



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Rotary Club of Martinsburg Grapevine – October 28, 2021

Greeter – Tracy Regalia was our greeter and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Four-Way Test. Steve Truax led us in the invocation.

Guests – Since we didn't have any guests this week, I wanted to take this opportunity to give a huge shout out to our AMAZING Holiday Inn staff. In case you don't know them by name...

- Matt DeHaven
- Taylor Horne
- Troy Isbell



Club Business/Announcements:

- Shelter box initiative: right now, Rotary clubs are sending Shelter Boxes to Haiti. We set sponsoring one Shelter Box as a goal for this year, Pete is our Shelter Box point person.
- The Board voted to move our lunch meeting on Thanksgiving week to Wednesday, November 24th, and Sandie at the Holiday Inn has approved that. We have also told the Holiday Inn that we are having Christmas dinner December 16th and will not have a lunch meeting that day, but are still planning to meet on Thursday, December 23rd and Thursday, December 30th.
- Pete has put together a Nominating Committee in accordance with our bylaws. They will be looking for two people to get in line to train to become President, and three to become Board members. Please think of people to nominate and talk to the, talk to the committee if you are willing to serve, or be receptive to be approached if the committee approaches you.
- Rob Lowe is seeking volunteers to join the new Pickleball Tournament Fundraising Committee. Please consider this and get with him for more information.



Student Guests

Coach Britt Sherman announced our Martinsburg High School Seniors this week.

- Gabriella Sergent
- Hudson Clement





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Program



Our very own, Jim Ouellet, Executive Director of the Berkeley County Public Service Water District (BCPSWD), provided our educational and informative program. Jim asked, "why is the water supply important?" Some of the reasons include, public health and safety, without water supply there can be no new houses or businesses which in turn effect other businesses, and most importantly, No water = No Beer. 😊 He went on to tell us some of the history of water in WV and the Panhandle.

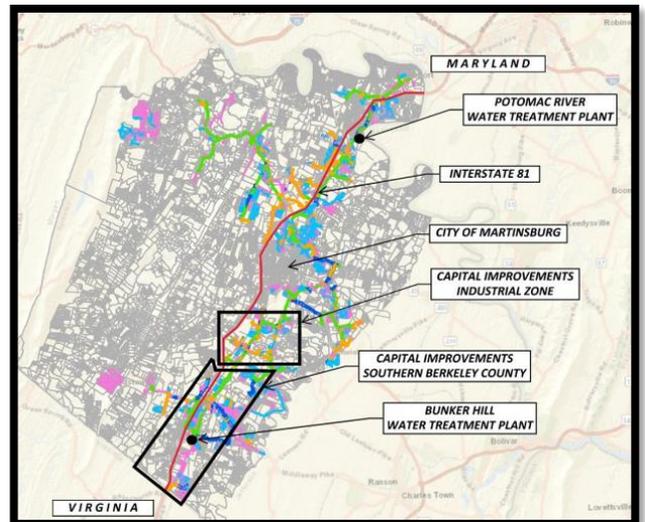
- The 1st public service district in the state was South Berkeley in 1954.
- Sewer and water are separate entities.
- There has been 48% growth in customers in 17 years.
- Over 5 million gallons of water are sold per day.
- There are 28,500 metered connections, 670 miles of water mains, & 13 water storage tanks.

- They have 65 employees and an operating budget of \$16 Mil.

Infrastructure needed:

- NEW BUNKER HILL PLANT.....\$35,000,000
- 4 NEW WATER STORAGE TANKS\$25,000,000
- BOOSTER STATIONS\$2,000,000
- UPGRADE RIVER PLANT\$15,000,000
- NUMEROUS WATER MAINS\$20,000,000
- MORE SOURCES OF WATER.....\$16,000,000

More than \$113,000,000 Plus NEEDED



Some important takeaways include:

- The rate structure need to be modified to make it more equitable.
- BCPSWD is inheriting The Woods water system. Upgrading the existing treatment plant will start at \$2.6Mil. Adding a second will cost \$1.5 Mil.
- Don't drink Bottled water... For \$7.42 you can get 1000 gallons of water delivered, but the same 1000 gallons of bottled water will cost you \$850. The same standards apply to both.
- The average person uses 60 Gal of water per day.
- 51 Mil lbs of water is delivered daily = 1,668 lbs for each house
- Water usage has been declining for many years.

Jim is eager and willing to answer any questions anyone might have – Just ask!

