

**ORDINANCE NO. O.01-2004**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE BIG  
BEAR AREA REGIONAL WASTEWATER AGENCY  
INCREASING THE WASTEWATER CONNECTION FEE,  
AMENDING ORDINANCE  
NO. 2 AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 53**

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board (the “Board”) of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency (“BBARWA”) has been empowered to establish sewer rates and charges, including a regional connection fee for each Equivalent Dwelling Unit (“EDU”), which each member agency of BBARWA is required to charge to each new sewer connection within that member agency’s jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, BBARWA’s connection fee is currently \$2,298, adopted by Ordinance No. 53 on May 26, 1994; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has caused the preparation of the “Connection Fee Analysis Final Report” (the “Report”), dated September 2003, conducting a review of the BBARWA connection fee in accordance with Government Code Sections 66000 *et seq.*, which require a “fair share” analysis of the computation of the connection fee, in order to ensure that new connections will bear an appropriate share of the cost of existing regional facilities and specific future capital improvements as discussed in the Report; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that it is appropriate at this time to adjust the amount of BBARWA’s connection fee, based on the findings and analysis contained in the Report; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that it is appropriate and necessary to allow the Board to reduce the connection fee to be charged to a property owner who makes application to connect a residence or business establishment to the sewer system, where such reduction is in the best interest of BBARWA’s service area; and

**WHEREAS**, notwithstanding the references herein to the fee charged as a “connection fee”, it is actually intended as both a “fee” for “sewer connection” and as a “capacity charge”, as those terms are defined in Section 66013 of the Government Code; and

**WHEREAS**, notice of the public meeting adopting this ordinance has been given in compliance with Government Code Sections 66016 and 66018;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it ordained by the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency as follows:

1. **Findings.** On the basis of the “Connection Fee Analysis Final Report”, dated September 2003, referenced above, and other related information

presented to the Board, the Board hereby adopts the Report and finds, with respect to the connection fees discussed therein, as follows:

(a) The purpose of such connection fees will be to finance existing wastewater treatment facilities and planned capital improvements to BBARWA's treatment facilities, as identified in the Report (the "Facilities"), as well as to finance that portion of the cost of other facilities and improvements which is attributed to the demand created by new development.

(b) There is a reasonable relationship between the amount of the connection fee and the costs of the Facilities attributable to new development upon which such fees will be imposed, as identified in the Report.

(c) There is a reasonable relationship between (i) the need for the Facilities and the type of development upon which the connection fee will be imposed, and (ii) the use of the connection fee and the type of development on which the connection fee will be imposed. Both relationships are described in the Report.

(d) The connection fee herein adopted represents the reasonable cost borne by BBARWA in providing the Facilities and related services to new users. Further, the connection fee will assure that new connections will bear an appropriate share of the cost of the existing regional facilities and future capital improvements to be made to the wastewater treatment system made necessary by the increasing demands on BBARWA's facilities.

2. **Increase in Fee.** BBARWA's connection fee shall be and is hereby increased from \$2,298 per EDU to \$2,410. Each Collecting Agency (as that term is defined in BBARWA Operating Agreement No. 1) shall require each property owner who makes application to connect a residence or business establishment to its sewage collection system on or after the effective date of this ordinance to pay a connection fee in the aforesaid amount for each EDU assigned to such residence or business establishment by the Collecting Agency, the total of which shall be referred to as the "Total Connection Fee." If requested to do so by a Collecting Agency, the Board of BBARWA may reduce the Total Connection Fee to be charged to an applicant if such reduction is found by the Board to be in the best interest of BBARWA's service area.

3. **Effective Date.** The fees adopted by this ordinance shall become effective July 1, 2004.

4. **Amendment of Ordinance No. 2.** In order to effectuate the increase in the connection fee established by this Ordinance, Subsection 2.06 of Ordinance No. 2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"2.06 After June 30, 1983. For applications filed between July 1, 1983 and June 30, 1984, the connection fee shall be \$450 per EDU. For applications filed after July 1, 1989, the connection fee shall be \$1,400 per

EDU. For applications filed after July 27, 1993, the connection fee shall be \$2,000 per EDU. For applications filed after July 26, 1994 but prior to July 1, 2004, the connection fee shall be \$2,298 per EDU. For applications filed after July 1, 2004, the connection fee shall be \$2,410 per EDU.”

5. **Ordinance No. 53.** This Ordinance repeals Ordinance No. 53, but shall not be deemed to revive Ordinance No. 49, which was repealed by Ordinance No. 53.

6. **Accounting of Funds.** All revenues collected from the connection fees established herein shall be deposited with other such revenues in a separate capital facilities account or fund so as to avoid commingling of the charges with other revenues and funds of BBARWA, except for the purpose for which the connection fees are collected. Any interest income earned by monies in said account or fund shall also be deposited in an account or fund and may be expended only for the purposes for which the connection fees are imposed. BBARWA shall make findings once each fiscal year with respect to any portion of the connection fees remaining unexpended or uncommitted in the account five or more years after deposit of such fees. These findings shall identify the purpose to which the connection fees are to be put, and will demonstrate a reasonable relationship between the fees and the purpose for which the fees are imposed.

7. **Validity.** If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, including any portion of the fee adopted herein, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Ordinance, including any portion of the fee not held invalid, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

8. **Publication-Notice.** The Secretary of the Board shall cause a copy of this Ordinance to be published once in the Grizzly newspaper. The Secretary shall cause to be delivered a certified copy of this Ordinance to the City of Big Bear Lake, the County of San Bernardino, and the Big Bear City Community Services District.

**ADOPTED THIS** 28th **DAY OF** January, 2004.

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Jeff Newsome  
Vice Chairman of the Governing Board  
Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency

ATTEST:

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Bob Colven  
Secretary of the Governing Board  
Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency

**Exhibit “A”**

The Connection Fee Analysis Final Report is attached following this page.