

Dear Friends:

It's a great honor to be able to serve you on the Board of Commissioners and as the outgoing Chair person; I want to tell you that the District is moving in the right direction. Last year was a positive year, with some setbacks, but also with many accomplishments. 2016 was noteworthy for the many changes in District staff, renewed attention to our infrastructure, and was seen by the Board as an opportunity to take a fresh look at the way we provide services. Holiday Island certainly faced some serious challenges last year. Right as I took over as chairman, the community was literally under water from the December 2015 flood. But, the waters soon subsided and we worked to clean up the mess and quickly returned to normal. Whether it's a windstorm, fuel leak at the Marina, or water well destroyed by lightning, I'm proud of the way that the District always handles emergencies and keeps them from becoming a crisis.

The District has a healthy mix of long-term employees who provide continuity and history while this year we gained the expertise, ideas, and energy of some fresh blood at the department head and district manager level positions. The District hired Lawrence Blood as our new District Manager. Lawrence has extensive experience with government organizations, and has become a key force in directing Holiday Island. We also hired a new golf superintendent, and assistant superintendent. These two individuals have the experience, knowledge, and vision to bring our golf courses to their fullest potential. You have to agree, the two golf courses have never looked better.

The District is financially stronger now than we were in prior years. This has much to do with every department actively looking for ways to increase revenues while cutting costs and providing a greater quality of service. Several departments were reorganized to now have fewer employees but with an emphasis on departmental cross-training, operators having increased licenses and certificates and employees gaining new skills. This makes the District's workforce better trained, more efficient, and morale has never been better. The Administration Department worked to implement all of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) accounting procedures which allowed the District to receive a clean audit for 2015. Because of the newly implemented procedures, the auditors also amended their previous opinion and gave us a clean audit for 2014.

The District continues to invest back into Holiday Island through new amenities and capital improvements to our infrastructure. Thanks to many volunteers and the financial support of several community organizations, Holiday Island now has a community garden, hiking trails, and meaningful enhancements at the marina, campground, recreation center, and golf courses. The Water Department completed installing telemetry equipment on the water system. With the help of the new telemetry we can track, quantify and fix major leaks and other problems in the water system. Holiday Island also received a grant to purchase a flow meter which will help with water management and leak detection. The water treatment plant and polymer buildings were repaired and all the water storage tanks were inspected and are now on a ten-year maintenance plan starting with the Quail Run tank being recently repainted. Holiday Island streets received over 3 miles of new asphalt or chip and seal road resurfacing, plus new striping along Woodsdale and Stateline Drive and striping at the marina parking lot and 18-hole golf cart crossings.

The accomplishments that the District achieved in 2016 are too numerous to list, but I invite you to visit www.holidayisland.us where you can find audits, budgets, District Manager's reports, and financial statements. The District has gained momentum and under the new leadership of incoming Chairman Dan Kees, 2017 is guaranteed to be a great year as well.

Thank you to all the volunteers and staff of Holiday Island who made 2016 such a remarkable year and to everyone who is dedicated to building an even brighter future for our great community.

Bill Noonan, Past Chairman, HISID Board of Commissioners