

**SECTION G.**  
**RATES AND SERVICE FEES**

**UNLESS SPECIFICALLY DEFINED IN THIS RATE ORDER, ALL FEES, RATES, AND CHARGES AS STATED SHALL BE NON-REFUNDABLE.**

**1. Classes of Users.** All users of the District's water services shall be grouped into one of the following classes:

- (a) Residential users, consisting of residential users located within the District;  
or
- (b) Commercial users, consisting of users located within the District to which service to a non-residential structure is provided; and/or
- (c) Irrigation users, consisting of users located within the District to which irrigation service is provided.

Water charges will be assessed in such a manner that each class of users generally pays its share of debt service and operation and maintenance expenses for water service. The District may create additional classes of users in the future at its discretion.

All classes of users may be grouped into sub-classes according to the meter size provided to their residence and/or commercial establishment or for irrigation.

**2. Service Investigation Fee.** The District shall conduct a service investigation for each service application submitted to the District. An initial determination shall be made by the District, without charge, as to whether the request is for standard or non-standard service. An investigation shall then be conducted by the District and the results reported under the following terms:

(a) Standard Service Requests. All standard service requests for new standard service shall be subject to a Service Investigation Fee in the amount of **\$250.00**. All requests for standard service to property where service previously existed shall be investigated without charge. All applicable costs for providing service shall be quoted in writing to the applicant within twenty (20) working days of application.

(b) Non-standard Single Service Requests for Residential or Irrigation Service. All non-standard single service residential requests for a meter larger than a 5/8" x 3/4" meter and all irrigation meter service requests shall be subject to a Service Investigation Fee in the amount of **\$300.00**. The District may charge a Service Investigation Fee appropriate to the property and of sufficient amount to cover all administrative, legal and engineering costs associated with an investigation of the District's ability to provide service to the applicant's property, which may include:

- (1) presenting detailed plans and specifications as per final plat;

- (2) providing other services as required by the District for such investigation.

(c) Non-standard Service Requests for Commercial, Industrial, Developer, or Subdivision. All non-standard service requests for meter(s), other than requests as defined in Sections G.2(a) and G.2(b) above, shall be subject to a Service Investigation Fee in the amount of **\$3,000.00**, plus **\$10.00** for each service connection in excess of twenty (20) service connections, unless the District determines otherwise, in which case the District shall charge a Service Investigation Fee appropriate to the project and of sufficient amount to cover all administrative, legal and engineering costs associated with an investigation of the District's ability to provide service to the applicant's project, which may include:

- (1) providing cost estimates of the project;
- (2) presenting detailed plans and specifications as per required plat;
- (3) advertising and accepting bids for the project;
- (4) preparing a Non-Standard Service Contract between the District and applicant; and
- (5) providing other services as required by the District for such investigation.

A Non-Standard Service Contract shall be presented to the applicant within a suitable amount of time as determined by the complexity of the project.

(d) Fire Hydrant & Fire Line Service Requests. All requests for fire hydrant and fire lines shall be subject to a Service Investigation Fee in the amount of **\$500.00**.

### 3. Deposits.

(a) Initial Payment and Amount. At the time an application for service is approved, the applicant shall pay a Deposit to be held by the District, without interest, until settlement of the customer's final bill. The Deposit will be used to offset unpaid charges or bills.

- (1) The Deposit for residential and irrigation water service is **\$100.00** for each service meter.

- (2) An additional **\$60.00** Deposit will be charged for residential water service for an applicant who will receive sewer and garbage service from the City of Waxahachie, which will be billed by the District.

(3) An additional **\$40.00** Deposit will be charged for residential water service for an applicant who will receive only garbage service from the City of Waxahachie, which will be billed by the District.

(4) An additional **\$80.00** Deposit will be charged for residential water service for an applicant who will receive sewer service from the City of Red Oak.

(5) The Deposits for commercial and nonresidential water service, including Master Metered Accounts, shall not exceed an amount equivalent to one-sixth of the estimated annual billings as determined by the District.

