

KMUD In July: Board Considers Bond Refunding Plan

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The Kleinwood MUD (the "Water Board") met twice in July in which the primary items of discussion included 1) considering the plan to refund certain bonds from the 1998 and 2001 Series, 2) reviewing the status of the ongoing capital projects, and 3) discussing various options to upgrade the pressure controls at the water plants. Please note that the Water Board holds its monthly meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Kleinwood Clubhouse, beginning at 6 PM. Residents of the Kleinwood MUD are welcome to attend, as these meetings are open to the general public.

--- The Board's financial advisor, Bill Blitch, proposed a bond refunding plan that could save the District a considerable amount of money over the next several years. The Series 1998 and Series 2001 bonds, totaling \$4,355,000, can be "called" (i.e., cashed-in), and the new bonds (at approximately the same value) can be purchased at today's lower interest rates – much less than those interest rates in place over 10 years ago. Depending on the interest rate that the new bonds are sold for, the District expects to save somewhere between \$150,000 to \$200,000 over the remaining term of the old bonds, which were scheduled to be retired in the year 2022. The District elected to proceed with the legal process of the refunding plan, the bond sale being targeted for August or early September of this year.

--- For the Stuebner-Airline trunk utilities, by month end the installation of the water and sewer lines was 100% complete, with only a few restoration items remaining. The District is holding some \$33,000 in retainage until all punchlist items have been completed by the Contractor. Upon full completion of this project, all landowners along Stuebner-Airline and Cypresswood Drive will be officially notified by KMUD that the utility lines are in place and functional. The notification will also advise all landowners to begin preparing plans for annexation into the District, which is in accordance with the easement contracts executed between the District and each individual landowner.

--- The control system currently installed at both water plants, which regulates the water pressure in the underground water lines, was reviewed during the month by the District's Engineer, Jones & Carter. Three options were proposed to upgrade the system, which would enable the operation of the booster pumps to be more efficiently monitored and controlled. The District decided to proceed with "mid-range" option, expected to be in the range of \$20,000, to install pressure sensing devices that would automatically send an electronic signal alarm to the District's Operator, EDP, should the water pressure fall below a minimum level.

--- Installation of the water tie-in tap, the water meter, and fire hydrant at the new Whataburger was completed, as was the water tie-in to the new Klein High School at the Louetta entrance to the KISD campus. The contract

to recoat the hydro-pneumatic tanks at both water plants was partially completed during the month --- the tank at the Squyres plant has been completed, but the tank at the Louetta plant will be delayed to later in the fall, after the peak water usage months have passed.

--- The new diesel generator at the Louetta water plant passed its start-up test, is currently online, and readily available to provide a backup water supply. The new generator at the Champions Woods lift station has also passed its start-up test and is online. The primary benefit of the water plant generator is to provide backup power to the water supply at the Louetta water plant, in case of a power outage following bad weather. In addition to serving water to customers during a power outage, the backup power for the continued water supply is critical for fighting a fire that may break out during a power outage.

--- The contract to televise Kleinwood's underground lines commenced in July, with the contractor distributing notices to residents. The contract duration is 90 days, with an expected completion to be October 5th.

--- Water accountability (i.e. amount of water coming into the District vs. the amount of water billed to customers) was 92% for June. Surface water usage declined to 86%, as compared to the last several months being well above 90%. Total water connections declined to 826, 5 less than last month.

Kleinwood Area History: The Town Of Rosehill

Rosehill is a mostly rural community whose center is about five miles west of Tomball. Its name is often attributed to P.W. Rose, who settled in New Kentucky in 1836 and served with Abram Roberts on Harris County's first grand jury. As New Kentucky faded, Rosehill began to take its place as the center of the farming area often called the Spring Creek community.

By the 1880's, Rosehill was a prosperous cotton-growing area that boasted seven cotton gins run by Mssrs. Hirsch, Hoffman, Bauer, Krug, Scherer, and Mueschke. Soon there were three general stores, a sawmill, a gristmill, a blacksmith and wagon maker, a carpenter, and even a justice of the peace. Dr Jacob Metzler served the area for years as physician, his office doubling as the Rosehill post office.

The oldest Lutheran church in Texas, Rosehill's Salem Lutheran Church, was organized in 1852 by four German families who wanted to worship together. The founders were the Theis brothers, Jacob and Henry, their sister Katherina's husband, C.W. Winkler, and George Scherer. The Winklers donated the building site on Lutheran Church Road, and the Scherers offered their family plot overlooking Spring

Creek for the church cemetery. Many of the older headstones bear German inscriptions, a frequent sight in local cemeteries.

(Source: "The Heritage Of North Harris County", published in 1977 by the North Harris County Branch of the American Association Of University Women)