

PRESS RELEASE

FINAL

Contact:

Doug Bjornstad, District Manager
Jeffco Public Sewer District
636-797-9900
dbjornstad@jeffcopsd.org

Kevin Ritz, District Manager
Public Water Supply District #6
636-671-4096
manager@pwsd6.org

Public Water Supply District No. 6 - Jeffco Public Sewer District

Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement

HILLSBORO, MO – November 2019 – Jefferson County Public Sewer District and the Public Water Supply District No. 6 of Jefferson County have entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement to develop a consolidation plan for the two agencies.

The boards of the two districts have been exploring potential financial and operational efficiencies of operating sewer and water services as one combined agency. Currently, JCPSD provides sewer services in and around Byrnes Mill, and District No. 6 provides water services in the same area. Both entities believe there are financial and operational benefits to be achieved by combining their efforts.

The two districts began discussions in 2018 when JCPSD began to explore the possibility of creating a central water treatment facility on the Meramec River. JCPSD sought input from three water districts, including District No. 6. Discussions regarding joint utility operations continued between the two entities after the study was terminated. The two districts recognized that customers would benefit from the economies of scale and the combined management capabilities of the two entities. Both boards approved resolutions to develop a plan for the consolidation. PWSD#6 Board chairman Rich Ortmann stated, "If a merger benefits our customers, it should be considered." JCPSD chairman Clyde Pratt stated that, "This consolidation will expedite capital improvements and allow for expansion of each system." Operating both utilities as one will help keep costs down and customers rates affordable.

JCPSD already provides water service to approximately 2,000 customers in 3 different service areas: Mirasol, Raintree, and Summer Set Lakes and provides sewer services to approximately 1,600 customers in the area of House Springs and Byrnes Mill. PWSD#6 provides water service to approximately 3,200 customers in the House Springs and Byrnes Mill area. Both entities have asked the state legislature to pass enabling legislation to allow the consolidation plan to go into effect.

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PO Box 632, 4629 Yeager Rd., Hillsboro, MO 63050

