

January 9, 2025

Sky Country Estates MDWCA 2024-year end water system report.

Sky Country Estates Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association Members.

Happy New Year to everyone and best wishes for 2025.

We made it through 2024 without any major water system issues and we hopefully will continue that in 2025. We also will get a better understanding of our position regarding the water system improvement project we are working on getting financing for.

During the calendar year 2024 the water system was able to provide sufficient water for the subdivision's needs without having to purchase water. That is over two years without purchasing water. How long we can keep that up is unknown but with the lack of precipitation we are experiencing we could be looking at water shortages as we go through the new year.

Total rain and snow melt for 2024 was just around 21 inches. Compare that to 2021 with 31 inches, 2022 with 39 inches and 2023 with 18 inches. All this would indicate we have been using the water from the larger amounts of precipitation we received in 2022 and 2023 and are headed toward lower well production unless the new year gives us more normal precipitation, somewhere above 25 inches per year.

As of the end of 2024 well # 2, located on lot # 68 in Painter canyon was producing around 820 gallons per 24-hour day. Production from well # 2 is slowly dropping each week. The production at the beginning of December 2024 was around 900 gallons per 24-hour day.

At the end of 2024, well # 3, located on lot # 32, gravel pit, is producing around 700 gallons per 24-hour day. Well # 3 production is steady at 700 gallons per 24-hour day.

That totals around 1,500 gallons per 24-hour day production from our two working wells. Our average daily water use is around 900 gallons per 24-hour day. That will fluctuate depending upon the time of year and the number of part-time homes being used and the number of occupants. Daily water use has been as high as 2,300 gallons per 24-hour day in 2024.

We did not experience any major water line breaks or leaks this past year. There were some minor leaks that were handled promptly, mostly on the customer service line side. We did have to do some maintenance on the control system for well # 3 and we installed a chlorination system. As a result, we have not failed any of the monthly water sample tests during the year.

To improve our water system, we have been applying for financial assistance for engineering, new well and new water storage facilities. Currently we have an application to the New Mexico Water Trust for \$275,000 for the engineering cost of our water system improvement project. We also have requested from the New Mexico State

Legislature Capital Outlay \$710,000 for a new well and associated items. Both will be grants and the amount awarded, if awarded, may be lower than requested. We should know the results before July 1, 2025. At that time, we will have a better understanding of what else we need to do to begin work on our water system improvement project. Our priorities are more water and new storage.

Our water system has been providing the water needed for our residents. How long that will continue is unknown. What is known is there are currently four new homes under construction with the possibility of at least two more this spring. This will be additional demand on our water system and unless we get an additional water supply (new well/s) we are headed for a supply problem sometime in the future. We are working on this issue with our engineers and requests for funding from the various state agencies. We will work to keep the costs for our members as low as possible. Sky Country Estates is the premier subdivision in southern New Mexico and to continue we need to improve the water system so it can serve all the residents as cost effectively as possible.

Stay tuned, we will keep you informed on our progress. Our Board meets every month, and you can get updates from that meeting. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend. The meeting information is posted on our website, www.skycountryestateswater.com.

Thank you,

Ed Koch

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