**BILLING**

1. The District will invoice benefit member for water service as follows:

 (a). The District will read each member’s meter between the 15th and the 25th of each month.

 (b). Bills will be mailed to members OR renters listed as the paying party on the account by the 1st day of each month. The bill will state the amount used, amount due and past due amount.

 (c). Payment of the water bill will be due within ten (10) days after the first of each month. If payment is not received by 4:30 pm on the 10th of the month a late penalty will be applied.

 (d). In the event an account is not paid by the 10th of the month a Reminder/ Disconnect notice will be mailed to the paying party on the account advising the charges due on the past due account. This Notice will be in the form of a postcard regular first-class mail.

 (e). If any unpaid bill, water, or any monies owed to District, remains unpaid for thirty (30) days after the past due date, water service will be shut off. If the past due bill payment is received within ninety (90) days of the original due date a one hundred fifty dollars ($150.00) charge for re-connection of service will be assessed. After ninety (90) days of non-payment the water meter will be pulled and replacement of a water meter will require a payment of one thousand, seven hundred fifty dollars ($1,750.00) for a three-quarter inch meter, or two thousand dollars ($2,000.00) for a one-inch meter, before installation. Also, all arrears shall be paid prior to restarting water service. Failure to pay the monthly water or water access charge within ninety (90) days after the due date shall constitute an automatic forfeiture of the Benefit Unit on behalf of which such failure occurs.

2. The payment of the water bill is the responsibility of the registered owner of the benefit unit, whether the premises are occupied by the registered owner or by his/her tenant or other person. The District shall not be responsible in any way to collect the unpaid bill of any tenant or other person occupying the premises other than the registered owner of the benefit unit. If a tenant moves away with an unpaid bill, the bill must be paid prior to restoration of service to that location.

3. Benefit unit owner is responsible to pay for all water used through meter regardless of cause, (i.e., break in Benefit unit owner’s line past meter, accidents, vandalism, etc.)

4. To retain water service a monthly charge is required to maintain service as determined by the Board.

5. If a water meter quits working, an estimate of the bill is obtained by taking an average of the past three (3) months water usage. Benefits meters shall notify the District immediately of any non-working water meter. Defective water meters will be replaced at no cost, provided the meter has not been damaged by member’s abuse.

6. Water rates charges will be set by the District Board of Directors.

7. A benefit member agrees to pay all costs of collection including, court cost and attorney fees.

8. Billing by the District of the account or accounts of benefit unit owing is based upon the reading of meters monthly of the benefit unit by the District. All accounts of benefit unit owners in good standings (as determined by the books of the District) are hereby determined to be even, with neither money owed by said benefit owners to the District nor is any credit owed by the District to a benefit unit owner or owners arising from the meter or meters by a benefit unit by the District.

**HEALTH REGULATIONS**

1. In accordance with the Oklahoma State Department of Health regulations, water user’s service lines shall be a minimum of fifteen (15) feet from a septic tank and lateral field of the ground slopes away from the water line. A minimum distance of fifty (50) feet must be maintained if the ground slopes toward the water line.

2. No physical connection can be made between any private water system and the water supplied by the District.

3. Representatives of the District shall have the right at all reasonable hours to enter upon the consumer’s premises for the purpose of inspection and enforcement of the provision.

**VIOLATIONS**

1. Violations of any of the above provisions shall be ground for discontinuation of service.

2. No waiver or delay in the enforcement by the District of any requirement under the By Laws, Rules and Regulations of the District or any related agreement or documentation shall operate as a future waiver of any such requirements.

ARTICLE XX

Amendments to the By-Laws – Amended on 10/25/2023.

SECTION 1. These By-laws may be repealed or amended by a vote of a majority of the members present at any regular meeting or annual meeting, or at any special meeting of the District called for that purpose, except that the members shall not have the power to change the purposed of the District so as to decrease its rights and power under the laws of the State, or to waive any requirements of bond or other provisions for the safety and security of the property and funds of the District or its members, or to as to effect a fundamental change in the policies of the District. Notice of any amendment to be made at a special meeting must set forth the amendments to be considered.

These Bylaws are adopted pursuant to the provisions of H.B. 1635 passed by the 1989 Oklahoma Legislature and are in substantial conformance with the previously existing Bylaws of Lincoln County Rural Water District 2, to the District as of the date of the creation of the District.

Amended: 10/25/2023 LINCOLN COUNTY RURAL WATER

 DISTRICT 2,

 LINCOLN COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

 BY:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Steve Nelms

ATTEST:

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J. Jackson