

Quality On Tap!

January 2020 | Volume 15, Issue 3

**UNLOCK SECRETS
IN THE SOIL**

STEP UP AND SERVE

**YOUR RURAL WATER
MEMBERSHIP
AGREEMENT**

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Ron Gillen, President
South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems



2020 RURAL WATER RALLY

South Dakota Rural Water does many things, and one of the most important benefit to our rural water membership relates to our legislative efforts. Every year the National Rural Water Association hosts a Rural Water Rally in Washington D.C. to further the work of providing drinking water and wastewater services to rural communities. Rural Water professionals, leaders and customers from every state attend the rally to thank their Senators and Representatives for their support and encourage them to further support the goals and needs of the Rural Water Industry. The Rally provides your Association the opportunity to meet directly with our congressional delegation one-on-one to discuss concerns of SDARWS members and other systems, as well as with their staffers, and USDA.

We invite you to join us February 3-5, 2020 at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill. For more information, visit NRWA's Rally page at: nrwa.org/rally. Room reservations can be made at the Hyatt Regency by calling 202-737-1234. If you have any questions about attending this year's event, please call the SDARWS office at 605-556-7219. We would love to have you join us on the Hill!

**February
3-5, 2020
Washington, DC**

Let Your Voice Be Heard!

The Rural Water Rally provides an opportunity for supporters of our industry to make their case directly to their elected officials. Rural Water Associations in each state schedule meetings with Representatives, Senators and their staff, so that they can share the Rural Water success story, answer questions and build important relationships. Attending the Rural Water Rally also provides a unique opportunity to meet with association leaders and watch the Great American Taste Test in person.

For more information, visit:
nrwa.org/rally

Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill
800-332-8715

RURAL WATER RALLY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ron Gillen, President

Kingbrook Rural Water System
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Jim Thyen, Secretary

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Lynn Frey

Randall Community Water District
Dave Meyerink

Rapid Valley Sanitary District/Water Service
Jack Tomac

TM Rural Water District
Jay Jorgensen

Tri-County/Mni Wasté Water Association
J.R. Holloway

Tripp County Water User District
Louis Kehn

WEB Water Development Association
Les Hinds

West River/Lyman-Jones Rural Water System
Rick Doud

Class B East River
Brad Lawrence

Class B West River
VACANT

Class C
VACANT



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kurt Pfeifle, Executive Director
South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems

The 2020 Annual Technical Conference is just a few weeks away, and everyone at SDARWS is busy preparing for what looks to be an excellent event.

This year's keynote speaker is Chuck Gallagher. You may have seen Chuck on television, or heard him on CNN, CBS or NPR radio programs. His business insights are sought after for his strong position on ethics and ethical leadership.

Ethics in the workplace is a serious matter, but talking about it doesn't have to be "business as usual." Chuck learned a lesson about ethics, choices and consequences the hard way – but now he shares his experience so that others don't have to.

Chuck's focus is business – but his passion is empowering others. His unique presentations on Business Ethics clearly demonstrate he brings something to the platform that isn't often found in typical business speakers. Chuck's personal experience in building businesses and sales teams while leading companies provides a practical and powerful framework for ethical success.

Currently COO of a national company and former Sr. VP of Sales and Marketing for a public company, Chuck may have found a sales niche early on in life selling potholders door to door, or convincing folks to fund a record album of his musical performance at age 16 (and yes those were the days when an album was made of vinyl), but it was the school of hard knocks that provided a fertile training ground for Chuck's lessons in success. Described as creative, insightful, captivating, and a person that "connects the dots" between behavior, choices and

success, Chuck gives his clients what they need to turn concepts into actions and actions into results.

In the middle of a rising career, Chuck lost everything because he made some bad choices. He has since rebuilt his career and his life back to immense success. With more vulnerability than the average keynoter, Chuck shares with his audiences his life journey, the consequences of his unethical choices, and how life gives you second chances when you make the right choices. In fact, Chuck's new book, *SECOND CHANCES: Transforming Adversity into Opportunity*, has received numerous endorsements and has been described as one of those rare books that effectively bridges the gap between personal accountability and business success.

