

WATER ORDINANCE 2-17

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ARTICLE I.
General Provisions

Section 1.1. Short title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as “Groveland Community Services District Water Ordinance.”

Section 1.2. Words and phrases.

For the purpose of this ordinance, all words used in this chapter in the present tense shall include the future; all words in the plural number shall include the singular number; and all words in the singular number shall include the plural number.

Section 1.3. Water system.

The GCSD will furnish a system, plant, works and undertaking used for and useful in obtaining, conserving and distributing water for public and private uses, including all parts of said system, all appurtenances to it, and lands, easements, rights in land, water rights, contract rights, franchises, and other water supply, storage and distribution facilities and equipment.

Section 1.4. Pressure conditions.

All applicants for service connections or water service, by accepting such service, are deemed, and consent, to accept such conditions of pressure and service as are provided by the distribution system at the location of the proposed service connection, and to hold the GCSD harmless from any damages arising out of low pressure or high pressure conditions or interruptions in service.

Section 1.5. Tampering with GCSD property.

No one except an employee or representative of the GCSD shall at any time in any manner operate, interfere with, or tamper with District property and the Public Water System including, but not limited to, the curbstops or valves, main stops, gates or valves, or street mains.

Section 1.6. Ruling final.

All rulings of the General Manager shall be final unless, where appeal to the Board of Directors is allowed, appealed in writing to the Board of Directors within five days of the date of mailing of the General Manager’s ruling. When appealed, all rulings of the Board shall be final.

Section 1.7. Interruption in Service.

GCSD shall not be liable for damage that may result from an interruption in service from a cause beyond the control of the GCSD.

Section 1.8. Ground Wire Attachment.

Ground wire connections to any plumbing which ultimately is connected to the GCSD Water System is prohibited unless approved in writing by the General Manager.

Section 1.9. Unpermitted Connections.

Any person connecting to the District Water System without written authorization from the District shall be liable for all damages caused to the Public Water System including, but not limited to, sanitizing the Public Water System, payment of any water the General Manager estimates was taken through the connection at existing rates, and all other fines and penalties applicable.

Section 1.10. Ingress and egress.

Representatives from the District shall have the right of ingress and egress to the customer's premises at reasonable hours for any purpose reasonably connected with the furnishing of water service.

Section 1.11. Inspection fee.

Any person desiring to connect with the mains of the GCSD shall pay in addition to any other charges set out in this chapter, all applicable inspection fees established by resolution approved by the Board.

Section 1.12. Evaporative coolers.

No water coolers shall be installed or operated in any premises served water by the GCSD unless such water coolers are equipped with a recirculating pump.

Section 1.13. Pools and tanks.

When an abnormally large quantity of water is desired such as for filling a swimming pool or for other purposes, the Owner shall obtain written approval from the General Manager prior to taking such water. Approval to use water in unusual quantities will be given only if the General Manager determines that it can be safely delivered through the District's public water system without negatively effecting service to other consumers. Absent unique circumstances, the General Manager shall deny all requests under this section in periods of declared drought.

Section 1.14. Responsibility for equipment.

The customer shall, at his own risk and expense, furnish, install and keep in good and safe condition all equipment that may be required for receiving, controlling, applying and utilizing water, including but limited to, pressure regulating devices and hot water heaters. The GCSD shall not be responsible for any loss or damage caused by the improper installation of such equipment, or the negligence or wrongful act of the customer or of any of his tenants, agents, employees, contractors, licensees or permittees in installing, maintaining, or operating or interfering with such equipment. The GCSD shall not be responsible for damage to property caused by faucets, valves, and other equipment that are open when water is turned on either originally or when turned on after a temporary shutdown.

Section 1.15. Installation of wells.

It shall be unlawful to install wells in the GCSD for any purpose whatsoever without first securing the written permission of the GCSD Board.

Section 1.16. Time limits on connections.

Absent an agreement approved by the Board of Directors, whenever a water connection application has been issued upon the payment of the connection charges established by this ordinance, such application shall be valid for only 365 days after the date of issuance thereof unless actual construction of the building or structure for which water service has been applied has been commenced within said period of 365 days; provided, however, that said time limit may be extended by the GCSD Board of Directors for reasonable cause and subject to conditions as the Board may impose.

ARTICLE II. Definitions

Section 2.1. Definitions.

Certain words and phrases are defined in this action to clarify their use in this chapter. When a clarification is not given, or where a question of interpretation arises, the definition that shall continue is the normal meaning of the word within the context of its use.

2.1.1. Applicant. “Applicant” means the Owner of the Property or their agent as designated in writing.

2.1.2. Board. “Board” means the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District.

2.1.3. Capacity Charge. “Capacity Charge” means a one-time charge paid when a new connection is made to the District Water System as defined in Government Code Section 66013(a)(3) established by resolution of the Board of Directors.

2.1.4. Connection Fee. “Connection Fee” means a one-time charge for the physical connection to the District Water System as defined in Government Code Section 66013(a)(5) established by resolution of the Board of Directors.

2.1.5. Cost. “Cost” means the cost of labor, material, transportation, supervision, engineering and all other necessary overhead expenses.

2.1.6. Cross-Connection. “Cross-connection” means any physical connection between the piping system from the GCSD service and that of any other water supply that is not, or cannot be, approved as safe and potable for human consumption, whereby water from the unapproved source may be forced or drawn into the GCSD distribution mains.

2.1.7. Customer. “Customer” means the Owner or registered tenant of Property receiving Service.

2.1.8. Distribution Mains. “Distribution mains” mean water lines in streets, highways, alleys, and easements used for public and private fire protection and for general distribution of water.

2.1.9. Equivalent Meter Unit and EMU. “Equivalent Meter Unit” and “EMU” means the ratio of a nominal capacity water meter (peak or non-peak use, depending on application) of that water meter divided by the nominal capacity of a 5/8-inch water meter.

2.1.10. GCSD or District. “GCSD” or the “District” means Groveland Community Services District.

2.1.11. Ordinance. “Ordinance” means the Groveland Community Services District Water Ordinance.

2.1.12. Owner. “Owner” means the person owning the title to the property, or the person in whose name the legal title to the property appears, by deed duly recorded in the county recorder’s office, or the person in possession of the property or buildings under claim of, or exercising acts of ownership over same for himself, or as executor, administrator, guardian or trustee of the owner.

2.1.13. Person. “Person” means any individual, firm, company, partnership, association and private or public or municipal corporations, the United States of America, the state of California, districts and all political subdivisions and governmental agencies.

2.1.14. Premises. “Premises” means a lot or parcel of real property under one ownership, except that each dwelling unit, whether or not separate and any other separate structure under one roof, shall be deemed separate premises. However, motels, office buildings, and structures of like nature may be classified by resolution of the GCSD Board as a single premise.

2.1.15. Private Fire Protection Service. “Private fire protection service” means water service and facilities for building sprinkler system, hydrants, hose reels and other facilities installed on private property for fire protection and the water available therefor.

2.1.16. Property. “Property” means a legal parcel of real property.

2.1.17. Public Fire Protection Service. “Public fire protection service” means the service and facilities of the entire water supply, storage and distribution system of the GCSD, including the fire hydrants affixed thereto, and the water available for fire protection, excepting house service connections and appurtenances thereto.

2.1.18. Regular Water Service. “Regular Water Service” means water service and facilities rendered for normal domestic, commercial and industrial purposes on a permanent basis, and the water available therefor.

2.1.19. Service or Service Connection. “Service” or “Service Connection” means the pipeline and appurtenant facilities such as the curb stop, meter and meter box, if any, all used to extend water service from a distribution main to premises. Where services are divided at the curb or property line to serve several customers, each such branch service shall be deemed a separate service.

2.1.20. Standby Service. “Standby service” means a connection to a GCSD water line that is not normally used on a regular basis.

2.1.21. Temporary Water Service. “Temporary Water Service” means water service and facilities rendered for construction work and other uses of limited duration, and the water available therefor.

2.1.22. Tenant. “Tenant” – any customer who does not have legal title to the premises occupied, that is, renter, lessee, agent, concessionaire, etc. and occupies the premises with the permission of the property owner.

2.1.23. Water System and District Water System. “Public Water System” and “District Water System” means the water system owned and operated by the District including, but not limited to, all pump stations and water mains.

ARTICLE III.
Notices

Section 3.1. Ordinance Applies to All.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to safeguard health, property, and public welfare by regulating and controlling the design, construction and quality of materials used in the public water systems. Except as otherwise herein stated, all of the provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to all buildings and structures heretofore erected or to be erected, and all connections heretofore made to the public water system in the District.

Section 3.2. Notices to customers.

Unless otherwise set forth in this Ordinance, all required notices from the GCSD to a Customer shall be given in writing, and either delivered to the Property receiving service or mailed to the address where bills are sent. Where conditions warrant and in emergencies as determined by the General Manager, the GCSD may provide notice either via telephone or e-mail.

Section 3.3. Notices from customers.

Notice from a customer to the GCSD shall be in writing and given by either hand delivery to the District's main office or mail addressed to the attention of either (1) the General Manager or designee or (2) an officer or agent duly authorized by the Board of Directors to receive notices.

ARTICLE IV.
Application for Regular Water Service Where No Main Extension Required

Section 4.1. Application for water service.

