

may vary within any water [, sewer, or drainage] OR SEWERAGE system and among any such systems depending on any special circumstances which the [Commission] BOARD finds exists. The charges herein provided shall not be limited to the costs to the [Commission] BOARD for making such connections. The [Commission] BOARD is empowered to determine the manner in which such charges shall be payable.

15-22.

For the purpose of providing funds for maintaining, repairing, and operating its water [supply,] AND sewerage [, or drainage] systems, and for its operation and other expenses, including proper depreciation allowances, and for interest on and the retirements of bonds as specified in this subtitle, the [Commission] BOARD may make the following charges:

(1) A water and sewer service charge. The rates for water and sewer service shall consist of a minimum or ready-to-serve charge which shall be based upon the size of the meter on the water connection leading to the property, and of a charge for water used, which shall be based upon the amount of water passing through the meter during the period between the last two readings. The meter shall be required to be placed on each water connection by and at the sole expense of the [Commission] COUNTY, and it shall remain the property of the [Commission] COUNTY. Such rates shall be classified within [the county] CARROLL COUNTY in such a manner as the [Commission] BOARD deems advisable; provided, however, that such classification shall be based upon the quantities of water used and shall be, insofar as possible, uniform throughout [the county] CARROLL COUNTY. If the [Commission] BOARD at any time shall not have meters available to install in all the properties in a given locality that are connected to the system, then a flat rate shall be charged on properties in which meters have not yet been installed, which rate shall be uniform in each [sanitary] system and based upon the ready-to-serve charge and the amount of water used. Bills for water and sewer charges shall be sent quarterly or semi-annually as the [Commission] BOARD may determine to each property served and shall be payable at the office of the [Commission] BOARD or such other place as the [Commission] BOARD may designate. Such charges shall be a lien upon the property served and collectible as elsewhere herein provided. If any bill remains unpaid after thirty (30) days from date of sending, the [Commission] BOARD, after written notice left upon the premises or mailed to the last known address of the owner, shall turn off the water from the property in question; and the water shall not be turned on again until said bill has been paid, including a penalty of ten dollars (\$10.00).

(2) A charge for the upkeep of water and [sewer] SEWERAGE systems against all properties having a connection with any water main or sewer under its operation or ownership. The charge for the upkeep of the water and [sewer] SEWERAGE system, if any, shall be made upon such