

From Mary Massad, Manager/CEO



These are unprecedented times for our region, for Southwest Water Authority (SWA) and for the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP). As we enter into 2015, it is SWA's goal to find a balance between the growth and increased demand for water while being ever mindful of construction projects which will provide quality water to the residents of southwest North Dakota.

This past year was by far the busiest construction season SWA has seen to date. The SWPP currently has 18 contracts under construction; which will permit SWA to provide quality water to those who are patiently waiting. Construction of a supplementary intake on Renner Bay, Lake Sakakawea will continue throughout the winter. Construction of this intake is quite extraordinary as crews work to build a 150-foot deep vertical caisson. Thirty of the forty-five rings of the caisson have been placed. Once the caisson is complete, more than 2,800 feet of 73.5 inch outside diameter (54-60 inch inside diameter) intake pipeline will be micro-tunneled under Lake Sakakawea. Completion of this intake will increase the overall capacity for the SWPP.

Construction of the main transmission line is nearing completion between the OMND Water Treatment Plant and the city of Killdeer and the Killdeer Mountain Elevated Tank. This line is the foundation which will enable the Project to construct the Dunn Center & Halliday Service Areas. It is also the line to which the city of Killdeer will be connected and for the SWPP to provide service in the Killdeer Mountain Pocket Area, the Grassy Butte Pocket Area and the North Fairfield Service Area.

In order for construction to begin in the North Dunn Service Area, easements are needed. Easements grant the Project access to install rural water pipelines through private and public lands, which in turn will deliver quality water to Project customers.

Easements play an essential part in the planning for construction. Granting a gratis easement can make a significant difference in the quality of life for you, your family and your neighbors. Now is the time to sign up for quality water if you reside in the Halliday & Dunn Center (North Dunn) Service Area. Time is running out. If construction is to start this spring, this contract must be bid soon. I urge anyone who has received an easement from SWA to have your signatures notarized and return the easement in order for SWA to provide affordable, quality water to all those in need.

It was quite a year and SWA is pleased with the progress. The Project installed 135 miles of new pipeline, bringing the network of pipelines to more than 4,350 miles. The OMND Water Treatment Plant is installing Ozone treatment, along with its already state-of-the-art Reverse Osmosis and Ultra Filtration treatment system. Four new storage tanks will increase storage capacity for the Project by almost 3.2 million gallons. The year was also record setting, with water sales topping 2.2 billion gallons. With service being extended to Rhame and 265 additional rural customers, the Project now provides service to 32 communities and more than 5,575 rural customers. Filled with accomplishments from years past and promises for what's to come, SWA continues advancement of the Southwest Pipeline Project.



Minimum Rate Change Approved

Southwest Water Authority continuously strives to stabilize the cost of quality water. Coinciding with unprecedented population growth in the areas served, SWA has experienced rapidly rising costs in nearly every element of providing service to our customers.

With these costs on the front burner along with meeting the State's payback requirements for Capital Repayment and the Replacement for Extraordinary Maintenance (REM) Fund, SWA's Board of Directors approved a 58-cent monthly increase. The new minimum payment for rural customers is \$39.88. The Board also approved a modest rate change of 33 cents per 1,000 gallons making the price of treated water for rural customers \$4.39/1,000 gallons. The price per gallon of treated water remains well under a penny. The rates can be viewed on our website at www.swwater.com.

All neighboring water providers are experiencing increased costs to provide quality water to their customers. Southwest Water Authority's rates reflect the costs needed to assure water quality as well as supply. These costs include labor, power, chemicals, operations and maintenance, capital repayment and REM.

The Project has been very fortunate in acquiring funding over the years, yet it is not taken for granted. Southwest Water Authority greatly appreciates the support of our extremely loyal customers whose livelihoods depend on the product we provide, quality water. As supply and demand continues to rapidly increase, we extend sincere appreciation to you for your loyalty and understanding.

2015 Southwest Water Authority Board of Directors Meetings

The public is always welcome to attend our monthly board of director's meetings. Contact our office if you have questions. Call 701-225-0241 or email swa@swwater.com. All meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. MT and will be held at the SWA O&M Center Office, Dickinson, ND (unless otherwise noted).

Monday, February 2
Monday, March 2
Monday, April 6
Monday, May 4
Monday, June 1
Monday, July 6

Monday, August 3
Tuesday, September 8
Monday, October 5
Monday, November 2
Tuesday, December 8*
**Baymont Inn & Suites (Formerly the Seven Seas), Mandan, ND*

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Top 10 Accomplishments in 2014

1. Awarded 4th Place in the world for 'Best Tasting Tap Water'
2. Met and/or exceeded the USEPA and the ND Department of Health's stringent water quality standards
3. Awarded Water Fluoridation Quality Award
4. Guy Mischel Awarded 2014 Outstanding Water Works Employee by ND Rural Water Systems Association
5. Rhame, ND, becomes the 32nd community served by the SWPP
6. Connected 265 new customers
7. Installed over 135 miles of pipeline
8. Delivered more than 2.2 billion gallons of quality water
9. Constructed four new potable water tanks
10. Began construction of a second intake at Renner Bay

SWA Strives to Satisfy

SWA strives to satisfy customers in all aspects of our process; from construction to the continued satisfaction of receiving water straight from your tap. The Project is continuing to work with landowners concerning reclamation and settlement from the installation of the pipeline. If you have any concerns, questions or comments regarding these issues please contact the SWA office at 701.225.0241 or toll free at 888.425.0241 or email swa@swwater.com.

Water and Livestock



Photo Courtesy of SWA Customer Jon Klym, Fairfield

Nothing can be more frustrating than seeing your livestock huddled around a frozen water tank on a cold winter morning. Providing quality water to cattle, horses and other livestock is always challenging, more so during the cold winter months. Be sure to follow these tips which will help avoid costly repairs or waste precious water.

- Check your stock tanks and livestock waterers for leaks, replace if necessary
- Watch stock tanks closely for overflow and stuck floats
- Insulate around the water tank or trough. Paint it black to absorb the sun's heat
- Wire shut or fence around yard hydrants to prevent livestock from turning them on
- All year, watch for standing water, vegetation areas, or low pressure in your system which would indicate a leak

The Importance of Easements to the Progress of the SWPP

Although more than 4,350 miles of pipeline and transmission line have been built since the beginning of the SWPP, there are still people patiently waiting to be connected to quality water. You can assist in making a difference in the livelihood of your neighbors and region while securing the future water availability.

If you have been contacted by Southwest Water Authority to grant an easement, then it is finally possible to construct the much needed water lines to serve the families and businesses in your area.

Consent of the property owners is required for easements to be obtained. This allows the SWPP access to install rural water pipelines through private and public lands which, in turn, will deliver quality water to more people.

Please help the continued development of the Project by signing in front of a notary and returning your easements. If you have been contacted by SWA to grant an easement, you'll join nearly 10,000 people who understand the importance of our mission; to provide quality water to southwest North Dakota.

For more information, please call Misti Conzemius at our office at 701-225-0241 or 800-425-0241. Or send an email to mconzemius@swwater.com.



Our Vision:
People and Business
Succeeding with
Quality Water

Our Mission:
Quality Water for
Southwest
North Dakota

Water Works is the
Official Publication of the
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

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