Any Person desiring Regular Water Service, where no main extension is required, shall submit an application to the District using the form provided by the GCSD. The application shall be signed by the Owner and accompanied by a copy of the property's Recorded Deed and Plot Map when submitted to the District. Application forms may be changed from time to time by the General Manager. Applicant must provide water demand and fire flow calculations performed by a licensed engineer.

Section 4.2. Undertaking of Applicant.

The submission of an application shall constitute the Applicant's agreement to comply with this Ordinance and other ordinances or regulations relating to the Regular Water Service, including, but not limited to, the timely payment of Services billed.

Section 4.3. Payment for previous service.

An application will not be considered if there is outstanding amounts the Applicant owes the District for any water Service previously rendered to the Applicant by the GCSD.

Section 4.4. Installation of services.

Regular Water Service shall be installed within the public utility easement at the location desired by the District, and of the size approved by the General Manager. Service installation for new subdivisions shall be subject to a written service agreement approved by the Board of Directors. All Service connections shall be installed by the GCSD, or a licensed contractor approved by GCSD, at the expense of the Applicant which shall be deposited with GCSD before the installation.

Section 4.5. Changes in Customer's use or equipment.

Customers making any material change in the size, character or extent of the equipment utilizing water Service, or whose change in use results in an increase in the use of water in excess of the approved application, shall immediately provide the GCSD written notice stating the nature of the change or use and, if necessary as determined by the General Manager, submit application to amend their existing approved application prior to the change in equipment or increase in water use.

Section 4.6. Connection charges.

Applicant shall pay in full all Connection Fees and Capacity Charges prior to approval of the application, the amount of which shall be fixed, from time to time, by resolution of the GCSD Board for each dwelling unit or other building, structure, or separate occupancy to be provided water service, whether or not separate connections for such units are required. Refer to Table A.

ARTICLE V.
Application for Regular Water Service When Main Extension Required

Section 5.1. Main extensions.

The following rules are established for connections requiring an extension of a water main:

5.1.1. Application. Any Owner of one or more lots or parcels or subdivided tract of land desiring to connect to the Public Water System where, in the opinion of the General Manager, one or more main extensions are required to serve said Property, shall submit a written application to the GCSD on a form provided by the District containing the legal description of the premises to be served and tract number therefore, be accompanied by a map showing the location of the proposed connection, and provide any additional information which may be required by the General Manager.

5.1.2. Determination. Upon receipt of any application under Section 5.1.1, the General Manager shall determine whether in his/her judgment a main extension will be required before GCSD will provide service. Applicant must provide water demand and fire flow calculations performed by a licensed engineer.

5.1.3. Board Approval of Main Extension Application. Upon receipt of the application, the General Manager shall review the application of the proposed extension and submit his opinion and the estimated cost thereof to the Board for approval.

5.1.4. Ruling on Main Extension Application. The Board shall consider the main extension application and the opinion of the General Manager before ruling on the application. The Board may, in its sole discretion, reject the application or authorize the General Manager to negotiate a written service agreement for Board approval detailing the conditions of the approved main extension. The Board's ruling shall be final.

5.1.5. Main Extension Agreement. If a main extension is required and approved by the Board, the Owner of the Property and the District shall enter into a Will Serve Agreement approved by Board of Directors, that shall, among other things, set forth the manner and location of installation of the main extension, including compliance with the GCSD Operational Policies and Procedures Manual as it exists at the time the agreement is entered into. GCSD shall condition approval of a main extension installation and agreement upon dedication of the main extension and easement rights to GCSD.

5.1.6. Dedication of Main Extensions to GCSD. All main extensions approved in accordance with this Ordinance shall be dedicated to GCSD, together with easements as determined necessary by the General Manager, by the Owner prior to the right to use the main extension. GCSD will determine on a case by case basis accepting main line extensions.

5.1.7. Dead-End Lines. No dead-end main extension lines shall be permitted, except as recommended by the General Manager and approved by the Board which shall require the

Applicant to install an automatic flushing device. In cases where, subsequent to the approval of a dead-end line by the Board, another dead-end line is planned in sufficient proximity to make connection feasible, and such connection is recommended by the General Manager and approved by the Board, the dead-end lines shall be connected, the cost of which shall be borne by the subsequent dead-end line Applicant.

5.1.8. Extent and Design. All main extensions may, at the discretion of the General Manager, may extend to the far property line of developed property. If additional Property is developed on the same lot after installation of a main extension, the main extension may be extended to the far Property line of the additionally developed Property. All main extensions shall be subject to design approval by the General Manager and the Board.

Section 5.2. Installation of Extension Main.

All main extensions and Service connections shall be installed by the Applicant at their expense with installation made in compliance with GCSD standards and design, including inspection of all extensions by GCSD.

Section 5.3. Connection Charges.

Where a main extension is required, including new subdivisions, the Applicant shall deposit the applicable Connection Fee and Capacity Charge for each Service Connection with the GCSD prior to the connecting the main extension to the existing GCSD main.

Section 5.4. Reimbursement Agreement

If the Developer or Owner is extending water or sewer line past vacant property that may be developed in the future, the Owner or Developer may request that the District exercise its discretion to enter into a Reimbursement Agreement between Owner/Developer and the District. In the event the District elects to enter into a Reimbursement Agreement, the District shall use its standard Reimbursement Agreement that allows collection of connection fees and refunding of pro-rata share of installation expenses to the Owner/Developer under the terms set forth in the Reimbursement Agreement.

ARTICLE VI. Connection Requirements

Section 6.1. Installations.

All Service shall be metered. The Service Connection, whether located on public or private property, from and including the meter to the water main is the property of the District and part of the District Water System. The District shall have the right to access the Service for inspection, repair, replacement and maintenance, including, but not limited to, removing Service upon discontinuance of service.

Section 6.2. Service Connections.

The Service shall be installed from the water main to the property line of the Property within the public utility easement. The service between the water meter and the building served by the Service shall be the private property of the customer and shall be maintained by the customer at their expense.

Section 6.3. Meter Installations.

Only authorized employees or agents of the District, or licensed contractors approved by the General Manager will be permitted to install a Service Connection from the District's main to and including the water meter. Water meters will be installed within the public utility easement and are the property of the District and part of the District Water System. The District Water System shall not be subject to any charges of any kind by the Property Owner.

Section 6.4. Size and Location.

The size of Service Connections, meters, and their location shall be subject to approval by the General Manager. The installation, including the meter, shall be the property of the District. The Property Owner shall be responsible for complying with all applicable District requirements and County building codes for plumbing installed downstream of the water meter.

Section 6.5. Angle Meter Stop (Curb Stop).

Every service connection installed by the District shall be equipped with an angle meter stop. The stop is to be located on the District's side of the water meter. If the stop is damaged by the Customer's use, replacement shall be at the customer's expense. The customer shall install and maintain an isolation or shut-off valve within one foot of the water meter on the customer's side of the service installation.

Section 6.6. Meter Tests.

A Customer may request that their meter be tested by the District for a fee of \$25.00 if they feel it reading inaccurately. Fee will be refunded if meter is found to be reading inaccurately. If the meter test determines the meter is reading inaccurately, the usage will be adjusted and billed under the following conditions:

6.6.1. Adjustment for Meter Errors – Fast Meters. If a meter, tested at the request of a customer pursuant to Section 6.6, is found to be more than two percent (2%) fast, the excess charges for the time service was rendered to the customer requesting the test or for a period of

six months, whichever is less, shall be credited to the customer's account and the meter or meter register will be changed by the District.

6.6.2. Adjustment for Meter Errors – Slow Meters. If a meter, tested at the request of a customer pursuant to Section 8.6, is found to more than 5% slow (i.e., registered less than 95% of actual flow) the District may bill the customer for the amount of the undercharge based upon corrected meter readings for the time service was rendered to the customer but not exceeding a period of six months and the meter or meter register will be changed by the District.

6.6.3. Non-Registering Meters. If a meter is found not registering, then the charges for service shall be based on the estimated consumption. Such estimates shall be made from previous consumption for a comparable period or by such other method as is determined by District.

ARTICLE VII.
General Use Regulations

Section 7.1. Water use limitations.

GCS D water shall be limited in use to domestic, commercial, or industrial use including normal yard upkeep only. Commercial agricultural watering is prohibited. (Examples: vineyards, alfalfa fields, orchards, etc.)

Section 7.2. Number of services per premises.

The Applicant may apply for as many Services as may be reasonably required for their premises; provided, that the pipe line system for each service be independent of the others and that they not be interconnected; and provided further, that larger service lines may be required by the GCS D at their discretion for purposes of insuring adequate service pressures. The cost of all services shall be borne by the applicant. There will be a separate connection charge for each service.

Section 7.3. Supply to Separate Structures.

Each house, habitable structure, dwelling unit, or dwelling unit within a community housing project, for which application for water service is made, shall have a separate service connection, including a separate meter. A habitable structure is defined as 1) any structure where human occupancy is permitted by Tuolumne County and 2) any structure with living, kitchen, or any bathroom facilities. A detached garage or hangar with only a utility sink and/or bathroom is not considered habitable.

Section 7.4. Interruptions in service.

The GCS D shall not be liable for damage which may result from an interruption in service from a cause beyond the control of the GCS D. Temporary shutdowns may be made by the GCS D to make improvements and repairs. Whenever possible and as time permits, all customers affected will be notified prior to making such shutdowns. The GCS D will not be liable for interruption, shortage or insufficiency of supply, or for any loss or damage occasioned thereby, if caused by accident, act of God, fire, strikes, riots, war or any other cause not within its control.

