

DATE: April 12<sup>th</sup> 2022  
TO: Board of Trustees  
FROM: Lara Florea  
SUBJECT: Rate Philosophy Survey Information

The user rate study comparisons were presented at the January 18, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting. After review and discussion about rate philosophy, staff was asked to survey other utilities.

Utility Survey Results To Date:

1. Consolidated Water – Small annual increases

Consolidated Water chose to even out their rate increases annually, after a year that required a 10% increase. They determined after customer input, that a 2% annual increase was a better approach for their customers.

2. Cape Girardeau County Reorganized Common Sewer District – Annual increases

They typically have a rate increase each year based on cost of living and average bill for customers. The amount is determined each year by their board.

3. Jefferson County Public Sewer District – Small annual increases

Since 2018, they have followed their user rate study by Carl Brown that recommends small annual increases.

4. Rock Creek Public Sewer District – In process of reviewing their increase philosophy

Historically, they have increased rates every 9-10 years. This resulted in push back from customers since the last increase was close to 20%. Even though the increase averaged out to 2% per year, customer feedback told them they would rather see that increase yearly. They are looking at changing the increase to every 4-5 years, but as of our conversation in March, the board had not made a determination.