With Chuck you have an industry professional sharing practical tested and time proven methods that can enhance personal and professional performance. What Chuck shares in his presentations, whether training, keynotes or consulting, are understandings of not only "how to," but also "what motivates behavior" – behavior of individuals that can create personal and professional success.

On a nationwide basis, Chuck has helped countless individuals on their journey to success! So here's the question: Do you want your personal performance or your company's performance to improve? If so, Chuck offers a "real world" practical approach to improving your understanding of how to achieve ethical choices!

We hope to see you at this year's conference in Pierre!



**SEE
CHUCK
LIVE!**

TUESDAY, JAN. 14TH
AMPHITHEATER II

KEYNOTE: 1:00 PM
BREAKOUT: 3:00 PM



OPERATOR CERTIFICATION TRAINING AND EXAMS

CONTACT HOUR REQUIREMENTS

Number and Type of Certificates	Contact Hours Required
Operator has one certificate (Class I or II).....	10 contact hours every three years
Operator has one certificate (Class III or IV)	20 contact hours every three years
Operator has more than one certificate and all are Class I and II.....	15 contact hours every three years
Operator has more than one certificate and at least one certificate is a Class III or IV	30 contact hours every three years

Course	Date	Location
Basic Wastewater Treatment	January 28-30	Spearfish-Holiday Inn
OpCert Exam	January 30-1:00 pm	Spearfish-Holiday Inn
Water Distribution	February 25-27	Rapid City-Ramkota
OpCert Exam	February 27-1:00 pm	Rapid City-Ramkota
Wastewater Collection	March 10-12	Spearfish-Holiday Inn
OpCert Exam	March 12-1:00 pm	Spearfish-Holiday Inn
Basic Wastewater Treatment	March 24-26	Huron-Crossroads/Events Center
Basic Water Treatment	April 7-9	Sioux Falls-Ramkota Inn
OpCert Exam	April 9-1:00 pm	Sioux Falls-Ramkota Inn
Small Water Treatment System Workshop**	April 28	Rapid City-Ramkota
Small Water Treatment System Workshop**	April 30	Aberdeen-Ramkota
Stabilization Pond Workshop*	May 6	Huron-Crossroads/Events Center
Advanced Wastewater Treatment	May 19-21	Brookings-Days Inn
Intermediate Water Treatment	June 2-4	Sioux Falls-Ramkota Inn

*The Stabilization Pond class deals strictly w/ ponds and is the best class for preparing to take the Small Wastewater System exam. The Basic Wastewater Treatment class deals w/ all types of wastewater treatment other than ponds and is the best class for preparing to take the Class I Wastewater Treatment exam. Small systems that use ponds for treatment can come into compliance w/ the OpCert Law by passing either the Class I Wastewater exam or the Small Wastewater System exam.

**Water systems serving less than 500 people that use wells can come into compliance by passing the Small Water Treatment exam. Larger systems must pass the Class I Water Treatment exam.

All dates are tentative based on number of applicants. Certification exam applications must be submitted for ALL exams including retakes. Applications MUST be received by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) at least two weeks before the exam date, as required by the Operator Certification Rules (ARSD 74:21:02:40). Applicants will receive a confirmation of their exam receipt by the Department. Applications will be accepted via fax at 773-5286. Check or money orders made out to "DENR-Operator Certification" are required. Applications must be filled out completely as they are the sole source of information used to determine operator eligibility to take an exam.