Section 7.5. Responsibility for equipment on customer's premises.

All facilities installed by the GCS D on private property for the purpose of rendering water service shall remain the property of the GCS D and may be maintained, repaired or replaced by the GCS D without consent or interference of the owner or occupant of the property. The property owner shall use reasonable care in the protection of the facilities. No payment shall be made for placing or maintaining said facilities on private property. No persons shall place or permit the placement of any object in a manner which will interfere with the free access to a meter box or will interfere with the reading of a meter where installed. If a Customer violates this section, the District shall issue a written warning to the Customer directing them to correct the violation. Upon a second violation of this section occurring within Twelve (12) months of the first violation, the District shall impose a Fifty dollar (\$50) fine which will be added to Customer's utility account. Upon a third and all subsequent violations of this section occurring

within Twelve (12) months of the previous violation, the District shall impose a Two Hundred Fifty dollar (\$250) fine which will be added to the Customer's utility account. The District shall not be responsible for any damage to any unpermitted structures located above or within a utility easement the Service Connection caused by the maintenance and/or replacement of any component of the Service.

Section 7.6. Damage to water system facilities.

The customer shall be liable for any damage to the GCSD-owned customer water service facilities, including when such damage is from causes originating on the Premises receiving Service including, but not limited to, acts or omission of customer or their tenants, agents, employees, contractors, licensees or permittees, that result in the breaking or destruction of locks on or near a meter, damage to the electronic read transmitter (ERT), or any damage to a meter that may result from hot water or steam from a boiler or heater on the customer's premises. The GCSD shall be reimbursed by the customer for any such damage promptly on presentation of a bill.

Section 7.7. Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV).

A PRV approved by the General Manager shall be installed and maintained by the customer on each connection where the water pressure at the meter exceeds 80 pounds per square inch (psi), per the Uniform Plumbing Code. The customer shall install the PRV in accordance with direction from the GCSD and in compliance with any applicable code requirements of the County of Tuolumne.

ARTICLE VIII.
Cross Connection Control

Section 8.1. Cross-connection control.

8.1.1. Purpose. The GCSD Board declares that the purpose of this section is to protect the public water supply against actual or potential cross-connections by:

8.1.1.1. Requiring abandonment of private wells before premises connect to GCSD water supply or by isolating within the premises contamination or pollution that may occur because of some undiscovered or unauthorized cross-connection on the premises; or the installation of a GCSD approved backflow prevention device will be required;

8.1.1.2. To eliminate existing connections between drinking water systems and other sources of water that are not approved as safe and potable for human consumption;

8.1.1.3. To eliminate cross-connection between the drinking water systems and other sources of water or process water used for any purpose whatsoever which jeopardize the safety of the drinking water supply, or the installation of an approved Backflow Prevention Device;

8.1.1.4. To prevent the making of cross-connections in the future;

8.1.1.5. To protect the drinking water supply within the premises, where plumbing defects or cross-connections may endanger the drinking water supply available on the premises;

8.1.2. This section is to be reasonably interpreted. It is the intent of this section to recognize that there are varying degrees of hazard and to apply the principle that the degree of protection should be commensurate with the degree of hazard as determined by the District.

8.1.3. Definitions. For the purpose of this section 8.1, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning respectively ascribed to them by this section:

8.1.3.1. "Air-gap separation" means a physical break between a supply pipe and a receiving vessel. The air-gap shall be at least 2.5 times the diameter of the supply pipe, measured vertically above the top rim of the vessel. Supply pipes less than one-inch diameter shall have a minimum air-gap of 2.5 inches.

8.1.3.2. "Approved" means as approved by GCSD and, where appropriate, Tuolumne County.

8.1.3.3. "Double check-valve assembly" means an Approved assembly of two independently acting, approved check valves, including tightly closing shut-off valves on each

end of the check-valve assembly and suitable connections available for testing the water tightness of each valve. To be approved these devices must be readily accessible for maintenance and testing and in no case shall be less than 12 inches above the flood level of the surrounding ground or floor and in a location where no part of the assembly will be submerged.

8.1.3.4. “Reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device” means an Approved device incorporating two or more independently acting, approved check valves and an automatically operating differential relief valve located between the two checks, two shut-off valves, and equipped with necessary appurtenances for testing. The device shall operate to maintain the pressure in the zone between the two check valves less than the pressure on the public water supply side of the device. At cessation of normal flow, the pressure between check valves shall be less than the supply pressure. In case of leakage of either check valve, the differential relief valve shall operate to maintain this reduced pressure by discharging to the atmosphere. When the inlet pressure is two pounds per square inch or less, the relief valve shall open to the atmosphere thereby providing an air-gap in the device. To be approved, these devices must be readily accessible for maintenance and testing and installed not less than 12 inches above the flood level of the surrounding ground or floor in a location where no part of the valves max height will be submerged.

8.1.3.5. “Water supply” means any water supply Approved by the GCSD.

8.1.3.6. “Auxiliary water supply” means an Approved water supply originating on the premises that is used exclusively for fire protection or irrigation and is not connected in any manner to the domestic supply system on the premises. An auxiliary supply shall be a water supply that has been developed exclusively for the purpose of either fire protection or irrigation or both. The presence of an auxiliary water supply will require the installation of a GCSD approved backflow prevention device.

8.1.3.7. “Cross-connection” means any physical connections between the piping system from the GCSD service and that of any other water supply that is not, or cannot be, approved as safe and potable for human consumption, whereby water from the unapproved source may be forced or drawn into the GCSD distribution mains.

8.1.3.8. “Health hazard” means an actual or potential threat of contamination of a physical or toxic nature to the public potable water system or the consumer’s potable water system to such a degree or intensity that there would be a danger to health.

8.1.3.9. “Pollution hazard” means an actual or potential threat to the physical properties of the water system or the potability of the public water supply but which would not constitute a health or system hazard as defined.

8.1.3.10. “System hazard” means an actual or potential threat of severe damage to the public potable water system, or the consumer’s potable water system, or of a pollution or contamination which would have a protracted effect on the quality of potable water in the system.

8.1.3.11. “Well” means any artificial excavation constructed by any method for the purpose of extracting water from, or injecting water into, the underground. This definition shall not include:

- (a) Oil and gas wells, or geothermal wells constructed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Conservation, except those wells converted to use as water wells; or
- (b) Wells used for the purpose of dewatering excavation during construction, or stabilizing hillsides or earth embankments.

8.1.4. “Abandonment of Wells”.

8.1.4.1. The owner of property upon which a private well is located shall destroy the well at their expense before being connected to the GCSD Public Water System, or the installation of a GCSD approved backflow prevention device will be required and subject to ongoing maintenance requirements and fees.

8.1.4.2. Abandoned wells shall be destroyed in accordance with the “Well Destruction” standards as set forth in Tuolumne County Well Ordinance 443, Section 3-310, or as subsequently revised or supplemented.

8.1.4.3. The destruction of an abandoned well shall be inspected by and completed to the satisfaction of the Tuolumne County and the GCSD.

8.1.5. Protection of Public Water System at Service Connection. No water service connection to any premises shall be installed or maintained by the GCSD unless the water supply is adequately protected in accordance with the requirements and regulations of Title 17 of the California Administrative Code and these regulations:

8.1.5.1. Each service connection from the public water system for supplying water to premises having an auxiliary water supply shall be protected against backflow of water from the premises into the public water system.

8.1.5.2. Each service connection from the public water system for supplying water to premises on which any substance is or may be handled in such fashion as to permit entry into the water system shall be protected against backflow of the substance from the premises into the public system. This shall include the handling of process water and waters originating from the public water supply system which have been subject to deterioration in sanitary quality.

8.1.5.3. Approved backflow prevention devices shall be installed on service connections to any premises where internal cross-connections exist. The District conducts annual testing and/or maintenance that will be billed to the property owner. The Property owner can choose to test and maintain protective device with a certified backflow Tester from CA/NV AWWA, and must submit results to the District annually.

8.1.6. Types of Protection.

8.1.6.1. The protection device required shall depend upon the degree of hazard. An air-gap separation or a reduced pressure backflow prevention device shall be used where there is an existing or potential health or system hazard. A double check-valve assembly may be used where there is an existing or potential pollution hazard determined by the District.

8.1.6.2. The public water system shall be protected at the service connection as specified below at the cost of the Property Owner:

(a) At the service connection to any premises where there is allowed an auxiliary water supply, handled in a separate piping system with no known or easily established cross connection, the public water supply shall be protected by an approved double check-valve assembly. When the auxiliary water supply may be contaminated, an air-gap or approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device shall be installed at the service connection.

(b) At the service connection to any premises on which a substance that would be objectionable, but not hazardous to health, if introduced into the public water supply, is handled so as to constitute a cross-connection, the public water supply shall be protected by an approved double check-valve assembly.

(c) At the service connection to any premises on which there is an auxiliary water supply where cross-connections are known to exist, the public water supply shall be protected by an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device.

(d) At the service connection to any premises on which a material dangerous to health or toxic substance in toxic concentration is or may be handled in such a manner as to permit its entry into the water system, the public water supply shall be protected by an air-gap separation. The air-gap shall be located as close as practicable to the meter and all piping between the meter and receiving tank shall be entirely visible. If these conditions cannot be reasonably met, the public water supply shall be protected with an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device, providing the alternative is acceptable to both the GCSD and the Tuolumne County health officer.