(b) Commercial and Nonresidential Customers. If actual monthly billings of a commercial or nonresidential customer are more than twice the amount of the estimated billings at the time service was established, a new deposit amount may be calculated and an additional deposit may be required to be made within fifteen (15) days after the issuance of written notice.

(c) Applicants 65 Years of Age or Older. No deposit may be required of a standard service applicant who is 65 years of age or older if the applicant does not have a delinquent account balance with the District or another water utility.

(d) Reestablishment of Deposit. Every service applicant who has previously been a customer of the District and whose service has been discontinued for nonpayment of bills, meter tampering, bypassing of meter or failure to comply with applicable state regulations or regulations of the District shall be required, before service is resumed, to pay all amounts due the District or execute a deferred payment agreement, if offered, and shall be required to pay a deposit if the District does not currently have a deposit from the customer.

(e) Refund of Deposit. If service is not connected, or after disconnection of service, the District shall refund the service applicant's or customer's deposit, if any, in excess of the unpaid bills for service furnished. In the event that a surplus of Five Dollars (**\$5.00**) or more exists after the final bill is paid, the balance of the Deposit will be paid to the customer within forty-five (45) days provided the customer has given the District notice of a forwarding address. All requests for Deposit refunds must be made to the District within ninety (90) days of termination of service. In the event that an outstanding balance exists after the Deposit is applied, the District shall attempt to collect the outstanding balance by all lawful means available.

**4. Easement Fee.** When the District determines that private right-of-way easements and/or easements for facility sites are necessary to provide service to an applicant, the applicant shall be required to make a good faith effort to secure such easements on behalf of the District or pay all costs incurred by the District to validate, clear and obtain such easements, including but not limited to legal fees and court costs, in addition to other fees required under this Rate Order to initiate service. [See Sections E.2(c)(2) and F.7(a)].

**5. Connection Fee.** The District shall charge a Connection Fee for service as follows:

(a) Standard Residential, Irrigation, and Non-Standard Commercial Service. The Connection Fee for standard, irrigation, and non-standard commercial service shall include all labor, materials for construction, installation, or inspection of a tap or connection to the District's water system, including all necessary service lines up to and including the meter. The Connection Fee shall be charged on a per meter basis in the following amounts:

| <u>Meter Size</u> | <u>Connection Fee</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 5/8" x 3/4"       | \$3,500.00            |

For meter sizes larger than 5/8" x 3/4" the District will charge the applicant for the difference in the cost of the larger meter and the cost of a standard 5/8" x 3/4" meter together with the increased cost of large valves, meter box or vault and the additional or increased cost of any ancillary materials that are necessary for the installation of a larger meter.

(b) Subdivision Projects. The Connection Fee for non-standard water to land that is being developed pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code, which at the time of platting was not being provided with water service by the District, shall include but not be limited to, the supply, pumping, storage and treatment capacity required for the Development compared to the amount of unrestricted capacity available in the District's system.

(1) The Connection Fee amount shall be determined as follows:

- (A) where Developer is installing on-site water lines or facilities and taps for the connections, as approved by the District, Developer shall pay to the District the Connection Fee of **\$2,600.00** for each standard service connection; or
- (B) where the water lines or facilities and taps for the connections have previously been installed and approved by the District, Developer shall pay to the District the Connection Fee of **\$3,000.00** for each standard service connection.

(2) Additionally, for meters larger than a standard 5/8" x 3/4" meter, Developer shall pay to the District the difference in the cost of the larger meter and the costs of a standard 5/8" x 3/4" meter, together with the increased cost of large valves, meter box or vault and the additional or increased cost of any ancillary materials that are necessary for the installation of a larger meter.

(3) The Connection Fee under Section G.5(b)(1) above is exclusive of the meter set fee of \$500.00, customer deposit of \$100.00, Customer Service Inspection Fee of \$50.00, Customer Service Inspection (CSI) fee of \$50.00, and the sewer and/or garbage deposit fee as determined, and if required by the applicable city with proper jurisdiction.

