



## OPEN MEETING

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE THIRD LAGUNA HILLS MUTUAL WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 28, 2022 – 2:00 P.M  
Laguna Woods Village  
**\*\*\*\* VIRTUAL ONLY\*\*\*\***  
24351 El Toro Road

*Laguna Woods Village owners/residents are welcome to participate in all open committee meetings and submit comments or questions regarding this meeting using one of TWO options:*

- 1. Via the Zoom meeting link: <https://zoom.us/j/94969566448>. Members who wish to speak to a certain agenda item during the meeting may use the “Raise Hand” button on the Zoom screen. The meeting administrator will recognize the Member at the appropriate time and enable the Member to be heard. Members who wish to speak about a topic NOT on the agenda may “Raise Hand” during the Member Comments agenda item.*
- 2. Via email to [meeting@vmsinc.org](mailto:meeting@vmsinc.org) any time before the meeting is scheduled to begin or up until the agenda item you wish to speak to. Please use the name Third Mutual Water Conservation Committee in the subject line of the email. Name and unit number must be included.*

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Acknowledgment of Media
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of the Meeting Report from February 24, 2022
5. Chair’s Remarks

#### Consent:

None

#### Reports:

6. Third Mutual Water Usage



Items for Discussion and Consideration:

7. Village Television and El Toro Water District
8. Update on Additional Ways to Educate Village Residents Regarding Water Usage

Highlights

9. Earth Day Activities – Advisor Lee Goldstein

Items for Future Agendas:

10. Identify Items for Future Agendas

Concluding Business

11. Member Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)
12. Response to Member Comments
13. Committee Member Comments
14. Date of Next Meeting is Thursday, July 28, 2022
15. Adjournment

Donna Rane-Szostak, Chair  
Kurt Wiemann, Staff Officer  
Eve Morton, Landscape Coordinator, 949-268-2565



**OPEN MEETING**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE THIRD LAGUNA HILLS MUTUAL  
WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, February 24, 2022 – 2:00 p.m.  
BOARD ROOM AND VIRTUAL MEETING  
Laguna Woods Village Community Center 24351 El Toro Road**

**REPORT**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair- Donna Rane-Szostak, Lynn Jarrett, John Frankel, Cush Bhada, Nathaniel Lewis

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** None

**ADVISORS PRESENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kurt Wiemann, Eve Morton

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Rane-Szostak called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**2. Acknowledgement of Media**

No media was present.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Chair Rane-Szostak requested to amend the agenda by noting that the Irrigation Master Control Update would be provided by the Director of Landscape Services, Kurt Wiemann. Director Jarratt made the motion to amend the agenda. The committee was in unanimous support

**4. Approval of the Meeting Report from November 9, 2021**

Chair Rane-Szostak asked for a motion to approve the Report with one small change. Director Jarrett made the motion for a small change to the Minutes and then to approve them. The committee was in unanimous support.

**5. Committee Chair Remarks**

Chair Rane-Szostak wanted to remind everyone with what this committee is tasked to do; to collaborate with VMS, to inform Members of water cost and usage, to put programs into place to help conserve water, to recommend best practices, and to maintain relationships with El Toro Water District (ETWD), Municipal Water District, and the Fire Authority.

Last year, there was a panel regarding water conservation. Residents may view it on the Village YouTube account.

There are three directors on ETWD who live in Laguna Woods. Including the current President, Vice President, and past President

A resident, who is on the ETWD Board, informed the committee that ETWD is going to go through tremendous capital expenditures; a reservoir in Lake Forest must have a liner and cover replaced, a pump station must be replaced in another location, there are sewer costs, etc.

ETWD is working on 10 different projects over the next few years. They need to upgrade equipment.

The Chair of the State Water Board spoke at the recent ETWD Board meeting and said conservation and storage of water are main concerns now.

ETWD was on TV6 to talk about emergencies and earthquakes.

Storage for rain water is very expensive. We have to weigh costs of that versus the rate we buy water for.

Chair Rane-Szostak said 100% of our drinking water comes from somewhere else.

There are no aquifers to access in south Orange County.

Chair Rane-Szostak introduced the first resident advisor to the committee, Lee Goldstein.