(e) At the service connection to any sewage treatment plant, sewage pumping station, or storm water pumping station, the public water supply shall be protected by an air-gap separation. The air-gap shall be located as close as practicable to the meter and all piping between the meter and receiving tank shall be entirely visible. If these conditions cannot be

reasonably met, the public water supply shall be protected with an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device, providing there are no direct connections to sewage pumps or waste lines and this alternative is acceptable to both the GCSO and county health officer. Final decision in this matter shall rest with the State Department of Health.

(f) At the service connection to hospitals, medical buildings, mortuaries and other premises where the county health officer and/or the GCSO determines that a special hazard exists, the public water supply shall be protected by an approved reduced pressure principle backflow device.

(g) Where a health or safety hazard exists on a premises by reason of any existing plumbing installation, or lack thereof, the owner or his agent shall install additional plumbing or make such connection as deemed necessary to abate the hazard and bring the plumbing system into compliance with applicable provisions of this chapter.

8.1.6.3. All Customers with existing and future service connections to its water system shall be subject to the following:

(a) Inspection of all premises for plumbed cross-connections or other actual or potential backflow hazards including but not limited to auxiliary water systems such as private wells, landscape irrigation systems, water-using commercial or industrial equipment, stock-watering facilities, hot tubs, pools, solar panels and HVAC heat exchangers.

(b) Installation of a backflow prevention devices approved by the District as a condition of water service where required by the General Manager. Any premises without an approved backflow prevention device and/or cross connection control shall be subject to shut off and discontinuance of water service. Discontinue water service immediately upon detection of an imminent sanitary threat to the District water supply due to an actual or potential backflow situation on any customer premises, including normal charges for resumption of service and reconnection of a discontinued service after customer fully compliance with District backflow prevention requirements.

(c) All backflow prevention devices shall be installed at or near water service connections (adjacent to water meter) or when such installation is impractical as determined by the General Manager, at another location as determined by the General Manager.

(d) All backflow prevention devices shall be subject to regular inspection as determined by the General Manager and testing upon installation, repair.

(e) The Customer shall be responsible for maintaining and all repairs necessary to insure proper operation of the backflow prevention device at all times.

(f) All backflow prevention devices determined by the District to require major repairs or replacement shall be repaired or replaced at the expense of the Customer.

8.1.6.4. The property owner or consumer who is responsible for any protective device installed on a fire protection system shall have such device inspected and tested in accordance with requirements of the GCSD and county health department. The GCSD shall be furnished with a copy of the test result on an annual basis by July 1st. Persons testing protective devices shall be qualified and approved by the GCSD and county department of public health.

8.1.7. Failure to Comply. Failure to comply with any part of this section may be cause for the discontinuance of water service by the GCSD and/or the county department of public health. The GCSD shall give notice in writing of any violations of this chapter to the property owner and consumer. If no action is taken within 10 days after such notice has been mailed or delivered in person, the GCSD may discontinue delivery of water. If it is determined by either the GCSD or the Tuolumne County health officer that any immediate hazard exists as a result of failure to comply, the GCSD may immediately discontinue service to the premises. Delivery of water shall not be resumed until a protective device has been properly installed and approved as provided in this section.

ARTICLE IX.
Liability for Service Charges

Section 9.1. Liability for Charges.

9.1.1. The property owner, as determined by the real property tax roll of the county assessor, is liable for payment of water service provided by the District either directly, through contract or permit, and shall be liable for the rates, charges and fees for that service as established by the District. In situations where someone other than the owner occupies the property receiving the service, the owner of the property shall be primarily liable for payment of services regardless of whether the owner authorizes the monthly bills to be sent to someone other than the owner.

9.1.2. It is the responsibility of the owner of the real property to provide the District with the current billing address and to notify the District of any changes of address.

9.1.3. It shall be and is hereby made the duty of each property owner to ascertain from the District the amount and due date of any rates, charges and fees for which the owner is liable. It shall also be and is hereby made the duty of each owner liable for the rates, charges and fees to inform the District immediately of all circumstances and of any change(s) in any circumstances which will in any way affect the applicability or the amount of any rates, charges and fees to premises where water service is being received.

9.1.4. Upon the written direction and consent of the property owner using a form provided by the District, the property owner can direct the bills containing the charges for service be sent to a person other than the property owner, including a tenant of the property, for payment. Regardless of whether the designated person pays the bills, the owner of the property shall remain liable for all charges for service, including delinquent charges and penalties.

ARTICLE X.
Rates and Fees

Section 10.1. Standard Rate Schedule.

Standard monthly rates for regular water service are established in Table A. Standard monthly water rates are divided into four components: fixed charge, usage (variable) charge, bond debt repayment (such as Revenue Improvement District Bond debt), and private fire service. The charges are dependent of water meter size established to account for the fact that additional service capacity needed in the water system to accommodate the higher flow rate potential of the larger water meters, which are quantified by equivalent meter unit (EMU), as determined in the GCSD Water Rate Study by Hilton Farnkopf & Hobson, November 1, 1995. Standard monthly fixed rates, Variable rate Fire service rate, and Bond debt charge for regular monthly water service are provided in the following subsections.

10.1.1. Fixed Rate. The District incurs regular, ongoing costs associated with operating the buildings, grounds, and facilities of the District, irrespective of that quantity of water used by District customers or the occupancy status of the dwelling unit. The fixed rate is established in Table A.

10.1.2. Variable Rate. As water is pumped and distributed to its customers, the District incurs variable expenses that are proportional to the amount of water delivered. The variable rate is established in Table A.

10.1.3. Debt Service. The District has from time to time sold bonds to fund capital improvement projects. Debt is generally repaid on a semi-annual basis over a period ranging from 20 to 30 years. The amount of the monthly debt service charge is based on meter size, using the meter size equivalency calculated by Hilton, Farnhopf & Hobson, 1995 and is established in Table A.

10.1.4. Fire Service. Some structures have fire sprinkler systems that are separate from the structures main water service. Because private fire service systems are only used occasionally (during fires and testing), the Board considers a reduced rate from the normal fixed monthly rate fair and equitable for operators of private fire service systems. The fixed monthly standby rate for these systems is established in Table A.

Section 10.2. Single Service Connection-Multiple Use.

10.2.1. Single Dwelling. Single dwellings pay a service charge based on the size of the existing meter. Each additional and separate dwelling serviced through a single metered service connection, whether occupied or not, shall pay an added minimum service charge based on the ¾ inch meter rate.

10.2.2. Multiple Dwelling. Multiple Dwellings, such as duplexes, apartments, and community housing projects, in addition to the appropriate rate established for the size of the

existing meter, shall pay a monthly service charge based on the ¾ inch meter size rate for each unit in excess of one.

10.2.3. Hotels and Motels. Hotels and motels shall pay a monthly service charge based on the size of the existing meter (see subsection G).

10.2.4. Combined Dwelling and Business Units. Dwelling units combined with professional, commercial units, in addition to the appropriate rate established for the size of the existing meter, shall pay a monthly service charge based on the ¾inch meter size rate for each unit in excess of one.

10.2.5. Combined Business Units. Where two or more businesses, professional or commercial units occupy a single premise, in addition to the appropriate minimum rate established for the size of the existing meter, each additional unit in excess of one, shall pay a monthly service charge based on the ¾ inch meter size.

10.2.6. Permanent Occupancy of Hotels, Motels, and Trailer Parks. Subsection C, notwithstanding, any hotel or motel unit with complete living facilities, or trailer in a trailer park, occupied for more than thirty (30) days, shall pay an additional monthly service charge per unit based on the ¾inch meter size rate.

Section 10.3. New Business-Duty to Notify District.

Owners or proprietors of newly established businesses, professional, or commercial enterprises shall notify the District that such business is being conducted within thirty (30) days of inception.

Section 10.4. Charges for Special Uses.

Rates for water supply special uses not cited herein shall be determined in each case by agreement between the District and the user.

ARTICLE XI.
Billings and Enforcement of Charges

Section 11.1. Billing period.

The regular billing period will be monthly or bimonthly at the option of the GCSD. Water consumption charges will be for the regular billing period immediately prior to the bill and based on metered water usage.

Section 11.2. Opening and closing bills.

Opening and closing of service for less than the normal billing period shall be prorated; provided, however, that the total period for which service is rendered is less than one month, the bill shall not be less than the monthly fixed rate service charge. Closing service bills may be estimated by the GCSD for the final period as an expediency measure to permit the customer to pay the closing bill at the time service is discontinued.

Section 11.3. Payment of bills.

Bills for water service shall be rendered on or about the first business day of each month. Water Bills for Service are due by the last day of the month in which they are billed, or a ten percent (10%) penalty shall be added. An additional penalty shall be payable in an amount equal to one-half percent (0.5%) of the unpaid water service charges plus the basic 10% penalty for each month until all delinquent charges and penalties have been paid by the property owner. If the bill is not paid by the 15th of the following month, the water service may be shut off and an additional charge shall be paid in order to have the water turned back on. When service is discontinued due to nonpayment of bills, it shall not again be resumed until payment of all charges (past due and current) are made in full. All penalties provided for in this chapter shall be paid whether or not water service is discontinued.

Section 11.4. Billing of separate connections combined.

Combined bills may be rendered for all service connections to the same premises.

11.4.1. Past Due Accounts. Rates and charges that are not paid on or before the last day of the month shall be subject to a penalty of ten percent (10%) and thereafter shall be subject to a further penalty on one-half percent (0.5%) per month for non-payment of the delinquent charges.

