

## From Mary Massad, Manager/CEO



Mary Massad,  
Manager/CEO

2017 was a year of progress for Southwest Water Authority (SWA) and Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) — full of accomplishments, construction and project completions. By year's end, SWA was serving more than 7,100 rural customers, 33 communities, 23 contract customers, 21 raw customers, two rural water systems, and two raw water depots.

The SWPP continued to reach new milestones and complete additional construction to bring water to those who have waited. By the end of 2017, SWA was managing, operating and maintaining nearly 5,300 miles of pipeline throughout southwestern North Dakota.

Congratulations are in order as SWA's Chairman of the Board, Larry Bares, was awarded the 2017 Water Wheel Award at the 54th Annual Joint North Dakota Water Convention and Irrigation Workshop. He was recognized for his dedication to the water community and providing quality water to those in southwest North Dakota which has made immeasurable differences in the lives of so many.

On a sad note, one of our esteemed SWA Board Members, Larry Stang, passed away December 29, 2017. Representing the City of Dickinson, Stang was a knowledgeable addition to the Board and will be missed by all of us.

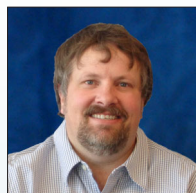
As we flow into 2018, those benefiting from the Southwest Pipeline Project — Southwest Water Authority's customers — are paying about \$12,000 per day back into the Resources Trust Fund. That represents over \$57 million having been returned to the state for its investment into the Project. The past year was notable in that we completed the geographical extent of the Southwest Pipeline Project's (SWPP) service area. The Oliver, Mercer and North Dunn Service Area was completed. However, we are far from being done. Now we must go back and take care of the hundreds of people, businesses and growing communities who are still unable to receive quality water. And this is why we are just getting started and again looking forward to another successful year of quality water for southwest North Dakota.

## 2018 Rate Change

Here at Southwest Water Authority (SWA), we strive to stabilize the cost of quality water. Coinciding with the population growth in the areas served, however, SWA has experienced rapidly rising costs in nearly every aspect of providing service to our customers. These costs include such items as power, labor, chemicals, operations and maintenance.

With these costs on the front burner, along with meeting the Repayment and the Replacement for Extraordinary Maintenance (REM) Fund, SWA's Board of Directors approved the monthly minimum for standard rural customers to increase from \$40.32 to \$42.00. The Board of Directors also approved a slight rate change of 20 cents per 1,000 gallons. This is a rural customer rate change from \$4.84 to \$5.04 per 1,000 gallons of treated water. All 2018 rates can be viewed on our website at [www.swwater.com](http://www.swwater.com).

## SWA Board of Directors



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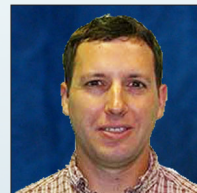
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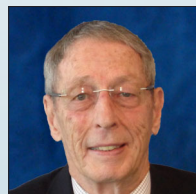
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HAPPY NEW YEAR

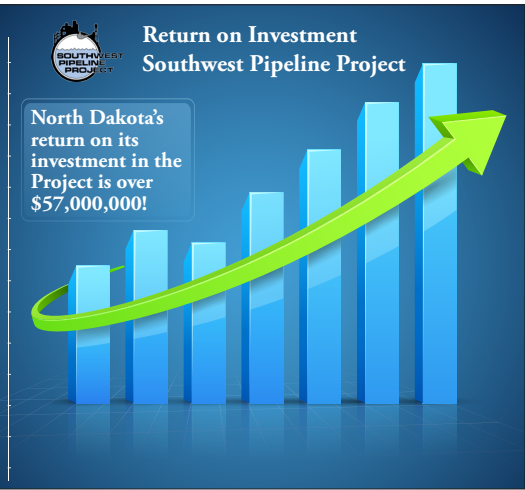
From all of us at  
Southwest Water Authority

# 2018



## A Year of Firsts

- Last year was the first year Southwest Water Authority sold over 300 million gallons of water in just one month.
- It was also the first year rural usage reached over 90 million gallons in one month, which includes annual pasture tap usage reported in October.
- The monthly repayment in November to the Resources Trust Fund was more than \$645,000. Of this amount, \$482,570 was from rural customers.
- By the end of 2017, the state's Return on Investment in the Southwest Pipeline Project's construction, was over \$57 million.



