

SECTION 5

FIRE PROTECTION POLICIES

- 500 PURPOSE** The purpose of this section is to define the Little Thompson Water District's policies relative to fire protection service for tapholders.
- 501 ABILITY TO PROVIDE SERVICE FOR DOMESTIC USE** The District's policy is to provide domestic water service for individual water taps at a pressure of twenty pounds per square inch (20 psi) in accordance with the requirements established by the Colorado Department of Health.
- 501.1 Certification of Service/Ability to Provide Service.
- 501.2 The authority to certify fire protection service shall remain with the Board of Directors of the District or their designated representatives.
- 502 LIABILITY OF THE DISTRICT** The liability of the District, insofar as any water service is concerned, is as follows and shall apply to District tapholders and all governmental or nongovernmental institutions and authorities
- 502.1 The District cannot and will not assume liability for the operational integrity and flow rates of any fire hydrant or fire sprinkler system that is currently installed or may be installed in the future.
- 502.2 The District shall continue to exercise reasonable care and diligence in maintaining the domestic water service; however, a failure of the water system at any time, including during use for fire-fighting, will not be the basis of liability of the District for any lack of water volume, lack of water pressure, or otherwise.
- 503 MAINTENANCE OF FIRE HYDRANTS** The routine maintenance and testing of fire hydrants will be accomplished by District personnel in accordance with the American Water Works Association Manual No. 117 (Installation, Field Testing, and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants). This maintenance will be scheduled and performed consistent with the operations and maintenance requirements for the District. The District does conduct annual flow tests on a portion of the hydrants. The results of these tests are available to fire protection agencies upon request.
- 504 COLOR CODING OF FIRE HYDRANTS** The following color codes will be utilized on all of the District's hydrants:

<u>COLOR CODE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
Light Blue	1500 gallons per minute or greater
Green	1000 to 1499 gallons per minute
Orange	500 to 999 gallons per minute
Red	Less than 500 gallons per minute

The operational status of all hydrants will be maintained and documented by District personnel. The local fire authorities will be kept informed on this status as determined by the District.

- 504.1 Use of Hydrants. The Districts must be kept informed whenever a fire hydrant is utilized and requires advance notification of this use, except under emergency circumstances. Personnel and agencies authorized to use fire hydrants are:
- A. District personnel in the normal performance of their duties.
 - B. Fire Department personnel under emergency circumstances.
 - C. Fire Department personnel under normal circumstances, when authorized to do so by the District Manager.

The normal operation of a fire hydrant subjects the water main to severe hydraulic stress. If the hydrant is not opened or closed slowly and properly, the water main may be damaged. Additionally, all hydrants have gravity drains, which must be checked to ensure the hydrant has properly drained after use. For these reasons, the District needs to be informed whenever a hydrant has been used so the proper checks can be accomplished by District personnel. This notification can be made via telephone. Any difficulties encountered during the operation of the hydrant should be brought to the attention of the District.

- 504.2 Installation of New Hydrants. The District established a fee for each new fire hydrant placed on the system. The purpose of the fee is to provide perpetual maintenance for the individual fire hydrant. This fee is in addition to all other fees, charges, tolls, rental, and assessments charged or imposed now or hereafter by the District. This fee does not include the material or installation.

505 COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

- 505.1 Sanitary Regulations. Fire sprinkler systems have been identified as being a potential source of pollutants or contaminants to the domestic water requirements relative to fire sprinkler systems. The pertinent aspects of these regulations are provided below:
- A. In accordance with the State Health Department requirements, the type of device that must be installed to contain a potential contaminant is listed in the following document: *List of Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies* promulgated by the University of Southern California (USC), Foundation of Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research.
 - B. The backflow prevention device must be placed indoors in a location that will protect it from freezing and must be installed in accordance with the recommendations contained in the USC document referenced above.
 - C. In accordance with Colorado Health Department regulations, the device must be tested annually by a Certified Cross Connection Control Technician.

This is a State certification administered by the Division of Water Quality Control, which is under the Colorado Department of Health.

- D. State Health Department regulations require the owner of the fire sprinkler system to furnish the annual test results to the following agencies:
 - 1. The Colorado Department of Health.
 - 2. The Water Purveyor, Little Thompson Water District.

Additionally, all records of maintenance and repair work done to the backflow prevention device must be forwarded with the annual inspection reports to the Water Purveyor and to the State Department of Health. The technician conducting the tests and performing the maintenance and repairs will furnish the owner with these documents.

505.2 Sizing and Flow Requirements of Systems. These requirements will be determined by the person requesting service and with the assistance of a registered professional engineer, as necessary. Little Thompson Water District does not provide the service of determining these requirements and will not assume responsibility for these matters.

- A. Prior to Little Thompson Water District installing a fire sprinkler system, the District will require written approval from the local fire authority to confirm their knowledge and approval of the system. The District will not knowingly install a connection that will accommodate the sprinkler system without the written approval from the local fire authority.
- B. The District's main line pressures vary considerably throughout the distribution system. The summertime peak period pressures also vary from the wintertime pressures. An individual designing a fire sprinkler system should contact the District to determine what the main line pressures are for their specific area to ensure that the tap and meter are adequately sized to accommodate the sprinkler system.
- C. The District will not install pressure regulators on the meter serving the fire sprinkler system. The District's main line pressures vary from 40 to 200 pounds per square inch (psi) and on occasion will exceed 200 psi of pressure. Provisions should be made for the occasion when main line pressures exceed 200 psi. The District will not be liable for any damage caused by high pressures.
- D. The District will not assume any liability for an improperly designed sprinkler system. The term improper design included either from a flow or a size standpoint.

