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Water Works



The Official Publication of Southwest Water Authority
and Southwest Pipeline Project

July, 2007
Volume 10 ~ Issue 2

Manager's Message

By: Mary Massad, Manager/CEO

I am writing this in my new role as the Manager/CEO of Southwest Water Authority (SWA). What an exciting time! We have been under the leadership of Ray Christensen for the past six years. He has done a wonderful job for all of us and leaves rather large shoes to fill, but I sincerely look forward to the challenge and would like to take this opportunity to thank several people.

continue grandly into the future. Over the years, SWA's customer service has grown and improved and we will continue to do so.

Thank you, Board of Directors

First and foremost, thank you, SWA Board of Directors for your support and vote of confidence that I will be able to lead SWA into the future and the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) to completion. I am dedicated to accomplishing these goals.

Thank you, Ray Christensen

Next, thank you, Ray Christensen, for your guidance, direction and support over the last several years, but particularly over the past year as you have been my mentor for this new role.

The staff and I will truly miss having Ray around. We do, however, wish him and his family well in his retirement. We are all better people for what he has done for us. His dedication and service are to be admired, and hopefully, emulated.

Thank you, SWA staff

Providing quality water, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year is a massive undertaking, one that would be nearly impossible without the quality employees at SWA. Each and every employee is dedicated, qualified and does an excellent job. I am confident SWA will



Mary Massad,
SWA Manager/CEO

Dedicated to completion

I have had many good teachers and mentors over the years and will strive to exemplify their good qualities. I am here to be of service to you, our customers, to represent our board of directors, follow their direction and lead our employees into the future. Ultimately, construction of the SWPP will be accomplished as we continue operating, maintaining and managing the SWPP for the citizens of our great state.

With the continued support of our congressional delegation, the North Dakota Legislature, the Governor, the ND State Water Commission, the North

Dakota Water Coalition and our citizens, we will see project completion. This current biennium should see the completion of Phase III of the Medora Beach Service Area and continued construction in the Oliver, Mercer, North Dunn (OMND) Service Area. The OMND Service Area is the final phase of construction for the SWPP. With adequate funding, SWPP construction could be complete in as little as six years. It will be a joyous day when construction is finally complete and we are serving everyone who has signed up for service.

I look forward to working with and for you and welcome your suggestions, questions and feedback at any time.

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Water Works

Consumer Confidence Reports available

The 2006 Consumer Confidence Reports are complete and available by contacting Southwest Water Authority at 701-225-0241 or toll-free: 1-888-425-0241. They are also available online at <http://swa.swc.state.nd.us/resources.html>.

This year, SWA has published five separate Consumer Confidence Reports – one for the customers served by the System Water Treatment Plant in Dickinson, one for customers served by the city of Beulah and three separate reports for eastern Morton County residents. Because these five service areas are not physically connected, each requires separate testing, monitoring and reporting as determined by the North Dakota Department of Health.



Construction update

By: Tim Freije, Southwest Pipeline Project, Project Manager

Construction on Phase III of the Medora-Beach Regional

Service Area will begin this year as Phase II will be closed out, along with the Beulah Interim Service Area.

Pre-final inspection has taken place on Contract 7-8B (Beach-Golva Service Area), Contract 7-8C (Morton County Areas) and Contract 7-9A (Beulah Interim Service Area). Each contract was substantially completed last year. Seeding should be completed by mid-June on all three contracts and final inspection is anticipated for July.

Contract 7-8D (South Fryburg Pocket) has been bid and awarded to Abbot, Arne, Schwindt, Inc. of Moorhead, Minnesota. This pocket consists of approximately 95 miles of 1.5 inch to 6 inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipeline, one variable frequency drive booster pump station and 76 users. It will be funded by a \$1.43 million loan and \$0.88 million grant through the United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development Rural Utility Service. Bond closing is anticipated this July.

Also, included in contract 7-8D is 3.3 miles of parallel pipeline on the Missouri West Water System to accommodate the additional customers who signed-up during construction in eastern Morton County.

Contract 7-8E (Fairfield Service Area and Trotters Pocket) will be bid this fall. This contract could add

over 220 miles of pipeline and nearly 200 users to the system. In addition, Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) could possibly supply water to a rural water system with 50+ customers in southern McKenzie County. The details are still being sorted out on this as McKenzie County is not a part of the Southwest Water Authority or the SWPP. Thus, McKenzie County will need to secure its own funding for construction – separate from the SWPP.

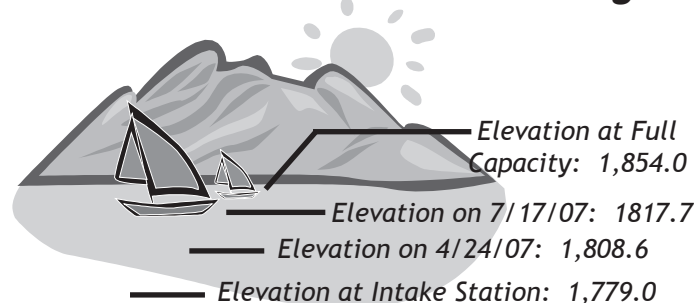


Tim Freije,
SWPP Project Manager

Contract 4-1C/4-2A, bid in March and awarded to Cummins NPower, LLC, will provide backup power generators for the Richardton and Dodge Raw Water Pump Stations late this fall. Storms in 2005 knocked power out at the Richardton station for 18 hours. Much longer outages

are a possibility. The backup generators should enable the system to deliver about 6,000 gallons per minute or 8.5 million gallons per day even in the event of another power outage.

Lake Sakakawea Elevation Gauge



Drought assistance improved Legislature makes program flexible

Although spring rain helped refill ponds, creeks and dugouts, it is not too early for ranchers and livestock operators to safeguard their pastures with pasture taps from the Southwest Pipeline Project. The drought livestock water assistance program, administered through the ND State Water Commission provides cost-share for ranchers to access quality water from rural water pipelines and the 60th North Dakota Legislative Assembly recently increased the program's flexibility. The authorizing legislation, as amended, appears below. (Program amendments are in bold type):

Applicants with livestock water supply problems caused by drought may apply for assistance from the program. An applicant must first apply for water cost-share assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA). If cost-share assistance is denied by the agency, the applicant may forward the application to the [ND State Water] Commission for consideration. An application forwarded to the commission must include a document from the FSA stating the reason for denial of cost-share assistance. The state engineer shall review all applications received by the commission. **Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a water supply project commenced after application for funding is made, but without prior approval of the state engineer is eligible for funding from the program.** If the state engineer approves an application, the applicant may receive up to fifty percent of the cost, but in no event more than three thousand five hundred dollars **per project with a limit of three projects per applicant.** The state engineer shall provide funds for approved applications in accordance with rules and criteria for eligibility and only to the extent that funding is available. **A drought livestock water assistance program project located on Indian land is eligible for the program.**

Vickie's water notes

By: Vickie Franchuk,
SWA Accountant

Cindy Miller has joined the Southwest Water Authority administrative team as the new customer service representative. She will be able to help you with any questions you may have regarding your bill or service. Cindy began her new position July 1, 2007.

As you may know, my new role as staff accountant has changed my responsibilities. Thus, this is my last article for the newsletter. Watch future issues of the newsletter for Cindy's column.



Cindy Miller,
SWA Customer Service Representative

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