

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025



CPUC FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL REVIEW

Yosemite Spring Park Utility Company was notified on April 11, 2025 by the California Utility Commission Audits Branch that YSPUC's 2023 financials and operations were under required review. YSPUC welcomes this review which may turn into a full audit. It is the intension of YSPUC to always comply with reporting, complete required reports and applications, provide notifications, and follow all guidelines. Cheryl Bluhm, the YSPUC Board President and YLOA Director mentioned at the YLOA Budget meeting on Sunday, May 4th about this review by the State CPUC of YSPUC. She disclosed in the meeting that she requested from CPUC to also have reviews completed for the years of 2019 through 2022, because those year's eAR (electronic annual reports) had not been completed nor sent to CPUC. CPUC stated that it is "refreshing" for a water company to want such transparency and those years have now been added as a required part of this review.

Cheryl and GM Paul Stiglich are learning a great deal more about application requirements to be submitted to CPUC;

such as applications needing to be submitted for proposed infrastructure construction projects and applications for large equipment purchases which according to our records, have not been completed this way for a long time. YSPUC had an option to keep this review 'confidential' and President Bluhm stated that all of this information needs to be available to the public. Because of how much money was moving in between YLOA and YSPUC, President Bluhm also requested that CPUC consider including the Attorney General's office within these reviews for the years from 2019 to 2022.

Again, it is the goal of this current YSPUC board to adhere to all requirements, regulations and laws and have policies into place so YSPUC is never in this position again. CPUC is requesting moving forward to have full access to all of our financial records on a regular basis, and we will comply.

DO NOT BYPASS THE METER

YSPUC recently discovered during a monthly meter reading that a bypass was installed by a plumber on the YSPUC's side of customer's water line. The Madera County Sheriffs Office was called out as it is a serious offense to tamper with a water system. The homeowner had complained to the plumber about low water pressure and the plumbers solution was to bypass our YSPUC regulator and meter which cost that customer \$1,100. A neighbor also complained about low water pressure and was offered the same 'fix' by this plumber.



If you have low water pressure, **PLEASE CALL YSPUC**, and we will come out and check your water pressure for free. Please note that pressure typically comes into the house at 65 psi.





Deferred Maintenance

These pressure regulating valves are key to a well managed water distribution system as they control the pressure in our pipes. These valves need to be maintained regularly like any other mechanical device. If they are not maintained they can and will fail. When these pressure regulating devices fail, they can cause pressure surges in our water conveyance system, resulting in, bursting water pipes, both in our system and **our customers** water system. By maintaining these pressure regulating devices we can limit main breaks, blowouts and 'dirty' water.

We are working on a schedule to refurbish some of these valves that can cost between \$12,000 and \$15,000 per vault. Phase 1 of the maintenance schedule of these valves is estimated to cost \$100,000. One on Lillie Mountain has been refurbished and being installed.

YSPUC PAYMENT WINDOW

YSPUC accepts cash, check and credit card payments : 30950 Corral Drive, Suite B, Coarsegold, CA 93614

Message from the YSPUC Board

Your current YSPUC Board:

Cheryl Bluhm, YSPUC Board President

Joel Greathouse, YSPUC Vice President

Beate Olivas, YSPUC Secretary

Mike Robison, YSPUC Treasurer

Eric Jensen, YSPUC Director

Pam McDaniel, YSPUC Director

Rick Rajecki, YSPUC Director

The approved and certified YSPUC Bylaws and Amendment are now in place. We will be posting these on the YSPUC.com webpage for all water customers to review. One big change is the amount of YSPUC Directors will be reduced from seven to five (5) Directors with staggered term limits of two (2) years. This will help in ensuring continuity on the YSPUC Board.

We also posted on the webpage, YSPUC's Tariff Book and most current Advice letter. The Tariff Book is the 'rule' book from CPUC for YSPUC and the Advice Letter is the most up to date changes to the Tariff Book, including fee increases.

With the current review in process by the State PUC, we also have discovered that payments of PUC taxes were not being paid quarterly since late 2021. At this time it is estimated that PUC taxes that have not been paid since 2021 equal around \$90,000. Of courses this YSPUC Board wants to ensure we are paying all taxes and meeting all reporting requirements to all of the agencies providing YSPUC oversight. Unfortunately, having to pay 3-½ years of unpaid taxes is an unexpected expense for YSPUC, but it will be paid. With our new Field Operations Supervisor, Michael Hightower, in place we have discovered much deferred maintenance. Some of these items are urgent and being addressed.

We thank you all for your continued support and understanding and we carry on with reviewing, restructuring and improving the overall sustainability of YSPUC.

YSPUC Board Meeting May, 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM at the YLOA Clubhouse and via zoom at: <https://tinyurl.com/YSPUCMayBoardMeeting>

YSPUC BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

As the sole shareholder to YSPUC, the YLOA Board will be voting on the list of YSPUC Director Candidates on May 28, 2025 at 10:00 am.

EMERGENCY LINE (AFTER HOURS):
(559) 760-4349