least some of that work, the two companies looked to West Des Moines, Iowa, a city of 68,000 people where Microsoft has been amassing data centers to power its cloud computing services for more than a decade. Its fourth and fifth data centers are due to open there later this year.

“They’re building them as fast as they can,” said Steve Gaer, who was the city’s mayor when Microsoft came to town. Gaer said the company was attracted to the city’s commitment to building public infrastructure and contributed a “staggering” sum of money through tax payments that support that investment.

“But, you know, they were pretty secretive on what they’re doing out there,” he added.

Microsoft first said it was developing one of the world’s most powerful supercomputers for OpenAI in 2020, declining to reveal its location to AP at the time but describing it as a “single system” with more than 285,000 cores of conventional semiconductors, and 10,000 graphics processors — a kind of [chip that’s become crucial](#) to AI workloads.

Experts have said it can make sense to “pretrain” an AI model at a single location because of the large amounts of data that need to be transferred between computing cores.

It wasn’t until late May that Microsoft’s president, Brad Smith, disclosed that it had built its “advanced AI supercomputing data center” in Iowa, exclusively to

enable OpenAI to train what has become its fourth-generation model, GPT-4. The model now powers premium versions of ChatGPT and some of Microsoft's own products and has accelerated a debate about containing AI's societal risks.

"It was made by these extraordinary engineers in California, but it was really made in Iowa," Smith said.

In some ways, West Des Moines is a relatively efficient place to train a powerful AI system, especially compared to Microsoft's data centers in Arizona that consume far more water for the same computing demand.

"So if you are developing AI models within Microsoft, then you should schedule your training in Iowa instead of in Arizona," Ren said. "In terms of training, there's

no difference. In terms of water consumption or energy consumption, there's a big difference.”

For much of the year, Iowa's weather is cool enough for Microsoft to use outside air to keep the supercomputer running properly and vent heat out of the building. Only when the temperature exceeds 29.3 degrees Celsius (about 85 degrees Fahrenheit) does it withdraw water, the company has said in a public disclosure.

That can still be a lot of water, especially in the summer. In July 2022, the month before [OpenAI says it completed](#) its training of GPT-4, Microsoft pumped in about 11.5 million gallons of water to its cluster of Iowa data centers, according to the West Des Moines Water Works. That amounted to about 6% of all the water used in the district, which also supplies drinking water to the city's residents.

In 2022, a document from the West Des Moines Water Works said it and the city government “will only consider future data center projects” from Microsoft if those projects can “demonstrate and implement

technology to significantly reduce peak water usage from the current levels” to preserve the water supply for residential and other commercial needs.

Microsoft said Thursday it is working directly with the water works to address its feedback. In a written statement, the water works said the company has been a good partner and has been working with local officials to reduce its water footprint while still meeting its needs.

-- Matt O'Brien and Hannah Fingerhut, The Associated Press