Prior to the installation of any facilities to which Non-Standard Connection Fees apply, the applicant shall execute a non-standard service contract (NSC) with the District, and pay the Connection Fee and other fees and costs in accordance with the terms of the NSC.

(c) Extraordinary Expenses.

(1) *Generally.* Extraordinary expenses such as road bores, street crossings, system improvements and pipeline extension and/or relocations under Section E.2(c)(6) may be added to the Connection Fee and shall be paid by the applicant.

(2) *Street Crossings.* The fee for crossing under a street or county road with a service line is **\$1,000.00** or the actual cost, whichever is greater. The fee for crossing under a state highway with a service line is **\$1,500.00** or the actual cost, whichever is greater.

**6. Activation Fee.** When water service is requested by an applicant or customer to an existing meter located on property previously served by the District, the applicant or customer will pay an Activation Fee of **\$50.00**, plus the other applicable fees below, to the District, prior to the District reactivating water service.

(a) Deposit required. In addition to the Activation Fee, an applicant or customer will pay a Deposit to the District prior to the applicant or customer receiving water service on a property to be served by the District.

(b) Re-Service Fee. When water service is requested by an applicant or customer to a property that has previously received water service from the District but no longer has a meter installed in an existing meter box, the applicant or customer will pay a Re-Service Fee of **\$500.00**, together with the Activation Fee and Deposit as mentioned above, to the District, prior to the District installing a water meter and the property receiving water service.

**7. Monthly Charges.**

(a) Base Rate. The Base Rate is that portion of a customer's monthly bill which is paid per meter for the opportunity of receiving utility service, excluding standby fees and reserved service charges, which does not vary due to changes in service consumption. The District's monthly Base Rates for water service and meter size equivalents for Residential, Irrigation, and Commercial meters are as follows:

| METER SIZE  | MONTHLY RATE |
|-------------|--------------|
| 5/8 x 3/4"  | \$25.00      |
| 3/4" x 3/4" | \$37.50      |
| 1"          | \$62.50      |
| 1½"         | \$125.00     |
| 2"          | \$200.00     |

| METER SIZE | MONTHLY RATE |
|------------|--------------|
| 3"         | \$437.50     |
| 4"         | \$750.00     |
| 6"         | \$1,562.50   |
| 8"         | \$2,000.00   |
| A3 1"      | \$62.50      |
| A5 2"      | \$200.00     |

(b) Gallage Charge. In addition to the Base Rate, customers shall pay a Gallage or volumetric rate at the following rates for water usage during anyone (1) billing period:

Residential Service

|                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 to 10,000 gallons      | \$5.00 per thousand gallons |
| 10,001 to 20,000 gallons | \$6.50 per thousand gallons |
| 20,001 to 30,000 gallons | \$8.45 per thousand gallons |
| Over 30,000 gallons      | \$9.75 per thousand gallons |

Irrigation Service

|                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 to 10,000 gallons      | \$5.00 per thousand gallons |
| 10,001 to 20,000 gallons | \$6.50 per thousand gallons |
| 20,001 to 30,000 gallons | \$8.45 per thousand gallons |
| Over 30,000 gallons      | \$9.75 per thousand gallons |

Commercial Service

|                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0 to 20,000 gallons       | \$5.00 per thousand gallons |
| 20,001 to 50,000 gallons  | \$6.50 per thousand gallons |
| 50,001 to 150,000 gallons | \$7.25 per thousand gallons |
| Over 150,000 gallons      | \$8.20 per thousand gallons |

**ROCKETT SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT WHOLESALE WATER RATES**

| Distribution Wholesale Customer | Rate per 1,000 gallons |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| City of Ferris                  | \$5.35                 |
| City of Palmer                  | \$5.35                 |
| Howard WSC                      | \$5.35                 |
| Rural Bardwell WSC              | \$5.35                 |

| Transmission Wholesale | Rate per 1,000 gallons |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Sardis Lone Elm WSC    | \$4.14                 |

| Bulk Water       | Rate per 1,000 gallons |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Bulk Water Rates | \$7.00                 |

