

**CITY COUNCIL**  
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Mayor Pro-Tem Michael G. Miller

**WARD A:**  
Veronica Cordova  
Jake J. Lopez

**WARD B:**  
Daniel W. Boan  
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**WARD C:**  
Chadrick Heath Heflin  
Michael G. Miller

**WARD D:**  
Dianne Y. Parker  
Michael James "Jim" Lucero

**CITY MANAGER**  
Sarah Austin

October 18, 2023

## **\*\*City of Portales Press Release\*\***

### **ANNOUNCES STAGE 3 WATER RESTRICTION UPDATE**

At the Public Works Committee Meeting held on 09/21/2023, the Committee elected to have a Community Water Committee to establish and updated version of the Water Drought Contingency Plan and to discuss the current water situation. The Committee consists of the City Manager, One (1) Council Person, Chad Heflin, Four (4) Staff Members, Chrstopher Cordova, Jo McVey, Kelly McClellan, Chrstine Mitchell, and Four (4) Eldon Merrick, Mike Davidson, Eric Segovia, and Rick Wilcher. As a result of the Community Water Committee Meeting, (not all members were present) the City would like to provide an update on the plans moving forward.

This week the Water Department will be starting the Scheduled cleaning and evaluation services on the Well Field. The services will include well checks and cleaning of the wells due to hard water build-up from the natural minerals in the water. Ensuring all valves are in proper working order and any repairs that may be necessary. During this time, the water well yield will be evaluated and documented. Once the Annual Services are completed, the Water Department will evaluate the reports and if the report shows a production of an additional five hundred gallons per minute, the City will do a **test** run and lift the Stage 3 Water Restrictions to a limited Stage 3 by December 1, 2023. A limited Stage 3 Restriction will allow for Even Addresses to water on Tuesday's and the Odd Addresses to water on Thursdays between the hours of 6:00 pm – 6:00 am. If the City can maintain a tank level of twenty feet or more, then another evaluation will be conducted, that second evaluation will determine if the restrictions can be moved to a Stage 2.

It is imperative that the community can continue to work together on water conservation efforts to maintain our valuable resource. The City will continue working towards well field expansion, water storage, and property acquisition to increase the water resources. Staff will continue working towards solutions to the water crisis. On behalf of the City Council, City Manager, and Staff, we would like to thank the community for their continued effort towards water conservation and positive input towards helping find solutions.