Section 11.5. Enforcement of Payment.

Upon failure of payment for delinquent water service charges, or if the owner or occupant of any premises shall violate any of the provisions hereof, any one or more of the following actions authorized by this Article may be taken by District to enforce such payment.

11.5.1. Notifications. Delinquency notices will appear on the billing statement generated on the first business day of the month. Past due charges will be clear and identifiable, and past due policy will be visible. If the account remains unpaid, a final disconnection notice will be made via telephone call to the number on file, the Friday before the 15th day of the month.

11.5.2. Mailing Address for Owner Notifications. The District will use the address and on file with the District as provided by the owner for the mailing of all notices.

Section 11.6. Repayment Plan.

Subject to interest and penalties along with all other charges of fees levied by this article, the General Manager may permit continuance of use for water service upon the customer's written agreement to comply with all terms and conditions of a short term re-payment plan. The plan shall include the following requirements:

11.6.1. The customers' account must be brought current by the end of the repayment plan term.

11.6.2. Failure to comply with agreed to terms and conditions will result in a discontinuance of service.

Section 11.7. Water use charges as lien.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, water service charges and penalties shall constitute a lien against the premises against which the charges for water service remains delinquent for a period of 60 days. The lien shall be recorded in accordance with Government Code Section 6115(c).

Section 11.8. Liens Release.

District costs to prepare, record and release liens for delinquent charges shall be paid prior to release of such liens. District costs to be paid per lien released are established in Table A.

Section 11.9. Dishonored Checks.

If the dishonored check was paid to avoid disconnection of service, then the responsible party will be contacted immediately and given two (2) days to honor the check. If the District receives two dishonored checks, cash payment (cash or a cashier's check) of all future utility bills may be required, together with charges for dishonored checks established in Table A.

Section 11.10. Fees for Cross-Connection Control Program.

A customer may be required by law or District Ordinance to install a backflow prevention device within his premises. The District will charge the actual cost of the device, and labor charges for the installation of the backflow prevention device. A backflow prevention device is required by law to be inspected annually. Inspection and repair charges shall be paid after receipt of billing mailed with District requirements for the approved backflow prevention device. The District may choose to subcontract the inspection and repair costs for backflow prevention devices.

Any owner of three or more backflow prevention devices shall receive a 30% discount in annual testing fees if the customer pre-arranges a specific time with the District to do all the testing at one time. Testing fees are established in Table A.

Section 11.8. Collection of Delinquent Charges on Tax Roll.

For any water charges which have been delinquent for sixty (60) days, the General Manager shall cause a written report to be prepared and filed with the District Secretary pursuant to Government Code Section 61115, and the Secretary shall thereupon cause notice to be given and published of a public hearing before the Board on the issue of placement of such delinquent charges and penalties upon the County Property Tax Roll for collection. Upon conclusion of the hearing, the Board of Directors may determine to collect such delinquent charges and penalties upon the County Property Tax Roll for the affected parcel of property. Upon such determination by the Board of Directors by resolution, the District's Secretary shall thereafter file with the County Auditor the report adopted by the Board at such public hearing and request that the delinquent charges and penalties be added to and collected with property taxes on said property at the same time and in the same manner as property taxes are collected by the County Auditor.

Section 11.9. Collection by Legal Action.

The General Manager may institute and prosecute appropriate legal action for the collection of delinquent water charges and penalties. By its application for and receipt of water services, property owner/customer hereby agrees to be responsible for reimbursement to the District of all attorneys' fees and other legal costs incurred by District in collecting any delinquent charges and penalties from the property owner/customer through such legal action.

Section 11.10. Customers Filing for Bankruptcy.

Upon the filing for bankruptcy protection, the customer shall immediately notify the District of the filing. Customers filing for bankruptcy shall within 30 days deposit with the District the equivalent of two months of monthly charges as determined by the General Manager. The General Manager shall have discretion to reduce the deposit amount when he determines that the risk of delinquent payments are low. The District shall be entitled to collect any post bankruptcy filing delinquencies from the deposited amount. Upon notice, the customer shall replenish the deposit to the amount required by the General Manager within 10 days notice from the District. The Deposit shall be required for a period of 12 months following discharge from bankruptcy.

ARTICLE XII.
Discontinuance of Service

Section 12.1. Discontinuance of Service for Delinquent Bills.

12.1.1. The District may discontinue service for non-payment of bills. Current billing reflects the past due balance due immediately. At least five (5) days prior to discontinuance of such service, the customer or property owner will be sent a Final Notice phone call to notify that the discontinuance of service will be enforced if payment is not made by 4pm on the 15th business day of the Month. The failure of the District to send or any such person to receive such notice shall not affect the District's power to discontinue services pursuant to this section. The customer's water service may be discontinued if water service furnished to the previous location is not paid for within the time fixed for the payment of bills. Reconnection will be made by the District only upon complete payment of all delinquent service charges, penalties, and disconnection fees are paid in full as specified in this ordinance.

12.1.2. Disconnection of Service. Any account with an outstanding balance after the due date listed in the disconnection notice, shall have water service disconnected and meter will be fixed with a District lock, and charged the Disconnection fee as established in Table A.

12.1.3. Reinstatement of Services. In situations where water service has been terminated or the meter has been removed, the water meter will not be re-installed until all applicable charges have been paid including any outstanding water bills, meter installation fees, customer activation fee, or any costs damage to the District.

Section 12.2. Discontinuance of Service for Non-Delinquencies.

The District may terminate Service to a Customer for any of the reasons set forth in this section.

12.2.1. Violation of this Ordinance.

12.2.2. Violation of Applicable County ordinances or regulations.

12.2.3. Violation of State or Federal laws and regulations.

12.2.4. Unsafe apparatus. Water service may be refused or discontinued to any premises where apparatus or appliances are in use which might endanger or disturb the service to other customers.

12.2.5. Fraud or abuse. Service may be discontinued if necessary to protect the GCSD against fraud or abuse.

Section 12.3. Reconnection charge.

Service will not be reconnected until payment of charges for reconnection established in Table A. Services will not be reconnected after 8 pm Sunday through Thursday, or after 9 pm

Friday and Saturday. Reconnection will not occur until all reconnection fees and the full account balance has been paid to GCSD.

Section 12.4. Changes in Ownership.

Upon a change in the ownership of premises, the existing owner shall notify the District five business days prior to the transfer of title to the property to the new owner. Escrow Demands for the total amount of service charges due at the time of transfer upon the selling of a property and the recorded deed in the new owners name is required to transfer the service to the new owner. The prior owner shall be liable for all charges, whether or not any water is used, prior to the transfer of service as set forth in this subsection.

Section 12.5. Temporary Suspension of Service.

Upon written request from a property owner that exceptional circumstances beyond personal control of the Owner/User prevents habitation or use of the water service for at least six (6) months, monthly fixed and variable water charges may be suspended in part as determined by the General Manager. However, the General Manager shall not have authority to suspend debt service charges attributable to the premises which shall continue to be billed by the District. Such suspension of service shall be dependent upon approval of District's General Manager.

Customers receiving a temporary suspension of service shall notify the District in writing at least ten (10) business days before resuming use of water service. Thereafter regular billing of the Customer will resume. If Customer resumes use of water service before written notice to the District, the Customer shall be subject to a penalty as determined by the General Manager of up to twice the normal full charges that would have been billed during the suspension period.

Section 12.6. Voluntary Termination of Service.

Upon written request of a property owner, all water service to the premises may be terminated and account will be subject to meter removal fee as established in Table A. If the property owner wishes to reinstate service in the future, they shall apply for new service in accordance with this Ordinance, including paying all charges and fees associated with a new service.

ARTICLE XIII.
Public Fire Protection

Section 13.1. Use of fire hydrants.

Fire hydrants are for use by the GCSD or by organized fire protection agencies. Other parties desiring to use fire hydrants for any purpose must first obtain written permission from the GCSD prior to use and shall operate the hydrant in accordance with instructions issued by the GCSD. Unauthorized use of hydrants will be prosecuted according to law.

Section 13.2. Hydrant rental.

A charge to be prescribed from time to time by the Board by resolution will be imposed for hydrant maintenance and water used for public fire protection.

Section 13.3. Moving of fire hydrants.

When a fire hydrant has been installed in the location specified by the proper authority, the GCSD has fulfilled its obligation. If a property owner or other party desires a change in the size, type or location of the hydrant, they shall bear all costs of such changes, without refund. Any change in the location of a fire hydrant must be approved by the Board.

**ARTICLE XIV.
Private Fire Protection and Standby Service**

Section 14.1. Payment of cost.

The applicant for private fire protection service not now installed shall pay the total actual cost of installation of the service from the distribution main to the customer's premises including the cost of a detector check meter or other suitable and equivalent device, valve and meter box, said installation may become the property of the GCSD as determined by the General Manager. All costs are to be the responsibility of the Applicant. Installation of service and connection to the main line is to be completed by GCSD, or a GCSD approved Contractor.

Section 14.2. No connection to other system.

There shall be no connections between this fire protection system and any other water distribution system on the premises.

Section 14.3. Use.

There shall be no water used through the fire protection service except to extinguish fires and for testing the firefighting equipment.

Section 14.4. Meter rates.

Any consumption recorded on the meter will be charged at double the regular service rates except that no charge will be made for water used to extinguish accidental fires where such fires have been reported to the duly authorized fire protection agency.

