

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

Background

The Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District was formed in March 1919 under the auspices of the Wright Act of 1897. The district provides water for domestic, commercial, industrial and agricultural use for the City of Beaumont and the unincorporated surrounding area.

This water district is not a tax-supported entity. It obtains its entire revenue from user fees and investment income. It enjoys a healthy financial position with more than \$1.7 million in reserves and no outstanding debts or bonds.

The agency is staffed by a general manager and seventeen employees. It is governed by a five-member board of directors, each elected to a four-year term. The district is currently supervised by an interim general manager assisted by a part time consulting science engineer. Both report directly to the board.

The district operates twenty-one active wells producing 23.3 million gallons of water per day for delivery to approximately 6,000 service connections.

The district currently owns four houses located on district property. These houses are leased at a reduced rental rate to employees in return for operation and maintenance services during any emergency.

Findings

1. A number of district procedures for operation, maintenance and administration are incomplete and out of date.
2. The current credit card policy allows directors to charge personal expenses, unrelated to water district business, on district credit cards. Reimbursement is made by each director at a later date.
3. The Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's maps of pipe lines, valves and distribution systems are not up to date.
4. The surrounding water agencies have no ground water management plan in effect.

Recommendations

The Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District Board of Directors direct that:

1. Procedures for operation, maintenance and administration be updated, consolidated, cataloged and centrally located.
2. The existing credit card policy be modified so that only district business expenses can be charged.
3. A plan for regular mapping of the water district distribution system be developed and implemented.
4. In coordination with other local water providers, develop a ground water management plan to mitigate the deleterious effect related to long-term storage quantity and quality problems.