



PO BOX 847 Trinidad, CA 95570

**Neighbors working together to ensure Big Lagoon Community Service District's water needs are met today, tomorrow, and into the future**

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

### **PROPOSED SERVICE AND WATER RATE INCREASES**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Big Lagoon Community Services District (BLCSD) is considering a water rate and service charge Increase. The hearing will take place at 9:30 AM on Saturday July 15,2023 at the Big Lagoon School gymnasium. 269 Big Lagoon Park Rd, Trinidad, CA 95570. You are receiving this Notice because our records indicate that you are a water customer and/or a owner of a property within the BLCSD. This Notice describes the proposed increase and explains how you can participate in the rate setting process.

The BLCSD Board of Directors will consider the rate increases immediately following the public hearing on July 15,2023. If adopted, the increased rates will become effective, September 01,2023 and be reflected in the November 2023 bills.

The public hearing will be conducted per California Constitution Article XIII D, Section 6 (also known as "Proposition 218"). This notice is being sent to all owners and customers of record whose parcels receive water service from BLCSD who would be subject to the proposed rates and charges.

The term "Property Owner" and/or "Customer" as used in this Notice includes any affected person or entity that has a right to lawful possession and/or occupancy of property and who is responsible for payment of the water service charges. The Public Hearing will be for hearing public testimony and receiving written protests on the proposed rate increase. Only one protest per parcel is permitted. Please refer to the "How Can I Participate?" section of this document for instructions on submitting a formal written protest against the proposed action. You may also appear at the Public Hearing at 9:30 AM on Saturday July 15,2023.

**What would change?** The proposed increase would increase the fixed bi-monthly service charge, and water usage charges. Information of the changes can be found in this notice under " Proposed Rate Changes".

### Why are these increases necessary?

- Growing operation & maintenance costs
- Water Operator cutting back on hours/retirement. These services will need to be outsourced at a fee vs. currently at no charge to the District.
- Capital improvements are necessary to continue to provide safe, reliable, high quality water to the community.

### Proposed Rate Changes: (monthly)

	<u>Current Rates As of 7/01/2015</u>	<u>Proposed as of 09/01/2023</u>
Base Rate 1	\$47.49	\$54.61
Base Rate 2	\$127.99	\$147.19
Water usage per gallon	\$.004799	\$.005519
Water Meter Connection	\$5000	\$5000

**How will this increase affect me?** A typical user (3000 gallons per month) would see an approximate increase of \$18.57 in their bi-monthly bill (or \$9.28 per month).

**How Can I Participate?** Written protests will be accepted by regular mail at P.O. Box 847, Trinidad, CA 95570. Emailed or faxed protests will NOT be accepted.

The content of the protest should include:

- Printed name of protestor
- Clear indication that the document is a protest
- Residence or business address or parcel number (APN) within the BLCSD service area
- Signature of protestor

Any Property Owner and or Customer may appear at the Public Hearing and orally protest the proposed rate increases, or submit to BLCSD, at any time before the end of the Public Hearing, a written protest against the proposed rate increases. Oral protests will not qualify as a protest unless accompanied by a written protest, but the Board of Directors welcomes input from the community during the Public Hearing. Copies of all protests submitted by 12 Noon on July 13,2023 will be available at the Public Hearing.

If written protests are submitted by a majority of the Property Owners/Customers of affected properties, the proposed increases will not be imposed.