505.3 Residential Fire Sprinkler. A fire sprinkler system may be designed to utilize the one domestic water tap servicing the property. A dual metering system may be requested by the individual desiring domestic water service. Normally it takes a larger-sized meter to accommodate the flow requirements of the sprinkler system. If the large meter is only used for the fire sprinkler system, the Water District will reduce the price of the large meter. The following specifics apply

relative to the metering and installation.

- A. The District will install the meter pit and all equipment up to and including the meter pit. The meter pit and all of this equipment will remain the property of the District. The complete cost of this installation is included in the tap fee. A standard installation drawing on a dual meter pit service line assembly is contained in Section 6 of these regulations.
- B. The customer is responsible for all costs incurred from the meter pit to the residence/business and within the building to be served. The fire service line, domestic service line, and internal fire sprinkler system are the property of the owner and must be maintained by the owner. The District's responsibility for maintenance ends at the meter pit.
- C. In order to qualify for the reduced tap fee, the fire sprinkler system must only be used for an actual emergency and normal, periodic testing of the system. The District does not charge customers for water used during an actual fire. However, water used for testing and/or leaks on the system will be billed to the customer at the rates established herein.
- D. The fire sprinkler system is to be used for emergency fire use only and any other use of the domestic water provided is not authorized. If the customer desires to use the water service for other purposes, then a large size meter should be purchased at the normal tap fee when the system is installed. With the dual metering system, the fire service line is metered, and unauthorized use of water will be self-evident. Prior to installing a dual metering system, the District's agreement with the customer will state that the District reserves the right to accomplish the following actions if the unauthorized use of water occurs:
 - 1. The customer will be subject to the normal penalty fee for unauthorized use of water.
 - 2. The District will charge the customer for all water used at the rates prescribed herein.
 - 3. The District may require the customer to pay the normal tap fee associated with the large-sized meter.
 - 4. The District may elect to revoke the tap completely and remove the meter pit.
- E. As a matter of explanation to future tapholders insofar as the above rights are concerned, good judgment shall prevail in these matters. A water leak on the system is unauthorized use of water and although the District will charge for the water used, the customer would neither be penalized nor be required to pay the full tap fee if the leak were repaired in a timely fashion. By the same token, if a homeowner connects their lawn sprinkler system to the fire service line, the water usage is again unauthorized, and the District's corrective action may include one or more of the above described rights. Additionally, there are areas within the District where a large tap will be installed for a fire sprinkler system. However, a normal, large-size-tap request would not be granted due to small line sizes in the area. In these cases, buying a large tap is not an option. If the tapholder continued the

unauthorized use of water, the District may revoke and remove the large meter serving the fire sprinkler system.

505.4 Larger Fire Sprinkler Systems (one-inch and over):

- A. The annual fees are payable in advance and all customers will be billed for the service in the latter part of the year for the next full calendar year. When the dual metering system is installed, the customer will be required to pay this prorated fee for the remaining portion of the calendar year.

506 PRIVATELY OWNED FIRE PROTECTION STORAGE TANKS

- 506.1 The District recognizes that there are privately owned storage facilities designed primarily for fire protection. These facilities are treated in the same manner as any other privately owned water storage facility, such as stock tanks for livestock. The District has no responsibility or liability for privately owned facilities.
- 506.2 An individual desiring to fill a privately-owned water storage facility with the District's treated domestic water may do so. The provisions of paragraph 508 below apply.
- 506.3 The District does not charge for water used by a fire department in an actual emergency. If such occurs on a privately owned storage tank, the District staff should be informed so the storage facility can be refilled under the District's supervision.
- 506.4 There will not be any permanent or temporary connections made between the District's distribution system and a privately owned storage facility.

507 USE OF FIRE HYDRANTS FOR BULK WATER SALES

- 507.1 An individual or entity that desires to purchase bulk water from a District fire hydrant shall contact the District to make arrangements for the delivery of a hydrant meter and backflow prevention device when appropriate. The customer shall sign the standard form of Agreement for Use of a Fire Hydrant for Bulk Water Sales and the standard form of Authority to Bind Entity. See Appendix 10.
- 507.2 Any container, tank, or tanker used for transportation of bulk water shall be equipped with an air gap (AG) or other appropriate backflow prevention device, as determined by the District. The District reserved the right to require an appropriate backflow prevention device in any Bulk Water Sale situation.
- 507.3 The customer shall pay a cash deposit at the time of delivery of the District equipment in the amount established by the District. The customer shall pay for all water used from the District's system at the rate established by the District.

- 507.4 The deposit may be refunded after the hydrant, meter and backflow device have been inspected by a District representative. If the hydrant, meter, or backflow device is damaged or misused, the cost of the repairs will be deducted from the deposit. If the deposit is insufficient to cover the expenses, including water used, the customer shall pay the difference.
- 507.5 All water purchased by the customer shall be used within the combined boundaries of the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and the Municipal Subdistrict of the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District; and the customer shall swear under oath that such use will occur.
- 507.6 Pursuant to the Rules of the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, the use of water for well development occurs at the location of the oil and/or gas well associated with that use, not at the point of sale from the fire hydrant.
- 507.7 Any bulk water customer who uses more than 3 acre-feet will be required to transfer water equal to their usage to the District.
- 507.8 Bulk use customers shall follow all Rules and Regulations adopted by the Board of Directors as well as procedures of the District as adopted by District Management.

~ END OF SECTION 5 ~

These Rules and Regulations were revised, approved, and adopted by the Little Thompson Board of Directors on September 15, 2016.