## About Our Progress

Since 1986, the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) has been constructing an efficient network of water pipelines, pump stations, reservoirs, and treatment facilities to bring quality water to the region. To date, 33 communities, more than 7,100 rural service locations, 23 contract customers, 21 raw-water customers, two rural water systems, three crew camps and two raw water depots are served by the SWPP.

## Resources Trust Fund

Southwest Water Authority did request funding for the 2017-2019 biennium. The money is needed for upgrades to the Dodge, Richardton and Ray Christensen Pump Stations, a second Davis Buttes Reservoir, a second Belfield Reservoir, a Golve Tank and a Supplemental Intake Pump Station. Paralleling main transmission lines for raw water at various locations are needed to increase capacity. These include five miles of parallel pipeline from Richardton to the Dickinson Reservoir, 1.43 miles of pipeline from the Dickinson Reservoir to the Dickinson WTP and 20.4 miles of parallel pipeline from Zap to Richardton. The estimated cost of these projects is \$84 million.

Funding will also be needed to supply water to the rural areas and communities of the Southwest Pipeline Project service areas for the hundreds of people continuing to wait to be connected to quality water. The number of outstanding requests to be connected up to the Southwest Pipeline Project reached 452 by the end of 2017.

## STAY INFORMED

Should a water-related emergency arise, we would like to let you know. Please be sure we have your current contact information including telephone number and email address. Thank You!

**Our Vision:**  
People and Business  
Succeeding with  
Quality Water

**Our Mission:**  
Quality Water for  
Southwest  
North Dakota

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

Visit our website...from job  
postings to the latest pipeline and  
water news, it's all online!

[www.swwater.com](http://www.swwater.com)

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SWA 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.

## Chairperson Larry Bares Awarded Water Wheel



Back row left to right: Jim Lennington, Bartlett & West, Jen Murray, SWA, Rick Seifert, SWA, Dave Juntunen, SWA, James Odermann, SWA  
Front Row left to right: Mary Massad, SWA, Pam Bares, Larry Bares, SWA, Don Bares

Larry Bares, Southwest Water Authority (SWA) Chairperson representing the City of Dickinson, was honored with the 2017 Water Wheel Award at the 54th Annual Joint North Dakota Water Convention and Irrigation Workshop in Bismarck on December 7, 2017. Larry has been passionate about the development of rural water and bringing safe, reliable drinking water to the citizens of southwest North Dakota. The Water Wheel Award is given to someone who demonstrates a commitment, protects and manages North Dakota's water resources. Larry's leadership and perseverance in coordinating local and state support for water in southwest North Dakota have been instrumental in the progress the Southwest Pipeline Project has seen over the last 16 years he has been a member of the SWA Board of Directors. Larry has remained steadfast in communicating the importance of North Dakota's water resources for the livelihood and enjoyment of its residents. Mary Massad, Manager/CEO of SWA, states, "Larry is truly a champion for water development. His insight, diligence

and leadership have been the backbone of the SWA's Board of Directors and his dedication to the water community and to providing quality water to those in southwest North Dakota have made immeasurable differences in the lives of so many. Congratulations Larry!"

## Remembering Board Member Larry Stang

Larry Stang served as a Southwest Water Authority's (SWA) Board Member until passing away on December 29, 2017. For almost two decades, Larry represented the City of Dickinson on SWA's 15-member Board of Directors. He was passionate about the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) and bringing quality water to southwest North Dakota. He will be missed by everyone involved with the SWPP and all of us at SWA.



## Construction Contracts



Supplementary Raw  
Water Intake



Southwest Water  
Treatment Plant



2nd Dickinson Raw  
Water Reservoir



2nd Richardton Raw  
Water Reservoir



Residual Handling Facility