

# THE CITIZEN

Volume 4, Issue 1

April 30, 2003

### Mayor & Council

- Gregory J. Robinson  
Mayor
- Alex Flores  
Council President
- Scott Haun  
Councilmember
- Kathleen O'Brien  
Councilmember
- Rich Flores  
Councilmember

### City Council Meetings:

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

7:30 p.m.



**REMEMBER  
TO CALL  
235-3639  
FOR  
ALL  
YOUR  
CITY  
NEEDS!**

## CITY URGES CONSERVATION OF WATER!



The City of Kimball is urging its water customers to voluntarily conserve water during the Summer of 2003. Even with the moisture we have had this spring, drought conditions continue, conserving water is the right thing to do!

Currently, the City of Kimball has a sufficient water supply and the distribution system is able to handle the needs of the community. In an effort to make sure the water needs can continue to be met over the coming years, at the April 8, 2003, Board of Public Works meeting, the board voted to put in place an increase in the water rates for users over 50,000 gallons per month. It is the large users in the summer that causes the City to plan for expansion of the distribution and supply systems. During the winter months, the City can operate using one of its three water wells. In the heat of the summer, the City needs all three wells to keep up with the demand.

The City is not requiring mandatory water restrictions at this time. If each person conserves a little, jointly this can make a difference in the long term. Following are a few small ideas on how you can help conserve water:

- Instead of pouring water down your drain, use the water for your plants or garden.
- Repair dripping faucets and leaky toilets.
- Replace your showerhead with a low flow head.
- Don't let the water run while brushing your teeth or shaving or washing your face.
- Operate automatic dishwashers only when they are fully loaded. Use the "light wash" feature if available.
- Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Don't let the tap run while waiting for the water to cool down.
- Operate washing machines only when fully loaded or set the water level for the size of your load.
- Don't over water your lawn. Most of the year, lawns only need 1" of moisture per week. Purchase a rain gauge to regulate watering your lawn.

Additional conservation ideas:

- Avoid over-fertilizing your lawn. Over-fertilizing the lawn requires additional water.
- Water only your lawn or shrubs, not the pavement!!
- Water only during the coolest part of the day and when the wind is not blowing!
- Plant native and/or drought tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees.
- **ENCOURAGE YOUR NEIGHBORS TO CONSERVE WATER ALONG WITH YOU!**



## WATER RATES TO INCREASE!

Effective May 1, 2003, water rates will be changing. This will be a two year plan to adjust water rates in an effort to keep the water system operating as efficiently as possible.

The current water rates for residents of Kimball are as follows:

\$8.00	Base Charge
\$0.80	Per 1,000 gallons from 0-50,000 gallons
\$0.455	Per 1,000 gallons over 50,000 gallons

### New water rates, effective May 1, 2003

\$8.00	Base Charge
\$0.80	Per 1,000 gallons from 0-50,000 gallons
\$0.6275	Per 1,000 gallons over 50,000 gallons

Water Rates for those water customers outside the city limits will also be changed.

# USE WATER WISELY!

## City of Kimball

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Kimball, NE 69145

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## WIND KEEPS BLOWING!

The Kimball Wind Farm, owned and operated by the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN), continues to operate at above budget levels for energy production even though there have been some mechanical problems associated with the turbines. When the winds blows, the turbines will run if possible. MEAN sells all of the power generated by the wind farm and never has them shut off because they don't need the energy. So if you see one or two turbines not running, it is because of mechanical problems or quarterly servicing.

Kimball is purchasing 10% of the energy needed by our community from the wind farm. We also receive "wheeling fees" from MEAN to transmit energy from the wind farm to the WAPA power grid south of Kimball. These fees are used to help offset increases in our wholesale energy costs, keeping Kimball's energy costs stable and very competitive.

