

ODD FELLOWS SIERRA RECREATION ASSOCIATION  
WATER DISTRICT

Dear Association member:

We will try to bring you up to date on our water district at our park. To do this will be a repetition to a few of you but we will start at the beginning.

It was at first thought that the revenue at our park would be sufficient to take care of a water district. This was a mistake because each member did not have the time to devote to the Park to help develop and bring in this much revenue.

The members had faith that as a group we would have water and in the fall of 1951 found nineteen nice cottages built at the park. Two wells were dug personally. One well had a large amount of water and the other well had plenty of water for the house. Another well was dug and it turned out to have insufficient water and they tried another well and it was the same thing. Fred and Mary Harwell had these two wells dug and they proved that water cannot be found every place at the park. This cost Fred and Mary several hundred dollars which we believe saved many from making the same mistake. As a result of this, we feel that we are indebted to them to a certain degree.

At this time, and on account of the failure of these wells, the officers asked every member they could contact about raising by personal subscription the necessary funds for a water district. Every member seemed to be in accord with this plan. Some members didn't feel they could afford more than \$100 a lot and others were willing to pay a much larger amount if they could get water.

A committee was formed to plan a water district and to get an estimate of cost. This committee was divided into two parts: Tony Escobar, Chairman, and in charge of organization and finance, and Glen Martel, Co-Chairman in charge of engineering.

The exact cost of construction could not be figured, as material fluctuates in cost and by next spring when we can start work on our water system, the prices may vary from what they are now. However, the committee felt that \$100 a lot would see the work through, plus \$100 a lot for all lots sold in 1952 and in the future providing the members will help in the installation of the system. Some skilled labor will have to be employed to oversee the work and the members will make up the rest of the crew on a voluntary basis. Some members are not physically able to help in this work and some have offered

to pay for a man for a certain number of days etc. This will all have to be worked out.

All money for the district is kept separate and in a different bank than our general fund. No water district funds will be used for any other purpose.

Until the annual meeting, this project was on a voluntary basis. You all realize your officers cannot declare an assessment on the members. At the annual meeting the members had their first chance to officially voice their opinions and they were wholeheartedly in favor of a direct assessment on each lot and by a motion placed before the meeting, they, by a roll call vote, voted to assess each lot \$100 for a water district and also it was voted that this project have priority over all other projects.

We could go on and on trying to explain a great many details etc. about this project but time and space will not permit this, but may we all take into consideration that this is our project for ourselves. We are in this as a team and let's work together as a team in this phase of development of our park. We committeemen are putting in hours of work planning this project and we get just the same pay you do. We are all going to have water to our cabin site. That is the pay each one of us will enjoy.

Will you make an effort to help us get this thing rolling by sending in your assessment? We wish to thank the members who have already turned in this amount and built the treasury up to \$3,000, but we hope the rest will send in their \$100 as soon as possible so that we may place our order for the materials needed. This will take over \$10000.00. By buying in large quantities and paying cash, we get a price direct from the factory that will save us some money. Also, material will not be any cheaper but may go up, and again we have a chance for a saving.

We have made arrangements at the bank whereby you can give a note to the bank and pay this \$100 over a year's time and we can have the cash to work on. The water district is the security for the note at the bank. If you don't have the cash, please give us this note. These notes will not be cashed until later when we have sufficient funds for the purchase of materials. You may write for a note or send a check to A. Escobar, 201 S. Lincoln Street, Manteca, Calif.

We have tried to outline our project to you, yet we know there are many questions unanswered. If there is anything you would like to know, please write to A. Escobar at the above address and after receiving several of them, we will answer them in the form of a bulletin to our members.

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A. Escobar, Chairman,  
Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Assn.,  
Water District