For Study materials, visit: www.abccert.org/testing_services/ExamReferences.asp

For more information contact SDARWS Trainer Jim Zeck: 605-201-9568 or jzeck@sdarws.com

REGISTER FOR CLASSES ONLINE: go.activecalendar.com/sdarws

YOUR RURAL WATER SYSTEM MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

*By Dave Larson,
Attorney for the West River/Lyman Jones
Rural Water System*



Did you know that your Rural Water System is a not for profit membership association, meaning that instead of being owned by a group of faceless stockholders with a headquarters in some far off place, the Rural Water System is owned by the people that use it, right here in our community.

Most of us have become members of the Rural Water System without giving it much thought. We met with one of the employees, signed the papers they hand us, and forgot all about it. You shouldn't. One of the papers signed, is your membership agreement, and that one document forms the entire basis of your relationship to the Rural Water System.

On its most basic level, the membership agreement serves as your application for service. Without signing it and requesting service, you are not going to get water. But, the importance of the membership agreement doesn't stop there. The membership agreement is a contract between you, the Rural Water System and the other members. As a contract, the membership agreement sets the legal framework for all of your interactions with the system.

One of the most important things the membership agreement does is establish who the member is. Is the member you? Is it your spouse? Is it your corporation, partnership, or LLC? If you are married, are you and your spouse "joint members?" Unless your name is on the agreement, you are not a member. If you are not a member, you have none of the rights of membership.

Unless you are a member, or in the case of a legal entity that is a member are authorized to vote for the entity, you have no right to vote. You have no vote in the director elections. You have no vote on the bylaws. You have no right to serve as a director of the system. In short; you have no right to participate in the governance of the system.

Unless you are a member, you have no right to obtain information regarding an account. You don't have the right to terminate service or redirect the billing. Those things can only be done by the member or their legally authorized representative.

Along with the benefits of membership, the membership agreement also establishes the basis of your obligations to the system. When you sign the membership agreement, you agree that you will be bound by the bylaws and polices of the system. Those include both the present rules, and future rules adopted by the members and board of directors, so long as you continue to be a member.

If you are the member, you are the one obligated to pay the bill, regardless of who actually lives at the meter location or uses the water. As the member, you are the one legally responsible.

Signing the membership doesn't just obligate you to pay your bill. One of the most important obligations is the requirement that you provide your Rural Water System with the easements necessary to serve both you, and other members. Because the members are all in this together, one of the requirements for members, from the very beginning, was that the members cooperate with each other in providing the necessary easements to run the water lines necessary to serve all our members.

Signing the membership agreement also obligates you to respect the right of way and the Rural Water System facilities. It obligates you not to build over the water lines, or do anything that would damage a line, relief valve, meter, or make it impossible to access and perform necessary maintenance.

Signing the membership agreement is more than just an application for service. It is the entire basis of the Rural Water System commitment to you, and your commitment to the Rural Water System and the other members.

STEP UP AND SERVE

Beyond the Coffee Shop Recruitment of Decision Makers

By Jay Jorgensen
Manager, TM Rural Water District



Here in the Midwest, it is the common practice of farmers and small-town residents to meet daily for their morning cup of Joe at the local gas station or café. Most of the time, like-minded individuals will sit and discuss local, state, and national issues once the daily discussion on the weather has concluded. Conversations discuss who's to blame for problems at all different levels of government and what needs to be done to reconcile these issues. I am certain that if anyone were taking minutes of these meetings, most would result in a plethora of quality ideas that we could wrap up and send to our local, state, and national representatives. The darker side of the coffee shop however involves

Ever thought of being a part of the change that you would like to see and be a decision maker yourself?