(c) Reserved Service Fee. The District shall assess a monthly Reserved Service Fee for each active account at a specific location for which a meter has not been installed but for which the District and an applicant have entered into a service agreement or Non-Standard Service Contract. This monthly charge shall be based on the District's fixed costs to service the applicant's dedicated facilities on a per service unit basis. This charge reserves service to the applicant's real property designated to receive service. This fee is determined by deducting **\$3.00** from the applicable Base Rate.

(d) Regulatory Assessment. In accordance with TCEQ regulations, the District shall collect from each customer a regulatory assessment equal to 0.5% of the monthly charges collected by the District for water utility service. [See 30 TAC § 291.76(d)(3)].

**8. Standby Fee.** The monthly charge imposed on undeveloped property (a tract, lot or reserve in the district to which no water or wastewater connections have been made and for which water facilities and services are available). Upon adoption by the Board of Directors and approval by the TCEQ, the District shall charge a Standby Fee to owners of undeveloped property.

**9. Late Payment Fee.** Except for bills to political subdivisions and state agencies, a one-time penalty of **\$5.00** or **5.0%**, whichever is larger, shall be applied to delinquent bills. This late payment penalty shall not be applied to any balance to which the penalty was applied in a previous billing, but shall be applied to any unpaid balance during the current billing period. Political subdivisions and state agencies shall be assessed a late penalty of 1% on any amount unpaid on the 46th day after a bill or statement for service furnished is received by the state agency or political subdivision and an additional 1% shall be assessed for each month thereafter that the bill remains unpaid. [See Gov't Code Chapter 2251]

**10. Owner Notification Fee.** The District may, at the expense of the customer, notify said customer of a tenant's delinquent account status prior to disconnection of service. The District shall charge **\$15.00** per notification.

**11. Returned Check Fee.** In the event a check, draft, or any other similar instrument is given by any person for payment of services provided for in this Rate Order, and the instrument is returned by the bank or other similar institution as insufficient or non-negotiable for any reason, the account for which the instrument was issued shall be assessed a return check charge of **\$35.00**. [See Appendix C, Form C-08].

- 12. Delinquent Fee.** If any past due amount, greater than **\$20.00** is not received by the due date on the "Past Due Notice", then service is subject to immediate meter lock for non-payment. A delinquent fee of **\$50.00** will be assessed on the scheduled meter lock day per billing cycle. The past due amount and the delinquent fee are required to be paid before service is restored. Service will be restored during normal business hours only. If there are extenuating circumstances that require service to be restored after hours, the After Hours Service Trip Fee will also be charged as provided by Section G.14 below.
- 13. Service Trip Fee.** If a service trip to a customer's meter during regular business hours is requested by a customer or deemed necessary by the District, then a **\$50.00** fee will be charged to the customer's account.
- 14. After Hours Service Trip Fee.** If an after hour's service trip to the customer's meter is deemed necessary by the District, a **\$75.00** fee will be charged to the customer's account.
- 15. Equipment Damage Fee.** The District shall charge for all labor, material, equipment, and all other actual costs necessary to repair or replace all equipment damaged due to negligence, theft or removal, meter tampering or bypassing, reconnecting service without authority or other service diversion. The utility may charge for all actual costs necessary to correct service diversion or unauthorized taps where there is no equipment damage, including incidents where service is reconnected without authority. An itemized bill of such charges shall be provided to the customer. In cases of meter tampering or service diversion, the District may disconnect the service of a customer and impose a **\$100.00** tampering fee for the 1st offense and **\$200.00** for any additional offenses. The tampering fee will be in addition to other equipment damage fees. In cases of meter tampering or service diversion, the District may disconnect the service of a customer refusing to pay damage charges. [See 16 TAC § 24.167(b)(4)].
- 16. Customer History Report Fee.** The District does not charge a fee to provide a copy of the customer's record of past water purchases in response to a customer's request for such a record.
- 17. Meter Test Fee.** The District shall test a customer's meter upon written request of the customer and a Meter Test Fee of **\$50.00** shall be imposed on the affected account.
- 18. Meter Relocation Fee.** The fee for moving a meter from one location to another under the terms of Section E.24 shall be **\$500.00** and for a maximum of 15 feet. If more than 15 feet is required, a new tap may be required with associated fees. During removal of the meter intended for relocation the District shall also remove the existing service tap.
- 19. Temporary Service Fee.** Temporary service is defined as service requested for purposes of inspection or clean up following construction on the property and expires at the end of thirty (30) days from the date requested. Prior to providing temporary water service, the District shall charge a non-refundable Temporary Service Fee of **\$75.00**. Temporary service customers will be charged the current gallonage charge per thousand gallons of water used. In the event an additional thirty (30) days is required, the customer will be charged an additional non-refundable Temporary Service Fee of **\$75.00**. [See Appendix C,



