

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:

- i. presenting detailed plans and specifications as per final plat;

- ii. 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"	\$4,500.00

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 **\$3,600.00** 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 **\$4,000.00** 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 (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"	\$26.00
3/4" x 3/4"	\$39.00
1"	\$65.00
1½"	\$130.00
2"	\$208.00