discussions that try to point blame at decision-makers and community leaders for anything that affects us personally in a negative way. Discussions taking this negative turn can quickly escalate out of control with wild unfounded accusations that are the result of speculation or, more likely, someone in the groups' personal dislikes of another person or group. The results of these types of discussions may hurt the community as a whole if the end result is nothing more than additional anger and frustration. Negativity is cannibalistic. The more you feed it, the bigger and stronger it grows. So what? That's just the way life is, right? Sure we all have a lot of great ideas that never go

anywhere because we are unwilling to take the next step to refine our ideas by bouncing them off of others due to fear of being criticized. Understandably we all have a fear of being singled out. Yet, most of us don't hesitate to condemn the decisions of local, state, or national Boards, Councils, or Committees, when they pass rules or policies that we feel are unfair to us. Have you ever thought about the decision-making process that those institutions went thru to create those rules or policies you disliked? Have you ever participated in the open meetings held by local Boards or Commissions looking for public input for the aforementioned rules or policies? Ever thought of being a part of the change that you would like to see and be a decision-maker yourself? Sadly, most of us would answer no. It is easier to be an armchair quarterback than to take the time to be fully informed and have to make the difficult and sometimes no-win decisions needed to keep our communities running dependably and efficiently. What would you do if you were in a position to make these rules and policies? If you had the same information, would you have agreed with the same unpopular decisions? Maybe, maybe not, you will never know unless you are willing to commit to serving on a Board or Council. What would happen if?

- What would happen if I started taking time each day to inform and educate myself by utilizing multiple news agencies to get a broad spectrum of information regarding local, state and national issues in order to gain a better understanding of the workings of all levels of my government?
- What would happen if I were to seek out differing opinions than my own and try to look at issues that concern me from another person's perspective?
- What would happen if I were to take the time to research rules and policies which I dislike and try to understand why these rules were created in order to get a better perspective?
- What would happen if I quit blaming others for something which I have within my power to change?
- What would happen if I was in a group of people where a positive conversation took a negative turn, and instead of adding to the negativity, I tried to turn the conversation positive once again.
- What would happen if I was able to sit down with a group of people that were not exactly of the same opinions and beliefs as myself to calmly and rationally research, discuss

and create rules and policies that would directly affect everyone in the community in which I live in a fair and consistent manner?

What would happen is you would become an excellent candidate to be on a Board, Council, or Committee. You would have the qualities required to become a Decision Maker.

I have always believed that South Dakota is filled with many rational, independent problem solvers who are the polar opposite of what we continue to see at the national level. Sadly, what we are reminded of on a daily basis is how difficult it is for the nation to get along, and sometimes that has a trickle-down effect on state and local governments. The common-sense advice I would offer decision-makers at all levels would be to listen more and talk less. The old adage, "wise people speak because they have something to say; foolish people because they have to say something," has never been truer in the world we live in today.

One of the best ways to make a difference in your community is to volunteer to serve on a local Nonprofit or Governmental Entity's Board of Directors. The Board members are in a unique position to make decisions and implement changes and policies that can affect their entire community. The policies and rules created by these Boards may not always be popular but almost always are necessary for the efficient operation of the organizations that they represent.

One of the best ways to make a difference in your community is to volunteer to serve on a local Nonprofit or Governmental Entity's Board of Directors.

Finally, an added benefit of serving on a Board, Council or Committee is the new people you'll meet, the new connections you'll make and the knowledge you will gain. By working together to solve common problems, you may end up bettering yourself in ways you never imagined. You may also learn new skills and obtain additional training, all of

which could help you discover a new career or find a better job.

One last thing and this is important; one should never attempt to serve on a Board due to your desire to change just one thing. Those that desire to serve with such a narrow personal agenda are destined to be a wrecking ball to the community they are representing. When serving on a Board every member must come into each meeting with an open mind and no preconceived notions.

Choose to serve your community.

unlock the SECRETS IN THE SOIL

Is protecting America's natural resources – our rivers, lakes and streams, groundwater, air, and wildlife habitat – and reducing use of fossil fuels part of your corporate sustainability goals?

Do your customers demand products grown using good environmental stewardship practices?

Is your company interested in sustainability gains related to water, energy, carbon and the environment?