Form C-19]. Temporary service may not exceed a total of sixty (60) days.

**20. Hydrant Meter Service.** All water taken from District owned hydrants and flush valves must be metered through a District supplied hydrant meter connected to a backflow prevention device (either a reduced pressure zone device (RPZ) or double-check valve). Hydrant service applicants must complete a Hydrant Meter Service Application and Agreement and pay a **\$2,500.00** deposit, which is refundable upon return of the hydrant meter and backflow prevention device less any outstanding service charges or costs to repair damage to the hydrant meter and backflow prevention device caused by customer. Hydrant meter service customers shall pay a monthly base rate in the amount of **\$200.00** plus the current bulk water gallonage charge per thousand gallons of water used. A **\$50.00** backflow device testing fee will be applied to the first month's bill. [See Appendix C, Form C-20]. The District reserves the right to remove or retrieve a hydrant meter at any time and without notice to the hydrant meter service customer for any failure by the customer to comply with applicable District service policies or the Hydrant Meter Service Application and Agreement.

**21. Non-Disclosure Fee.** A fee of **\$2.00** may be assessed to any customer who requests in writing that personal information under the terms of this Rate Order not be disclosed to the public.

**22. Information Disclosure Fee.** All public information, except that which has been individually requested as confidential, shall be available to the public for a fee to be determined by the District based on the level of service and costs to provide such information, but not to be inconsistent with the terms of the Texas Publication Information Act, Chapter 552, Texas Government Code (f/k/a Texas Open Records Act).

**23. Customer Service Inspection Fee.**

(a) Residential. At the time service is requested, a customer service inspection fee of **\$50.00** will be assessed to a residential applicant. An additional **\$50.00** will be assessed for each additional inspection required.

(b) Commercial. At the time service is requested, a customer service inspection fee of **\$100.00** will be assessed to a commercial applicant. An additional **\$100.00** will be assessed for each additional inspection required.

**24. Franchise Fee Assessment.** A fee of **5.0%** of the amount billed for water service will be assessed each customer whose meter is located inside the corporate limits of a municipality that imposes a franchise tax on the District.

**25. Additional Assessments.** In the event any federal, state or local government imposes on the District a "per meter" fee or an assessment based on a percent of water charges, this fee or assessment will be billed and collected as a "pass through" charge to the customer.

**26. Fire Hydrant Fee.** The District shall charge a fee of **\$6,500.00** or the actual cost of the fire hydrant together with any and all other actual costs associated, whichever is greater, for each fire hydrant requested.

**27. Other Fees.** All services outside the normal scope of utility operations that the District may be compelled to provide at the request of a customer shall be charged to the recipient based on the cost of providing such service.

**28. Fees Non-refundable.** All fees, rates and charges contained in this Rate Order are non-refundable unless expressly stated otherwise.