



SEASON'S GREETINGS!
2010
WINTER NEWSLETTER



From Front Row: C.Paulus, C.Cass, S.Smith, C.Latham, J.Schultz, T.Baier, C.Lacina, B.Standley, R.Campbell, T.Weis, J.Warren. Second Row: J.Smith, B.Decker, C.Hartsook, C.Mahan, D.McIntosh, D.Johnson, J.Freese, R.Brown, M.Crawford, M.Schultz, S.Grace. Back Row: J.Bruce, E.Jondle, J.Stamps, J.Rice. Not Pictured: D.Shepherd, H. Shields, B.Smith, D.Little, D.Selders, D.Hightshoe,

Management Team

Dan McIntosh
 General Manager

Cathy Lacina
 Assistant/Office
 Manager

Matt Schultz
 Operations Manager

Chad Mahan
 Construction &
 Maintenance Manager

Jeff Rice
 Project Manager

Brenda Standley
 Human Resources/
 Accounting Manager

Office Staff
 Rhonda Campbell
 Erin Jondle
 Tammy Baier
 Tanya Weis

Projects
 Daniel Shepherd
 Easement Coordinator

Rodney Brown
 CAD/GIS Operator

Julie Schultz
 Add-on Coordinator

Max Crawford
 Dave Hightshoe
 Project Inspectors

Winter is the Pits so You May Want to Check Yours Out!

Here are a few things for those of you with meter pits can do to help SIRWA ensure your meter pit is ready for cold weather. A little preventative maintenance now could save us all a lot of headaches later. A complete pit check-up typically consists of:



* Check that the metal lid on your pit fits securely to the PVC base, and that the PVC base isn't broken. This will prevent snow and freezing winds from causing your meter to freeze.

* Take metal lid off the pit and check for an insulation cushion to prevent freezing.

* Be sure your 4 X 4 wooden marker post, and touch pad with wires, are in good condition.

If you notice any problems, please contact the office so a field technician can come out and repair, or replace, what is needed.

Some other helpful tips to cut down on winter

- If you have a livestock property that is idle, or you are leaving for the winter, shut the water off in your meter pit. Your meter is on flexible hoses so you can pull it up to ground level. You can then use a pipe wrench to turn the water off at the meter by lining up the two brass eyelets, so that the arrow points away from the meter.
- It is always recommended to drain your lines in order to prevent freezing.
- Check for pipes exposed to the elements (crawl spaces, basements, etc.)

SIRWA would like to thank all of the customers who called in leaks and washouts this past year. We offer a \$10 credit towards your account if you call in any exposed water lines or leaks in our distribution system that we aren't aware of.

The Importance of Code Red

Code Red is an emergency notification system where SIRWA can contact all, or a certain number, of our customers for water emergencies such as; boil orders, water outages, or repairs to the lines. In order for this to work properly it is up to **you** to keep us up to date with your most current phone numbers or number of someone we can leave a message with.

Field Technicians

- Scott Smith
- Bob Decker
- Cory Latham
- Dirk Johnson
- Cole Hartsook
- Jason Stamps
- Steven Grace
- Jason Bruce
- Jason Smith

Construction

- Casey Paulus
- Chad Cass

Grounds Keeper

- Daryl Selders

Meter Readers

- Harvey Shields
- Jeanette Warren
- Brenda Smith
- Dan Little

Board Members

- Jim Smith.
- Adair, Cass, Madison
- Kevin Wynn
- Adams
- Anne Welker
- Clarke
- Eldon Binning
- Decatur
- Ethel Campbell
- Ringgold
- Lee Little
- Taylor
- Jack Keuter
- Union

New Projects

Creston Water Treatment Plant Upgrade

The Creston Water Treatment Plant provides approximately 80% of the water SIRWA sells to its customers. Currently the Creston Water Works (CWW) and SIRWA are upgrading the treatment system from sand filters to membranes and up grading the treatment plant capacity from 6 million gallons per day (MGD) to a maximum of 9.2 MGD. Since SIRWA will have about 79% of the treatment plant capacity in the new treatment plant, we are paying for 79% of the treatment plant upgrades and 100% of the capacity upgrades. At the present time, we have secured \$3,399,000 in grant dollars and \$1,400,000 in loan funds from the United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA-RD) through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding source. This project is schedule to be completed in the fall of 2011.

