



## MEADOWBROOK WATER COMPANY

\$4 million acquisition continues the legacy of local service to customers in Merced County

### A LEGACY OF LOCAL SERVICE

The origins of the Meadowbrook Water Company trace back to the 1950s, when Fred Walker Sr. and Fred Walker Jr. established a family-owned utility company to provide water service to the local community. The company served approximately 1,700 customers in Merced County and remained family-owned for decades with David Walker managing operations since 2003. Facing challenges with aging infrastructure, increasing regulatory demands, and limited financial capacity to invest in necessary upgrades, the Walker family sought to exit the business and transfer ownership to a private water company with the resources to modernize the system and provide long-term reliability for customers.

### LONG-TERM SOLUTION

In 2015, California American Water entered into an agreement to acquire the Meadowbrook Water Company. The California Public Utilities Commission approved the transaction in December 2016, and the purchase was finalized in April 2017 for approximately \$4 million. Following the acquisition, Meadowbrook was seamlessly integrated into California American Water's Sacramento District. To ensure a smooth transition for customers, California American Water initially maintained Meadowbrook's existing rates, with plans to gradually align them with the standard rate structure of the Northern California Division.

### THE RESULTS: CUSTOMER VALUE

- Improved reliability and water quality
- Enhanced operational efficiency and automation
- Reduced water loss and improved billing accuracy
- Strengthened regulatory compliance
- Elevated customer satisfaction and service access



### INFRASTRUCTURE HIGHLIGHTS

- Replaced 5,000 feet of aging pipeline to reduce leaks and improve flow.
- Upgraded water treatment systems to improve quality and compliance.
- Installed smart meters for real-time monitoring and tracking of water use.
- Deployed SCADA system to automate operations and enable rapid response.
- Introduced digital billing platforms and expanded customer service access.

**SOLUTIONS. ONE MORE WAY WE KEEP LIFE FLOWING.**

### ABOUT THE MEADOWBROOK WATER SYSTEM

#### Service Area

3.5 sq. miles in unincorporated Franklin/Beachwood within Merced County

#### Purchase Price

\$4 million

#### Customer Connections

1,700 homes and businesses

#### Source of Supply

3 wells