Section 14.5. Monthly rates.

The monthly rates for private fire protection are established in Table A.

Section 14.6. Water for fire storage tanks.

Occasionally water may be obtained from a private fire service for filling a tank connected with the fire service, but only if written permission is secured from the GCSD in advance and an approved means of measurement is available. The rate for water so used shall be established by the GCSD at the time application for such service is made.

Section 14.7. Violation of agreement.

If water is used from a private fire service in violation of the agreement or of these regulations, the GCSD may, at its option, discontinue and remove the service.

Section 14.8. Water pressure and supply.

The GCSD assumes no responsibility for loss or damage due to lack of water or pressure and merely agrees to furnish such quantities and pressures as are available in its general distribution system. The service is subject to shutdowns and variations required by the operation of the system.

Section 14.9. Standby Service Rate.

Private fire protection service shall be charged Private Fire Service Standby Rate as established in Table A.

**ARTICLE XV.
Temporary Services**

Section 15.1. Approval of Temporary Service Requests.

The General Manager shall have the sole discretion on whether to grant a request for temporary service under this Article.

Section 15.2. Duration of service.

Temporary service connections shall be disconnected and terminated within six months after installation unless an extension of time is granted in writing by the General Manager.

Section 15.3. Deposit.

The applicant shall deposit in advance an amount equal to \$175.00 for each inch of meter diameter of service the applicant applies for. Upon discontinuance of service, the actual cost of installing and removing the facilities required to furnish said service, exclusive of the cost of salvageable material, shall be determined and an adjustment made as an additional charge, refund or credit.

If service is supplied through a fire hydrant, the applicant will be charged in accordance with the rate schedule established in Table A.

Section 15.4. Installation and operation.

All facilities for temporary service to the customer connection shall be made by the GCSD and shall be operated in accordance with its instructions.

Section 15.5. Responsibility for installation.

The customer shall use all possible care to prevent damage to any loaned facilities of the GCSD which are involved in furnishing the temporary services from the time they are installed until they are removed, or until 48 hours' notice in writing has been given to the GCSD that the contractor or other person is through with the installation. If the facilities are damaged, the cost of making repairs shall be paid by the customer.

Section 15.6. Temporary service from a fire hydrant.

If temporary service is supplied through a fire hydrant, an application for the use of the hydrant shall be obtained from GCSD. It is specifically prohibited to operate the valve of any fire hydrant other than by the use of a spanner wrench designed for this purpose.

Section 15.7. Unauthorized use of hydrants.

Tampering with any fire hydrant or the unauthorized use of water therefrom, or for any other purpose, is a misdemeanor, punishable by law, and subject to a fine plus services charges established in Table A.

Section 15.8. Rates.

The rates for temporary service shall be established by the General Manager at the time application for such service is made.

ARTICLE XVI.
Rates

Section 16.1. Rate schedule.

Rates for water service shall be established from time to time by resolution of the Board as authorized by Government Code Section 61115.

Section 16.2. Determination of applicable rate.

Upon receipt of any application for water service, the General Manager shall determine the applicable monthly rate based on the size of the service.

Section 16.3. Penalty for violation.

For the failure of the customer to comply with all or any part of this ordinance, and any ordinance, resolution or order fixing rates and charges of this GCSD, customer's service shall be discontinued and the water shall not be supplied such customer until he shall comply with the rule or regulation, rate or charge which they have violated or, in the event that they cannot comply with said rule or regulation, until they shall have satisfied the GCSD that in the future they will comply with all the rules and regulations established by ordinance of the GCSD and with all rates and charges of this GCSD.

ARTICLE XVII.
Drought Restrictions

Section 17.1. Definitions.

The following terms are defined for the purpose of this article:

17.1.1. "Allocation" means the calculated percentage of the amount of water delivered to each customer's property during the corresponding monthly billing period of the base year for which no penalty or surplus use charges shall be imposed.

17.1.2. "Applicant" means a customer, firm, partnership, business, corporation, district or governmental agency that requests or receives water from the District.

17.1.3. "Board of Directors" means the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District.

17.1.4. "Customer" or "water consumer" means any customer, firm, partnership, business, corporation, district, or governmental agency that receives water from the District.

17.1.5. "District" means the Groveland Community Services District.

17.1.6. "General Manager" means the General Manager of the District duly appointed by the Board of Directors.

17.1.7. "Water" means potable water supplied by the District to customers within its jurisdiction.

Section 17.2. Purpose and Scope.

This article sets forth water shortage emergency conditions which exist within the boundary of the Groveland Community Services District as declared by resolution of the Board of Directors. These regulations shall become effective with the effective date of the ordinance that includes the provisions of this article. A water shortage emergency declaration shall be in effect upon proper findings made by the Board of Directors after a public hearing and shall remain in effect until the Board of Directors finds and declares by resolution that the water shortage emergency condition has abated, has changed in degree or no longer exists.

Section 17.3. Findings.

The Board of Directors shall make the findings below prior to enforcement of the provisions of this article:

17.3.1. The Board of Directors shall conduct duly noticed public hearings for the purpose of determining whether a water shortage emergency condition exists and, if so, the degree of the emergency and what regulations and restrictions should be enforced in response to the shortage.

17.3.2. The Board of Directors shall adopt a resolution which declares that a water shortage emergency condition exists, the facts and conclusions which support such a declaration and that the ordinary water demands and requirements of water consumers within the District cannot be satisfied.

17.3.3. The regulations set forth in this article are necessary and proper to protect and conserve the water supply for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection during the duration of the water shortage emergency condition.

17.3.4. The regulations set forth in this article shall remain enforceable to the extent declared by the Board of Directors and until such time as the Board of Directors finds that the water shortage emergency no longer exists.

Section 17.4. Phases of Water Shortage Emergencies.

The following phases of water shortage emergencies are established. Upon declaration of the Board of Directors that an emergency condition exists, the Board of Directors shall declare the degree of emergency and identify the applicable phase and the regulations, which shall be enforceable for each respective phase. The District recognizes 4 phases of a water shortage emergency as set forth in this section.

17.4.1. Phase 1—Ongoing Water Conservation. The District shall implement the following Phase 1 water conservation measures at all times regardless of the existence of a water shortage emergency:

17.4.1.1. Education programs

17.4.1.2. Promotion of water-saving landscaping.

17.4.1.3. Requirement of low-flow fixtures in new developments.

17.4.1.4. Meter and/or flow control for all customer accounts and plant production activities.

17.4.1.5. Maintain tiered water rates for treated water.

17.4.1.6. Prohibit wasteful use of water.

17.4.1.7. Review water measuring and/or metering devices for accuracy.

17.4.2. Phase II – Voluntary Conservation Measures. Upon the findings of the Board of Directors in accordance with Section 18.03 that there is a potential threat of an emergency or water shortage based on forecasted precipitation, snowpack and reservoir levels, or if San Francisco Public Utilities Commission calls for Phase II conservation measures, the District shall adopt a resolution that implements the following measures:

17.4.2.1. Declare a threat of emergency or shortage exists; and

17.4.2.2. Identify a water reduction goal of ten percent (10%); and

17.4.2.3. Immediately implement the following Phase II conservation measures:

- (a) Increase public awareness.
- (b) Prohibit fire hydrant flow testing.
- (c) Restaurants shall serve water only upon customer request.
- (d) Voluntary customer water usage reduction. Water customers will be notified that it is a low water year and will be requested to reduce water usage from the previous year's usage. The District will provide information on conservation methods.
- (e) Contact high water users. The District will contact the highest water users to encourage use of water conservation methods.

17.4.3. Phase III – Mandatory Water Conservation Measures. Upon the findings of the Board of Directors in accordance with Section 18.03 that an emergency or water shortage exists based on forecasted precipitation, snowpack and reservoir levels, or if San Francisco Public Utilities Commission calls for Phase III conservation measures, the District shall adopt a resolution that implements the following measures:

17.4.3.1. Declare a state of emergency for the District service area until such time that the District determines that conditions no longer merit Phase III conservation measures; and

17.4.3.2. Identify a water reduction goal of twenty percent (20%); and

17.4.3.3. Immediately implement the following Phase III conservation measures:

- (a) All measures identified in Phase II.
- (b) Establish a Phase III water reduction goal based on the severity of the emergency for approval by the District.
 - (1) If the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission has declared Phase III conservation measures, the District's water reduction goal must match or exceed the water reduction goal identified by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. The water reduction goal will be defined as a percentage reduction of the prior year's water usage and may be updated as conditions change.
 - (2) The meeting to consider the resolution adopting the Phase III measures shall be a public hearing providing customers the

opportunity to be heard regarding the declaration of water shortage emergency conditions.

(c) Landscape watering restrictions:

(1) Watering of lawns, gardens and other outdoor vegetation by use of irrigation systems, hoses, faucets or other outlets connected to the public water supply is prohibited, unless specified otherwise below.

(2) Individual garden plants or trees may be irrigated only by the use of buckets, containers or properly maintained irrigation drip systems.

(3) Watering lawns is allowed whenever the water reduction goal is forty percent (40%) or less.

(d) Landscape watering allowed under this section may only be undertaken at the following times:

(1) Properties with addresses ending in an even number may irrigate only on Tuesday and Thursday.

(2) Properties with addresses ending in an odd number may irrigate only on Wednesday and Friday.

(3) Irrigation may occur only between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m.