Bridgewater Sanitary Sewer Upgrade

Insituform, Inc. was the low bidder on the project to line the 12,745 feet of existing 8” sewer main in Bridgewater. The sewer main was originally constructed with 8” clay tile which over the years had cracked in many places. These cracks allowed ground water to enter into the sewer system. Insituform has completed the lining process. ARS, Inc. was the low bidder to replace all service lines from the sewer main to each residence. These service lines were also letting too much water into the sewer system. ARS has completed approximately 50% of their portion of this project. Total cost of the Bridgewater Sanitary Sewer Project is estimated to be \$525,000.

City of Ellston Sanitary Sewer System

SIRWA will be installing a low pressure sewer system which consists of an individual grinder pump at each residence. These pumps will force the waste thru small diameter PVC pipes to the existing wastewater lagoon system owned and operated by the Sun Valley Lake Sanitary District. Max Smith Construction was the low bidder for this project. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2011. Total cost of this project is estimated at \$493,200 with 29 services to be installed.

Southwest Ringgold County – Sanitary Sewer System for the Communities of Redding, Delphos, Benton & Maloy

SIRWA has also proposed to install a low pressure sewer system in southwest Ringgold County which will consist of an individual grinder pump at each home. The individual grinder pumps will move the waste to a centrally located lagoon system which SIRWA will construct as a part of this project. Any residents along the route of the forced main will also be given the opportunity to be a part of this project. SIRWA has purchased the land to construct the lagoon and bidding on the project will take place in the spring of 2011. Total cost of this project is estimated at \$3,267,900 with 101 services to be installed.

Current Projects

County Wide Sewer System – Onsite Wastewater Systems

After many months of fact finding and analysis, the SIRWA Board of Directors voted to **not** move forward with this project at this time. It was a very difficult decision, but the Board felt this project was not in our best interest.

Fixed Based Meter Reading – Upgrade Meter Monitoring Systems

With this system, all water meters will be outfitted with a radio transmitter. Each meter will send its reading to a series of water towers which will in turn relay this information back to the SIRWA office. We will be able to read each meter approximately five times per day. We also will be upgrading parts of our existing telemetry system to coincide with the fixed based meter reading system. When implemented, this system should help give great customer service by helping find leaks in the customers’ systems, as well as SIRWA’s water mains. We’re planning to bid this project in late 2011. Total cost of this project is estimated at \$5,177,200. This project will not create additional customers or income.

Corning/Creston Interconnect – Transmission Line Between Water Sources of Corning Municipal Utilities and Creston City Water Works

With this interconnect in place, if we have a problem with one system, we can flow water from an alternate source. This will help keep our customers in water service in cases of leaks. Total cost of this project is estimated at \$2,654,500. No new customers will be added with this project. This project is not scheduled to be bid until sometime in 2012.

Southwest Cass County Water System – Water Distribution System to Unincorporated Areas of Southwest Cass County

This project entails developing a new distribution system in the SW corner of Cass County. Along with the new pipelines, we must also add a pump station and a water tower. We should have the land purchased for the water tower site by the end of 2010 and will start asking for easements and signing up customers this winter. We’re hoping to have easements and sign up completed by mid-2012, with the bidding to follow shortly thereafter. Total cost of this project is estimated at \$7,216,700 with approximately 270 new services to be installed.

Projects Completed in 2010

Taylor County Water Tower & Pump Station

With this project we constructed a 300,000 gallon water tower just east of Conway and upgraded the pump station located on the south side of Lenox. The new pump station delivers water at the rate of 750 gallons per minute and the new water tower has increased water pressure throughout the Taylor County service area. Total cost of this project was just over \$1,300,000 with no new services installed.

Greenfield Coffe Dam and Pump Station

SIRWA paid for the installation of a coffer dam in the Nodaway River just below the reservoir located west of the Greenfield Water Treatment Plant. While water is flowing in the river, we will be pumping the water into one of the two Greenfield Reservoirs to keep them full during wet periods. The intent is that this will help get us through any dry periods. Total cost of this project was just over \$560,000 with no new services installed.

Ringgold Control Valve

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has required SIRWA to install a valve to help maintain a higher pressure level in the southern Union County and northern Ringgold County service areas. SIRWA completed the excavation and then hired a contractor to pour a concrete vault just north of Diagonal in which to install a telemetry operated control valve. Our staff was responsible for a majority of the work to complete this valve station including: plumbing, electrical, grounds work, etc. Total cost of this project was \$62,000 with no new customers added.