

BOLINAS COMMUNITY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

BCPUD

BOX 390

270 ELM ROAD BOLINAS CALIFORNIA 94924

415 868 1224



MEMORANDUM

TO:	Board of BCPUD Directors
FROM:	Georgia Woods, General Manager
RE:	<i>Item #10: Status Update on Automated Meter Pilot</i>
DATE:	September 16, 2026

Purpose

To provide the Board with a brief update on implementation of the Automated Meter Pilot and share preliminary observations regarding communication performance and data collection.

Background

The District initiated the Automated Meter Pilot to evaluate the feasibility of deploying wireless meter reading technology and ultrasonic meters within the BCPUD water system. The pilot is intended to assess installation requirements, communication reliability, customer data accessibility, and overall operational benefits. As with any pilot project, the objective is not only to test equipment but also to identify practical challenges prior to considering broader deployment.

Current Status

Staff has made substantial progress installing pilot equipment:

- 37 of 40 Subeca wireless pins have been installed.
- 18 Kamstrup ultrasonic meters and associated wired Subeca pins have been installed.
- Communication testing is underway throughout the District.
- Staff has begun collecting and reviewing customer usage data through the cloud platform.

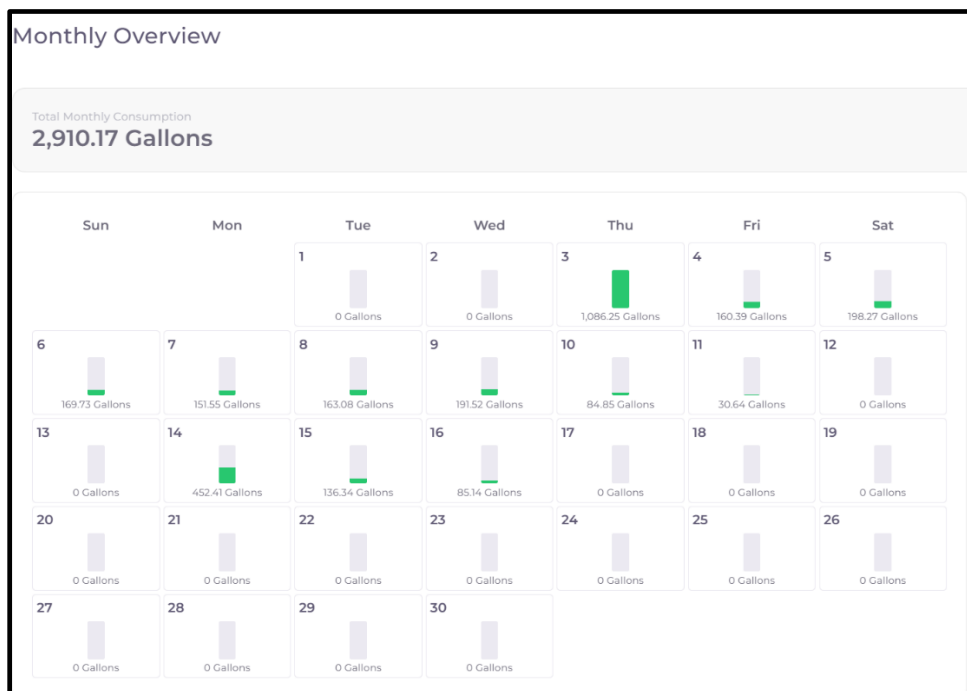
The communication map (below) provides a snapshot of current network performance:



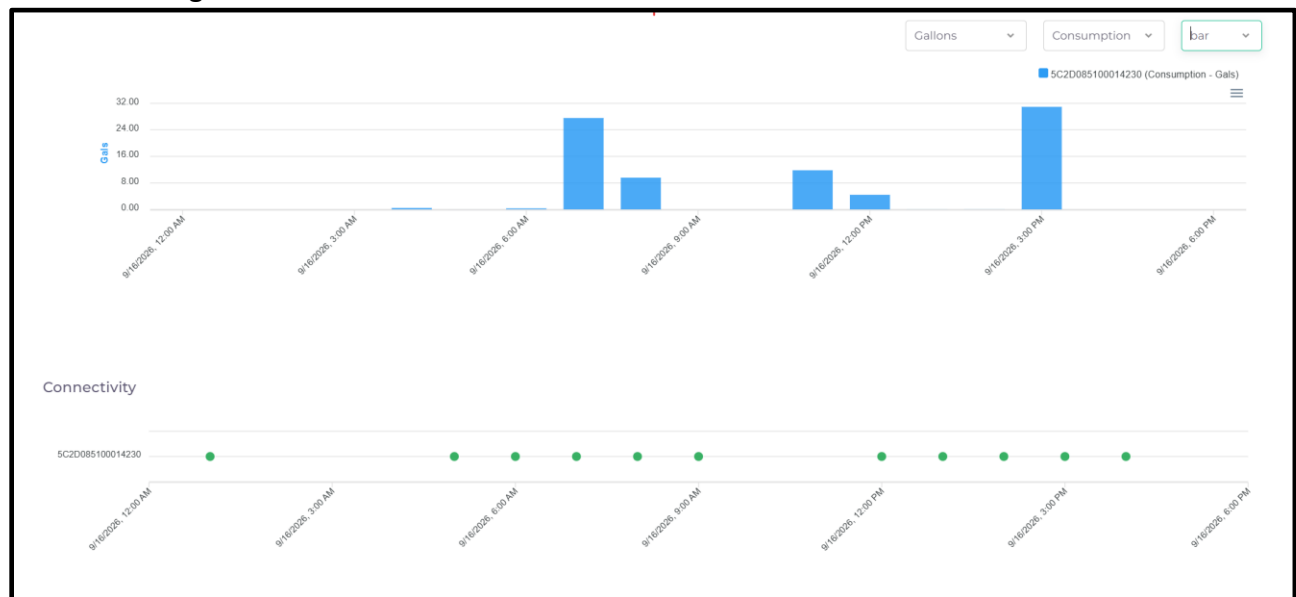
- **Blue locations** are communicating with the cloud on an hourly basis.
- **Orange locations** are communicating intermittently.
- **Red locations** are not currently communicating automatically with the cloud.

The Monthly & Real Time usage reports (below) illustrates the type of information available from a reliably communicating meter, including daily water use and monthly consumption totals. This level of detail has the potential to assist with leak detection, conservation efforts, customer service, and operational planning.

Monthly Usage:



Real Time Usage:



Lessons Learned

The pilot has already proven highly valuable. Staff has learned a significant amount regarding:

- Communication performance throughout different areas of the District.
- Installation requirements for ultrasonic meters and wireless pins.
- Hardware compatibility issues.
- Network coverage strengths and weaknesses.
- The quality and usefulness of customer consumption data available through the system.

The pilot has also identified several challenges that need to be addressed before a comprehensive evaluation can be completed, including:

- Compatibility issues with certain meter box lids.
- Incorrect communication cords and related hardware.
- Additional work needed to strengthen the Amazon Sidewalk network through placement of Ring devices and other network enhancements.

Next Steps

Staff is continuing to work through these hardware and communication issues and expects system performance to improve as those items are resolved.

Rather than drawing conclusions prematurely, staff intends to use the next month to further refine the system, complete remaining installations, and gather additional performance data. Once those

efforts are complete, staff will return to the Board with a more detailed evaluation of pilot results, lessons learned, and potential next steps.

Staff Recommendation

Receive the report. If Directors have specific questions they would like addressed in the more comprehensive report anticipated for the October Board meeting, staff requests that those questions be submitted within the next two weeks so they can be incorporated into the ongoing evaluation and analysis.

Action Requested

No formal action requested. Receive the report and provide direction to staff, if any.