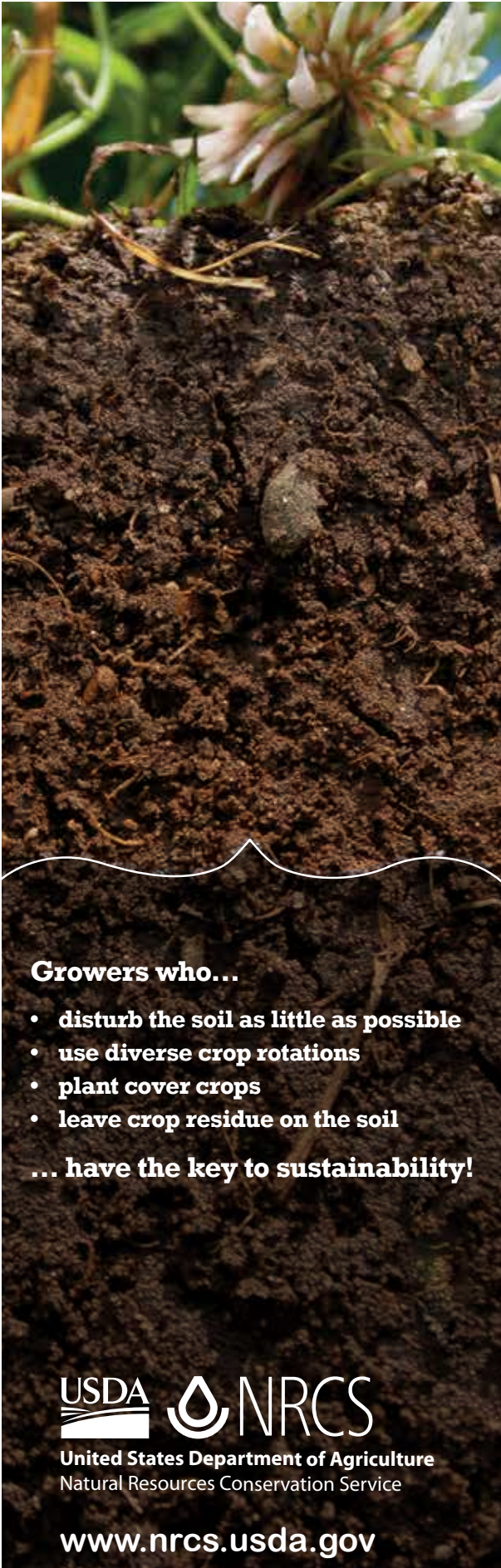
By following four basic soil health principles, producers can improve their soil health and sustainability:

1. Keep the soil covered as much as possible
2. Disturb the soil as little as possible
3. Keep plants growing throughout the year to feed the soil
4. Grow a variety of plants to diversify soil

Check in with YOUR growers about healthy, productive soils.

Soil Health Management Systems can help America's growers feed the nation and the world through sustainable conservation practices. The guide below provides an at-a-glance view of specific sustainability benefits associated with soil health improving practices. It is important to note that not all practices are applicable to all crops. Some operations will benefit from just one soil health practice, while others may require additional practices for maximum benefit.

Soil Health Management Systems include:		How does it help environmentally and economically?								
		DECREASES PEST PRESSURES	IMPROVES NUTRIENT USE EFFICIENCY	IMPROVES WATER QUALITY	CONSERVES WATER	IMPROVES PLANT HEALTH	IMPROVES WATER EFFICIENCY TO CROPS	SAVES NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES	IMPROVES AIR QUALITY	INCREASES PLANT POLLINATION
Conservation Crop Rotation Growing a diverse number of crops in a planned sequence in order to increase soil organic matter and biodiversity in the soil.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cover Crop An un-harvested crop grown as part of planned rotation to provide conservation benefits to the soil.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
No Till A way of growing crops without disturbing the soil through tillage.				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mulch Tillage Using tillage methods where the soil surface is disturbed but maintains a high level of crop residue on the surface.				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mulching Applying plant residues or other suitable materials to the soil surface to compensate for loss of residue due to excessive tillage.		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Nutrient Management Managing soil nutrients to meet crop needs while minimizing the impact on the environment and the soil.			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Pest Management Managing pests and promoting the growth of healthy plants with strong defenses, while increasing stress on pests and enhancing the habitat for beneficial organisms.		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



Soil health matters.