Dennis Caffery, General Manager of ETWD, will be at the March Third Board meeting

Salt needs to be removed from any water from the Colorado River.

Much information given at the CAG meetings at ETWD building. Much information there. Information on their website.

#### **5a. Irrigation Master Control Update from Kurt Wiemann**

"We irrigate over 650 acres, not including the golf course.

The master control system we do have is twenty years old and there are no more updates offered for it. This brings a host of issues.

Some of system is controlled by old phone lines and 450-Megahertz radio which are obsolete now. No remote control is available with the current system. We need to have people on-site at one computer to take care of things.

The new system will allow system to be accessed remotely. Will also save us water through efficiencies. The new system is 2.2. million dollars. This system may save up to 21 percent in water annually which could potentially be +/- \$500K in water savings annually. Staff is still working on the water savings calculations.

The existing weather station is in a micro-climate. Currently, water needed is determined by evapotranspiration (ET) systems which tell us how much water

is evaporating out of the ground. New system will give us access to all the ET stations in the area, of which there are many. We can use this data to better fine-tune system. We can turn off water much closer to when work is being done such as landscaping or painting.

We are looking at the potential of new flow meters/master valves for Third Mutual. These would enable the computer to sense an increase in water usage and turn it off until a technician can diagnose the cause.

We have 500K sprinkler heads in the community.

I am putting costs together for Third to purchase these flow meters and valves and will be bringing it to the Landscape Committee in the near future. GRF is responsible for the master control system/controllers and Mutuals pay for everything else downstream i.e.: valves, backflows, etc.

There are rebates available for the updated master control system.

Low flow sprinkler heads are \$10 each and regular ones are only 10 cents each. We are switching all over but it is expensive and takes time.

Our nursery is phasing over to drought tolerant plants."

Consent:

None

Reports:

**6. Analysis of the Irrigation Meters**

Mr. Wiemann stated that staff keeps an eye on any meters that go into Tier 4 territory.

**7. Third Mutual Water Usage**

Chair Rane-Szostak reviewed the three water charts in the committee packet. She said Village water use, over the last four years, keeps going down from year before which is wonderful.

Leaks, showering times, and watering plants with the hose all add to high water use.

Items for Discussion and Consideration:

**8. Village Television and El Toro Water District**

See above.

**9. Update on Additional Ways to Educate Village Residents Regarding Water Usage**

TV6 spots

Articles in the Breeze

Advisor Goldstein is chair of Earth Day and he said booths are available for April 21.

Items for Future Agendas:

**10. Identify Items for Future Agendas**

Concluding Business

**11. Member Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)**

A Member suggested that through turf reduction and turf conversion the Village can bring down water use.

**12. Response to Member Comments**

Above.

**13. Committee Member Comments**

Advisor Goldstein offered the theme for Earth Day, "There is a way." We have a lot of interested people in making this work.

**14. Date of Next Meeting is Thursday, April 28, 2022**

**15. Adjournment at 3:16 p.m.**

*Donna Rane-Szostak*  
Donna Rane-Szostak (Mar 7, 2022 15:16 PST)

