



NORTHWESTERN  
**THE DISTRICT**  
WATER & SEWER



Above: District crew member using equipment to exercise a waterline valve in the Village of Cygnet. More on this District-wide effort to improve our water system and our water quality on page 2.

# WATERWORKS

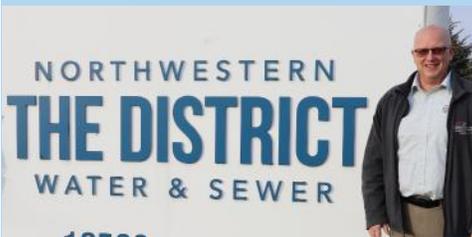
Volume XI | Issue II

## BOARD UPDATE

The District Board of Trustees will undergo several changes for 2021. The board accepted The District's municipal appointment of Bill Barnhart. Mr. Barnhart fills the board seat left vacant by Bill Verbosky, who retired from his board seat in December. Mr. Barnhart currently serves as the Vice President of Engineering and Operations for the Hancock Wood Electric Cooperative. He is an electrical engineer and has worked in the electric utility industry for over 20 years. Bill currently lives in Weston and served on the Village of Weston's council for four years.

"I hope to contribute to the board through my experience with long-term capital planning for addressing aging utility infrastructure and balancing this need with fair rates. I hope to encourage management to investigate leveraging technology to reduce cost, improve operational efficiency, and improve service," Barnhart said.

*Continued Page 2.*



Above: New board member Bill Barnhart.

## BULK WATER & SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEES

Each year, The District reviews its fees for items like bulk water use and equipment rates.

While most of the special fees remain unchanged, this year The District increased fees slightly for bulk water users. This is necessary to fund the cost of equipment upgrades for the aged bulk water system.

The new system will require pin codes instead of the current card system. All bulk water stations are scheduled to be replaced by the end of this year.

If you're a developer, contractor, or someone building a new home, you should be aware of changes in our System Development Fees (SDF's).

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## FIX A LEAK

The District is once again teaming up with EPA WaterSense for Fix a Leak week March 15-21.

This year, we are focusing on helping you hunt down household water leaks. You can start by signing up for our free water monitoring system, AquaHawk. This system can alert you to possible leaks. Check out our tutorial on how to sign up at [NWWSD.ORG/AQUAHAWK](http://NWWSD.ORG/AQUAHAWK).

In the meantime, you can find leaks inside and outside your home to save valuable water and money all year long. Check out [NWWSD.ORG](http://NWWSD.ORG) for more information.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**District Board of Trustees Meetings** are held the second and fourth Thursday of every month at 7:30 a.m.

Join us via teleconference, go to [NWWSD.ORG](http://NWWSD.ORG).

The District office will be closed February 15th for Presidents' Day.

JOIN US  
ON



### Mission

*Our goal is to be the premier water and wastewater provider in Northwestern Ohio. We are committed to sound financial management, responsible environmental stewardship, responsive public service, superior customer service, and responsible economic growth. We strive to field a skilled, respectful, and cooperative workforce dedicated to the highest professional and ethical standards; we support them with appropriate training and technology.*

**Responsible for every drop.**

# CONSTRUCTION CORNER

Over the past ten years, The District has invested over \$170 million into Northwestern Ohio's water and sewer infrastructure. In 2021 The District will invest an estimated \$30 million into water and wastewater projects across Wood, Hancock, Henry, Lucas, and Sandusky counties. This money is being used to repair our systems. In effect, your rates are financing our infrastructure and this benefits all of us.

Get updates on projects in your neighborhood. Check out our website and social media.

## CURRENT PROJECTS

### PERRYSBURG TOWNSHIP- WATERLINE REPLACEMENT

Through March, lane restrictions and service interruptions are possible on North and South Bramblewood, Bridgewood, and Cliffwood Streets for waterline replacement. Project investment: \$1.5 million.

### DISTRICT-WIDE - VALVE MAINTENANCE

Through December, crews will be turning waterline valves throughout The District water service area. This work may cause water to become discolored. Residents are advised to flush their taps if this occurs.

For updates on all construction projects, visit:

[nwwsd.org](http://nwwsd.org)



Above Photo: The District recently began a five-year maintenance project required by the EPA. Over 5,000 of our waterline valves in our system will be exercised to ensure they work properly.

# BOARD UPDATE (CONTINUED PAGE 1)

Barnhart was appointed by The District's municipal members and his term will expire in 2023.

## RETURNING BOARD MEMBERS

William Hirzel (Wood County Commissioner appointee) and Melinda Kale (Township appointee) were reappointed to the District's Board of Trustees. Both of their terms will expire in 2023.

## BOARD OFFICERS

Mark Sheffer was re-elected to serve as Board Chairman. This will be his sixth consecutive year as chairman. Mr. Sheffer resides in Weston and serves as a municipal appointee. His current board term will expire in December 2021.

Steve Arnold was elected to serve as Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Arnold resides in Bloom Township. His current term expires in 2021. Steve has spent his entire career in banking and is a financial advisor for Edward Jones.

Melinda Kale was elected to serve as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees. This will be her third year serving in the position. She is the CEO of Work Leads to Independence and serves on several community boards such as The Governor's Council of People With Disabilities, Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees, and the Liberty Township Memorial Association.

For more information on The District Board of Trustees go to [NWWSD.ORG](http://NWWSD.ORG).

## BULK WATER & SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEES

SDF's were developed from the "system buy-in" methodology developed by the American Water Works Association. It's based on the premise that while new customers are entitled to water and wastewater service at the same price charged to existing customers, existing customers have already paid a portion of the cost of general improvements to support the water and sewer system. The "growth pays for growth" policy is consistent with the extension policies approved by the Board of Trustees.

In December, the board approved updated SDF charges based upon recommendations from a 2020 study. There has been an increase in sewer collection charges, and a decrease in water and sewer treatment charges. SDF charges vary based upon meter size. For more information, visit our website at [NWWSD.ORG](http://NWWSD.ORG).

## CONTACT THE DISTRICT

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Northwestern Water and  
Sewer District



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