(e) Irrigation which results in water running onto driveways, gutters, streets, adjoining property, and/or any other water runoff is prohibited.

(f) Washing of cars, boats, trailers, equipment or other vehicles by hose or by use of water directly from faucets or outlets connected to the public water supply is prohibited. Washing such vehicles may occur at District approved commercial washing facilities that utilize water recycling capabilities.

(g) Washing of sidewalks, walkways, driveways, patios, parking lots, graveled areas, tennis courts or other hard-surfaced areas, including residential and commercial establishments, by hose or by use of water from faucets or other outlets connected to the public water supply is prohibited.

(h) New construction service applications shall be granted upon condition that water shall be used only for interior purposes and landscaping that does not require watering. Any landscaping requiring the use of water

shall be delayed until repeal of Phase III restrictions.

(i) Use of water in decorative fountains, pools, recreational ponds and the like shall be limited to the minimum necessary to preserve aquatic life if present.

(j) Use of water for dust control, earth compaction, and other outdoor construction activities is prohibited.

(k) Filling of new or existing swimming pools, spas and recreation ponds is prohibited.

(l) Fire hydrants shall be used only for emergency purposes.

(m) Leak restrictions:

(1) Allowing any plumbing system leak to remain un-repaired, without reasonable cause as determined by the District, for seven calendar days following written notification by the District is prohibited.

(2) Failure to repair leaks as specified is subject to the following special enforcement:

(i) Water service will be shut off until such time that leak(s) are repaired.

(ii) Reinstatement of water service will be subject to the fees listed on the District's most current rate schedule.

(n) Excessive Water Use:

(1) Excessive water use, without reasonable cause as determined by the District, is prohibited.

(2) Excessive water use is defined as monthly water use that exceeds a certain percentage of the prior year's usage for the same month. This percentage varies based on the reduction goal and is determined by the following chart:

Reduction Goal	Excessive Use Percentage
20% to 25%	90%
30% to 35%	85%
40% to 45%	80%
50%	75%

If the reduction goal is 40%, excessive water use is monthly use that exceeds 80% of last year's monthly use.

(3) Monthly water use less than 4,000 gallons will not be considered excessive.

(4) Commercial and industrial customers may contact the District to discuss the individual water needs required to maintain their business.

(5) Excessive water use is subject to the following special enforcement:

(i) First Violation: Customer will receive a written warning from the District that a further violation will result in water restrictions and penalties.

(ii) Second Violation: Payment of \$50 penalty.

(iii) Third Violation: Payment of a \$100 penalty and customer's service will be restricted by a flow restriction device for 30 days.

(iv) Fourth Violation: Payment of a \$500 penalty and customer's water service will be restricted by a flow restriction device until the District repeals the state of emergency, threat of emergency or shortage.

(v) Continued Violation: Payment of a \$500 penalty and continued water service restriction. The District may, in its discretion, pursue misdemeanor charges pursuant to Water Code Section 71644 which may result in imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 30 days, or by fine not exceeding \$600, or by both.

17.4.4. Phase IV – Mandatory Conservation Measures for Extreme Emergency. Upon the findings of the Board of Directors in accordance with Section 18.03 that an extreme emergency or water shortage exists based on forecasted precipitation, snowpack and reservoir levels, or an emergency event, or if San Francisco Public Utilities Commission calls for Phase IV conservation measures, the District shall adopt a resolution that implements the following measures:

17.4.4.1. Declare a state of emergency for the District service area until such time that the District Board of Directors determines that conditions no longer merit Phase III conservation measures; and

17.4.4.2. Identify a water reduction goal of up to fifty percent (50%); and

17.4.4.3. Immediately implement the following Phase IV conservation measures:

(a) All measures identified in Phase III.

(b) Establish a Phase IV water reduction goal based on the severity of the emergency for approval by the District.

(1) If the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission has declared Phase IV conservation measures, the District's water reduction goal must match or exceed the water reduction goal identified by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. The water reduction goal will be defined as a percentage reduction of the prior year's water usage and may not exceed fifty 50%. The water reduction goal may be updated as conditions change.

(2) The meeting to consider the resolution adopting the Phase IV measures shall be a public hearing providing customers for the opportunity to be heard regarding the declaration of water shortage emergency conditions.

(c) Immediately notify appropriate media outlets, and post local road signage notifying the public of the current water use restrictions.

(d) Landscape/outdoor watering by hose or by use of water directly from faucets or outlets connected to the public water supply shall be strictly prohibited.

(e) Excessive Water Use:

(1) Excessive water use, without reasonable cause as determined by the District, is prohibited.

(2) Excessive water use is defined as monthly water use that exceeds a certain percentage of the prior year's usage for the same month. The percentage varies based on the reduction goal and is determined by the following chart:

Reduction Goal	Excessive Use Percentage
20%	90%
25%	85%
30%	80%
35%	75%
40%	70%

45%	65%
50%	60%

If the reduction goal is 40%, excessive water use is monthly use that exceeds 70% of last year’s monthly use.

(3) Monthly water use less than 4,000 gallons will not be considered excessive.

(4) Commercial and industrial customers may contact the District to discuss the individual water needs required to maintain their business.

(5) Excessive water use is subject to the following special enforcement:

(i) First Violation: Customer will receive a written warning from the District that a further violation will result in water restrictions and penalties.

(ii) Second Violation: Payment of a \$50 penalty and customer’s service will be restricted by a flow restriction device for 30 days.

(iii) Third Violation: Payment of a \$100 penalty and customer’s water service will be restricted by a flow restriction device until the District repeals the state of emergency, threat of emergency, or shortage.

(iv) Fourth Violation: Payment of a \$500 penalty and continued water service restriction.

(v) Continued Violation: Payment of a \$500 penalty and continued water service restriction. The District may, in its discretion, pursue misdemeanor charges pursuant to Water Code Section 71644 which may result in imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 30 days, or by fine not exceeding \$600, or by both.

Section 17.5. Request for Increase in Allocation.

17.5.1. All applicants for an increase in allocation during a declared water shortage emergency must submit an application in writing to the District on an application form provided by the General Manager.

17.5.2. The General Manager will review all written requests for increased allocations and the General Manager shall determine if the application is approved, approved with modification, or denied.

17.5.3. All residential applicants for an additional allocation based on additional person residing at the residence shall show proof of residency for all residents at the property.

17.5.4. Water allocations may be adjusted by the General Manager upon written application where the requested adjustment is found to be reasonably necessary. Factors for consideration shall include without limitation:

17.5.4.1. Additional people residing full time at the residence.

17.5.4.2. Unusual medical needs.

17.5.4.3. Change of property use.

17.5.4.4. Where a District audit of nonresidential customer's water-using appliances and usage shows that all reasonable conservation measures are being employed and the applicant provides a conservation plan demonstrating the measures employed and compliance with the plan.

17.5.4.5. Where a nonresidential customer has demonstrated growth in business volume over the base year in providing a water-related service to the public, the allocation may be adjusted at the discretion of the General Manager.

17.5.4.6. Hospitals, health care facilities, nursing care facilities, health clinics, and similar users may be excepted from the percentage reductions provided that a water conservation plan demonstrating reductions in consumption to the maximum extent feasible without jeopardizing patient care is approved by the General Manager.

17.5.5. A decision in writing shall be mailed to the applicant within fifteen (15) days of the receipt of the application.

Section 17.6. Appeals.

17.6.1. Procedure. Any customer may appeal for reconsideration the General Manager's written decision under Section 18.05 of this article for an increase in allocation. Appeals for reconsideration shall be processed as set forth below.

17.6.1.1. Any customer appealing for reconsideration of the classification or allocation shall do so in writing to the General Manager by either using forms provided by the District or by letter setting forth in detail the reasons for the appeal.

17.6.1.2. The appeal for reconsideration shall be reviewed by the General Manager and a site visit scheduled if required. The General Manager shall also notice a hearing by regular mail whereby the applicant may present their arguments. The notice of hearing to the applicant identifying the date, time and location of the hearing shall be deposited into the U.S. mailed at least 7 calendar days before the hearing.

17.6.1.3. The General Manager shall issue a written decision on the appeal with his/her decision within 10 days of the hearing.

17.6.1.4. If an appeal for reconsideration is sustained, a condition of approval may include a requirement for the installation of water efficient plumbing fixtures and/or irrigation systems.

17.6.1.5. If an applicant disagrees with the General Manager's decision, the decision may be appealed in the same procedural manner as specified in Subsection (a) of this section to the Board of Directors. If an appeal to the Board of Directors is requested, the customer shall be notified of a hearing date by mail. Such hearing shall be scheduled within thirty (30) days of filing the appeal. A decision shall be forwarded to the applicant within fifteen (15) days after completion of the hearing.

17.6.2. Each appeal to the Board of Directors shall be accompanied by the payment of an appeal fee in an amount set by resolution of the Board of Directors from time to time to defray the costs of the appeal to the District.

Section 17.7. New Connections Requirements.

All applicants for new water service connections for new construction shall be required to furnish proof of installation in residential, commercial and/or industrial buildings of ultra-low flow toilets with a maximum tank size or flush capacity of 1.6 gallons and shower heads with a maximum flow capacity of 3 gallons per minute.

Section 17.8. Financial Assistance.

The District may request that federal and state agencies provide financial and other assistance to residents, water suppliers, water rights holders, ranchers, farmers, business owners and any local governments who are harmed by the drought emergency in its territorial limits to help them mitigate the effects of the persistent drought conditions.”

