

Southwest Water Authority Board of Directors

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* Executive Committee
Members
** Chairperson

Manager's message

By: Mary Massad, Manager/Chief Executive Officer



Mary Massad
Manager/CEO

Construction continues this spring in the Oliver, Mercer, North Dunn Regional Service Area. As in previous years, obtaining the necessary funding to complete construction is critical with anticipated construction costs for the biennium of \$12 to \$25 million.

This year marks another legislative session and the Southwest Water Authority (SWA) board of directors and management are working to aide in obtaining funding to complete the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP). At a recent monthly board meeting, the directors voted unanimously to work collaboratively with the North Dakota Water Coalition to secure legislative support for water development projects statewide. A unified approach to secure funding has proven successful in previous legislative sessions and SWA is optimistic it will again this session.

SWA is also active in numerous other events focused on educating legislators such as Southwest Night at the Legislature, Coffee with the Legislators, Water Day at the Legislature and more. These grassroots events provide an opportunity to educate legislators on the importance of funding water development projects statewide.

Senate Bill 2020, the State Water Commission's agency funding bill, is the source for construction dollars at the state level for the SWPP. SWA works diligently to solicit support at both state and federal levels to obtain the necessary funding to complete the project. The SWPP has been very fortunate in federal funding the last few years. However, as you know, there is a federal budget crisis and future funding for the SWPP is in jeopardy. Securing project funding has always been a priority.

The board of directors, management and staff strive to stabilize the cost of water. Each year rates are carefully reviewed to determine if changes are needed. In November, at the monthly board of directors meeting, the budgeting process was completed and water rates were set for 2011. Due to rising costs of operations and maintenance, it was approved to increase treatment cost by \$.05 for the cost of water for both contract and rural customers and add \$1.00 to the rural minimum rate. Please see below for more details on the 2011 rates:

Standard Rural Monthly Minimum

- \$42.10/2,000 gallons of water with monthly meter reading

Pasture Tap Yearly Minimum

- \$252.60/12,000 gallons with annual meter reading

Rural Customer Rate

- \$3.75/1,000 gallons up to 10,000 gallons

Demand Contract Customer Rate

- \$4.28/1,000 gallons of potable water

Raw Water Contract Rate

- \$2.55/1,000 gallons of raw water

Contract Customer Rate

- \$3.23/1,000 gallons of potable water

Oil Industry Rate

- \$10.00/1,000 gallons of water

We appreciate our customers and the support you provide to both the SWA and the SWPP. If you have questions or need additional information regarding 2011 water rates, please contact our office at 701-225-0241 or toll-free 1-888-425-0241.

Looking further into 2011

By: Bruce Koppinger, Marketing Coordinator



Hello Everyone!

We are busy with construction of the Oliver, Mercer, North Dunn Regional Service Area (OMND). The water treatment plant north of Zap and the Zap reservoir are currently under construction.

Bruce Koppinger
Marketing Coordinator

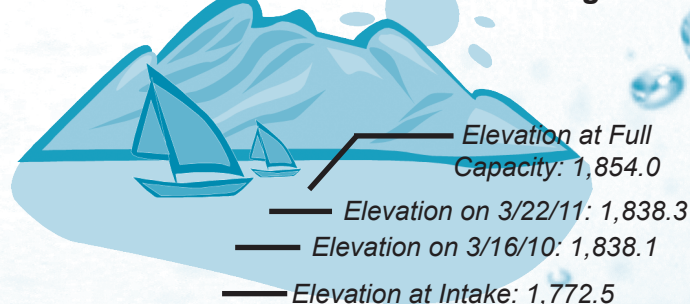
The Zap Water Treatment Plant will supply water to the customers and cities in the OMND who have signed up for water service. Construction on the Main Transmission Line, from Hazen to Stanton and from Beulah to the Center Tank, will also begin this spring. In addition, construction of the Center Tank Reservoir will commence. As you can see, there will be a lot of construction going on this year.

We will also start construction on the first rural service area this summer. This is called the Zap Service Area or Contract 7-9C. There is still time to sign up for water if you have not done so yet.

The sign-up fee is \$750.00 if you sign up before the bid date for a service area. After the bid date, the sign-up fee goes up to \$1,500.00. The early sign-up fee is a great bargain compared to waiting to connect to Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) after construction is complete in your area. Hooking up to the SWPP can cost thousands of dollars after the bid date, as after that date, it is your responsibility to hire a licensed contractor and pay all construction costs, as well as obtaining your own easements. Contact our office at 701-225-0241 or 1-888-425-0241 and we would be happy to answer any questions you may have about signing up for water service.

We also have been busy signing up subsequent customers in areas where construction is complete. If you are thinking of building or of buying land and will need water at this location for domestic use or a pasture tap for livestock, please contact our office and we will be glad to help with your water service. Thank you for your continued support of the SWPP and Southwest Water Authority.

Lake Sakakawea Elevation Gauge



Massad receives award

Mary Massad, Southwest Water Authority Manager/CEO, was recognized for her outstanding leadership abilities and extraordinary accomplishments in water operations. Massad received the "Outstanding Water Works Employee" award at the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association Expo held in Bismarck, February 1 - 3, 2011.



Pictured above: (Back, left to right) James Odermann, Rick Seifert, Bruce Koppinger, Jim Lennington, Duane Bueligen, Robert Leingang, Mary Ann Leingang, Faye Stroh and Emanuel Stroh. **(Front, left to right)** Sandy Seifert, Sandy Burwick, Mary Massad, Larry Bares and Elaine Bares.

Holiday Observance

Southwest Water Authority will be closed in observance of the following holiday:

Good Friday - April 22

Water Works is an Official Publication of Southwest Water Authority and the Southwest Pipeline Project

Vision Statement:

People and business succeeding with quality water

Mission Statement:

Providing quality water for southwest North Dakota

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Web Site: www.swa.swc.state.nd.us
E-Mail: swa@swwater.com

North Dakota Department of Health tips for medication disposal

Don't flush unwanted household medications or pour them down the drain.

Keep North Dakota's Water Clean!

Flushing or improper trash disposal of unused and unwanted medications can cause pollution of lakes, streams and water supplies.

North Dakota has taken steps to provide its citizens with a safe and simple method to dispose of unused drugs, helping to keep our water clean. This is free to the public. Unused prescription drugs can be disposed of safely by depositing them in the secure disposal container, located in the lobby of the Law Enforcement Center, no questions asked. In order to comply with federal laws, the local law enforcement agency will take responsibility for the collected drugs, including securing, logging and destroying them.

Whenever possible, drop off all unused medication at:
Law Enforcement Center
66 West Museum Drive
Dickinson, ND 58601
Telephone: 701-456-7610

We are taking a proactive approach to meet the needs of our customers and the requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Health by reducing our fluoride level from 1.2 milligrams per liter to .7 milligrams per liter.

Southwest Water Authority does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, marital status or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Employment changes

2010 brought change and additions to the staff at Southwest Water Authority.



Becky Schafer joined the staff in August as a Customer Service Representative.



Rachelle Weiler is now the Accountant I.



Annika Plummer was hired in November as an Administrative Assistant to the Manager/CEO.

ATTENTION!

Southwest Water Authority is not responsible for cash payments mailed or deposited in the drop boxes!



Creating milestones, landmarks and memories
Oliver, Mercer, North Dunn Water Treatment Plant Groundbreaking Ceremony
November 23, 2010