

*Eastgate Village Water & Sewer Association, Inc., PO Box 1220, East Helena, MT 59635  
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## Letter from the President

By Jean Riley / President

I hope this letter finds you all well and that you had a good holiday season. The Board wants to announce some changes. We have updated our website ([www.eastgatevillage.org](http://www.eastgatevillage.org)). The website is set up to provide announcements, links to testing results, Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation and other miscellaneous documents. It also allows you to submit comments or request information. Please check it out. If you find something that does not work or we could make better, let us know. The website is for you.

We have completed the surge pond work. This will allow us to clean the lift station or take it out of service. It also allows the sewage to flow to the surge pond if the lift station were to fail. I want to thank the operators, Hard Rock Construction and Great West

## Letter from the Operator

By Brian Palkovich / Operations Manager

Greetings all! I hope that 2019 is being kind to you and yours.

In 2015 "Eastgate Water and Sewer Association" (EGWS) started working on a large, multi-phase waste water treatment project that has recently been completed. The waste water treatment system that was in place was 40 plus years old and no longer performing properly. I'm sure anyone living close, and sometimes far from the lagoon were subject to the increasingly foul smells. This was due in part to the inability of the treatment cell to properly break down and treat the effluent entering the cell. There was also a large amount of sludge in the treatment cell and the blower system was in need of a great deal of repairs and or replacements. Weeds and vegetation along the edges of the cell further hindered proper treatment. The life expectancy of that system was 30 to 35 years and needed to be replaced.

With the new construction of the smaller in circumference but deeper treatment cell being the chosen option it was necessary to install a lift station. The lift station pumps the effluent to the treatment cell for treatment. Once in the treatment cell the blower/mixing pumps induce oxygen to aid in treatment and continually mix the effluent. The new blower pumps are more efficient to run and do a much

Engineering for the great work.

We have also worked updating the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. You may ask why we need to update these documents. The original Bylaws required the Board to meet in Great Fall in November. Not all members of the Water & Sewer Association have voting rights. We will be placing both the original versions and the updated copies on the website. You will be receiving a post card with the notice to vote on the update documents.

I want to thank everyone who is helping your neighbors during the storms. I have had my neighbors help plow my driveway and move snow in front of the house. This is one of the reasons I love living in this neighborhood.

better job of treatment in the cell.

The treatment cell gravity flows to the storage cell. The storage cell was determined to be leaking due to punctures and tears in the liner. That cell was also beyond its life expectancy and in need of replacement. EGWS dewateres the storage cell to the hay field to the north of the treatment facility. The dewatering pump being used was not up to specs and failed on numerous occasions. The pivot in the field was old and needed just over \$45,000.00 in repairs. It was determined that putting that kind of money into something that old would not be wise. Instead EGWS purchased a new state of the art pivot and sold the old pivot.

The final part of the project recently completed was the waste water surge basin. This additional basin to the north of the treatment cell is in place to allow for emergency effluent flow in the event of loss of our lift station operation. This basin was recently tested and certified for operation.

During the next few weeks we will be uploading photos of the construction project on our newly updated web site at [www.eastgatevillage.org](http://www.eastgatevillage.org)