ARTICLE XVIII.
Other Fees and Charges

Section 18.1. Service Connections & Charges.

The District will furnish and install a service of such size and at such location as the applicant requests, provided such requests are reasonable and approved by District. The service will be installed from the water distribution main to the curb line or property line of the premises, which may abut the street, on other thoroughfares, or on District rights-of-way or easements. Charges for new services are payable in advance and shall include charge for the service box, meter, meter installation, and participation fee.

Section 18.2. Charge for Service (Meter) Box.

The charge for a service box with fittings installed by District shall be the actual cost for labor, equipment, and materials determined after installation as established in Table A.

Section 18.3. Meter Charges and Participation Fees.

The District charges a participation fee (also known as “connection fee and capacity charge”) in order to reimburse existing rate payers for the investment they have made to oversize the water system’s facilities so that sufficient excess capacity is available to new customers. Section 66000 of the California Government Code describes how participation fees should be calculated and restricts how the funds collected from such fees can be utilized.

The equivalent meter unit ratio multiplier was calculated for the District by the consulting firm of Hilton, Farnkopf & Hobson, in the Water Rate Study completed for the District on November 1, 1995.

Meter installation charges established in Table A are based on the actual cost for the District to purchase the meter at the time this ordinance was promulgated, plus one man-hour of installation time at the rate of \$25 per hour. The actual prevailing meter cost will be charged to the applicant at the time installation is done.

Section 18.4. Water Connection/Extension Application Fee.

The Water Connection or Extension Application Fee established in Table A covers the District’s administrative costs for new file preparation and provides applicant with copy of agreement form and current fee schedule.

Section 18.5. Administrative Fee for Water Extension.

The non-refundable Water Extension Administrative Fee established in Table A covers the District’s expected administrative staff time, which would involve assistance to the applicant regarding agreement preparation, agenda scheduling, and bookkeeping functions.

Section 18.6. Engineering Deposit for Water Extension.

The Water Extension Engineering Deposit established in Table A covers the District’s actual Engineering (in-house or contracted) time and materials expended for review of CEQA requirements, plan reviews, easement reviews, project management, and construction site and

facility inspections. Any unused money left from the deposit will be credited back to the applicant.

Section 18.7. Meter Test—Deposits.

If a customer desires to have the meter serving the customer's premises tested, they shall first deposit a fee established in Table A.

Section 18.8. Disconnection/Termination Fee.

A disconnection fee plus penalties established in Table A will be made and collected prior to renewing service following discontinuance. If the user calls the District to reconnect service outside of normal District business hours, then the After Hours Reconnection Fee established in Table A shall apply.

Section 18.9. Water Main Extension Fees.

The applicant for water main extension shall submit the required charges and fees established in Table A prior to the District's review, inspection, and final acceptance for the Water Main Extension Project. Funds collected under the Administrative Expense and Engineering Expense Deposits shall maintain a positive balance at all times; any charges in excess of the deposit will be monthly. Any funds collected under the District Engineer Expense Deposit but not used, shall be refunded after the close of the one-year warranty period.

Section 18.10. Temporary Authorized Use of Fire Hydrant Water.

The District may authorize the temporary beneficial use of water from fire hydrants. The District has identified four hydrants throughout the service area from which water can be drawn after receiving permission from the District. The Customer shall pay the applicable fees established in Table A.

Damage to the hydrant and/or meter by the customer shall be repaired at the customer's expense.

Section 18.11. Charge for Unauthorized Use of Fire Hydrants.

In the event any person, other than organized fire protection agencies, makes any connection to a fire hydrant without written permission from the District, the charge established in Table A shall be paid to the District by the person making such connection. Any such unauthorized connection shall be immediately disconnected upon discovery thereof, and no further connection by said person shall be permitted until payment of the charge for unauthorized use plus the estimated water use rendered by the District has been paid.

Section 18.12. Charge for Tampered or Destroyed Meter and Locks.

If the customer places an object that interferes with meter access, tampers with, or destroys a meter lock installed by the District, the charge established in Table A shall be billed to the customer.

A Meter or Curbstop destroyed or damage shall result in a charge to the customer established in Table A.

TABLE A		
MONTHLY FIXED RATE SERVICES CHARGES		
Meter Size	EMU Ratio*	Monthly Charge
5/8-3/4-inch	1.0	\$35.22
1.0-inch	1.6	\$56.36
1.5-inch	2.6	\$91.57
2.0-inch	3.5	\$123.27
3.0-inch	5.5	\$193.70
4.0-inch	7.8	\$274.71
* EMU Ratio used for Monthly Fixed Rate Service Charge is based on non-peak flow rates. Example: for 1.5" Meter, the Base rate (5/8" meter) is \$35.22 times EMU for 1.5" meter (2.6) is \$91.57		
USAGE (VARIABLE) RATE		
Gallons Used per Month	Residential Usage Charge per Gallon	Usage Rate Category
0 to 3300	.0068	Baseline Usage Rate
>3301	.01345	Peak Demand Usage Rate
DISTRICT-WIDE DEBT SERVICE CHARGES		
Meter Charges	EMU Ratio	Monthly Charge
5/8-3/4-inch	1.0	\$20.58
1.0-inch	1.6	\$32.93
1.5-inch	2.6	\$53.51
2.0-inch	3.5	\$72.04
3.0-inch	5.5	\$113.20
4.0-inch	7.8	\$160.52
PRIVATE FIRE SERVICE STANDBY RATE		
Fixed Monthly Standby Rate		
\$10/per month/inch of meter size/connection		
VOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF SERVICE METER REMOVAL FEE		
\$100.00		
APPLICATIONS FOR WATER SERVICE		
\$35.00 where no water main extension is required, plus deposit estimated by District		
\$200.00 where water main extension is required, plus deposit estimated by District		
PROPERTY TRANSFERS		
\$25.00 for unimproved property in RID#1 where Standby and Facilities charges are levied		
\$40.00 for improved properties in the District where water/and or sewer service is provided		
\$15.00 for tenant changes by owner or agent of rental properties		

LIENS			
\$50.00 for Tax Roll Removal			
\$35.00 for Satisfaction of Lien			
DISHONORED CHECKS			
\$35.00 per occurrence			
CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM-BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE TESTING FEES			
Installation will be actual device cost and labor charges			
\$40.00 annual inspection fee			
Maintenance will be actual labor and materials cost			
\$40.00 retesting fee			
METER BOX			
Actual cost for labor, equipment, and materials. Typical cost ranges from \$400.00-\$1,200.00			
METER CHARGES AND PARTICIPATION FEES			
Meter Size	EMU* Multiplier	Participation Fees	Meter Install Charge
5/8-inch	1.0	\$1,827.00	Actual Cost
¾-inch	1.0	\$1,827.00	Actual Cost
1.0-inch	1.7	\$3,106.00	Actual Cost
1.5-inch	3.3	\$6,029.00	Actual Cost
2.0-inch	5.3	\$9,684.00	Actual Cost
3.0-inch	11.7	\$21,377.00	Actual Cost
4.0-inch	20.0	\$36,542.00	Actual Cost
<p>*EMU Ratio Multiplier used to calculate participation fees is based on peak flow rates, which is slightly higher than the EMU ratio used for calculating monthly fixed rate charges, which uses non-peak flow rates.</p> <p>Example of calculation for 1.5-inch meter: Base participation fee is \$1,827.00 times the EMU ratio multiplier of 3.3 is \$6,029.00.</p>			
METER TEST			
\$25.00 (refunded if meter is reading incorrectly)			
DISCONNECTION FEE			
\$50.00			
AFTER HOURS RECONNECTION FEE			
\$150.00			

TEMPORARY AUTHORIZED USE OF FIRE HYDRANT WATER		
\$100.00 Non-Refundable Service charge for flow meter and backflow device		
\$5.00/day Hydrant Charge		
\$1.39 per 100 gallons		
\$65.00 Hydrant Location Change Charge		
UNAUTHORIZED USE OF FIRE HYDRANTS		
\$1,000.00		
CHARGE FOR TAMPERED OR DESTROYED METER, LOCKS, AND CURBSTOP		
\$50.00 for tampering with or destroying District fixed lock		
\$400.00-\$1,200.00 for tampering with or destroying meter or curbstop (actual material and labor cost will apply)		
WATER MAIN EXTENSION & SERVICE CONNECTION		
Water Extension Application Fee	\$200.00	Covers Administrative cost for new file preparation and provides applicant with copy of Agreement form and current fee schedule. (Section A2.02.3)
District Engineering Expense Deposit	\$1,500.00	Covers actual Engineer's time expended for review of CEQA requirements, plan reviews, easement reviews, project management, and construction site and facility inspections. (Section A2.02.4)
Performance (Security) Bond		Irrevocable Letter of Credit, Performance Bond, or Cash Deposit with the District, shall be provided for estimated cost of the construction project using prevailing wage rates.
Maintenance Bond		After the project is finished, but prior to District acceptance, the owner shall furnish the actual cost of construction. The Maintenance Bond will be set at 25% of the actual cost of the project. The Maintenance Bond shall remain in effect for one year after final acceptance by the District.
Connection Fees		Payable after District acceptance of the Improvement project, but prior to the start of construction. <i>Refer to Meter Charges and Participation Fees</i>
Meter Box	\$400.00-\$1,200.00	<i>Refer to Meter Box</i>