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Donna Rane-Szostak, Chair

### Third Mutual Water Usage in 100 cubic feet units

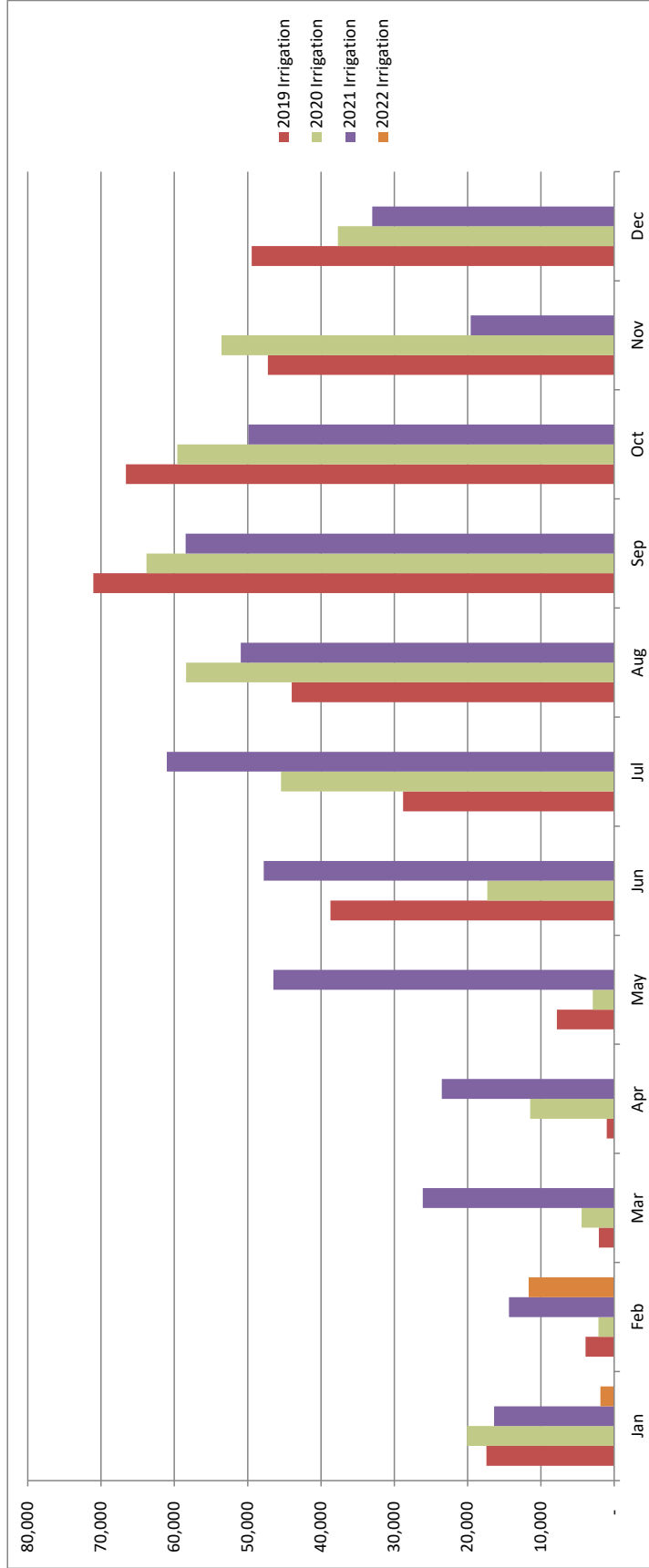
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	Total
2019	36,777	24,432	21,298	18,269	25,378	58,015	48,914	62,672	93,135	86,655	65,159	70,254	61,209	610,958
2020	38,350	23,285	22,570	29,169	22,804	39,197	66,203	81,581	86,612	80,664	75,700	58,608	61,635	624,743
2021	38,929	32,844	44,745	44,946	67,232	67,759	83,660	69,752	78,563	70,259	37,446	53,014	71,773	689,149
2022	20,573	29,522	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,095	50,095



### Third Mutual

#### Irrigation Water Usage in 100 cubic feet units

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	Total
2019 Irrigation	17,434	3,892	2,081	1,000	7,803	38,696	28,811	43,994	71,052	66,612	47,254	49,451	21,326	378,080
2020 Irrigation	20,096	2,146	4,430	11,464	2,923	17,310	45,463	58,399	63,816	59,592	53,554	37,681	22,242	376,874
2021 Irrigation	16,390	14,356	26,104	23,513	46,497	47,822	61,029	50,929	58,456	49,890	19,563	32,992	30,746	447,541
2022 Irrigation	1,884	11,681	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,565	13,565





### Third Mutual

#### Residential Water Usage in 100 cubic feet units

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	Total
2019 Residential	19,343	20,540	19,217	17,269	17,575	19,319	20,103	18,678	22,083	20,043	17,905	20,803	39,883	232,878
2020 Residential	18,254	21,139	18,140	17,705	19,881	21,887	20,740	23,182	22,796	21,072	22,146	20,927	39,393	247,869
2021 Residential	22,539	18,488	18,641	21,433	20,735	19,937	22,631	18,823	20,107	20,369	17,883	20,022	41,027	241,608
2022 Residential	18,689	17,841	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,530	36,530