Soil is made up of air, water, decayed plant residue, organic matter from living and dead organisms, and mineral matter, such as sand, silt, and clay. Increasing organic matter typically improves soil functions including nutrient cycling and water infiltration. Healthy soils are porous, and allow air and water to move freely through them.

Healthy, fully functioning soil provides an environment that sustains and nourishes plants, soil microbes, and beneficial insects. Crops grown in healthy soil are more resilient because they resist pest pressure and use nutrients more efficiently. Managing for soil health is one of the easiest and most effective ways for farmers to increase productivity and profitability while also improving the environment.

Sustainability Solutions in the Soil

Crops grown in healthy, productive soil provide a wide range of on- and off-the-farm sustainability benefits. Whether you do business with large-scale operations or small farms, healthy soil practices can be applied to all.

When farmers manage their land to maintain or improve soil health, we all harvest the benefits of improved sustainability.

Healthy soil...

Saves farmers money – since reducing or eliminating tillage means fewer passes over fields, and healthy soils use inputs like water and nutrients more efficiently, production costs are lower.

Boosts production – plants thrive because more organic matter and soil organisms improve soil structure, aeration, water retention, drainage, and nutrient availability.

Protects against drought – because healthy soil has greater water infiltration and holding capacity, more water is available to plants when they need it, like during periods of drought.

Safeguards resources – runoff that causes flooding or carries nutrients and pesticides into lakes, rivers, and streams is reduced. There is less leaching into groundwater. And, fewer trips across fields with farm machinery mean less fuel used and fewer emissions to harm air quality.

Growers who...

- **disturb the soil as little as possible**
- **use diverse crop rotations**
- **plant cover crops**
- **leave crop residue on the soil**

... have the key to sustainability!



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

www.nrcs.usda.gov

Ask your growers if they know about NRCS' Soil Health Management Systems.

Contact us: For more information, contact Jeff Zimprich, Soil Conservationist, NRCS South Dakota State Office, (605) 352-1200, jeffrey.zimprich@usda.gov, or visit www.nrcs.usda.gov

MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM, INC.

In December of 1987, four individuals serving on an interim board sat in a conference room at the office of May, Adam, Gerdes and Thompson in Pierre, SD and signed the Articles of Incorporation for Mid-Dakota Rural Water System, Inc. It was their hope that by forming this corporation they would see relief from the water problems experienced within the area by constructing a rural water system similar to other systems in the state of South Dakota. Thanks to the help from many volunteers, government agencies, staff and the board of directors, many are now enjoying a clean and dependable supply of drinking water.

The majority of the aquifers in the 7,000 square mile service area of the Mid-Dakota Rural Water System contain bacteria, nitrates, sulfates, sodium, iron and total dissolved

solids far above acceptable standards. These contaminants posed a health hazard to humans and animals alike. Those drinking the water from the aquifers with these contaminants could experience such conditions as diarrhea and diuresis in adults, blue baby syndrome, and high blood pressure, infant mortality in livestock, loss of production in dairy cattle, or loss of gain in feeder stock. Not only did some experience inadequate water quality, but some people were not even able to drill a well and receive any water. These people had to haul all the water for their own needs and livestock needs.

Through hard work, Mid-Dakota received its authorization in 1992 in a bill signed by President George H. W. Bush entitled P.L. 102-575 and funding was administered through the Bureau of Reclamation. Construction on



MID-DAKOTA STATISTICS:

Hookups: 6,067 · **Miles Of Pipeline:** 3,835 · **Water Source:** Oahe Reservoir on the Missouri River

Counties Served: (All of) Beadle, Hand, Hughes, Hyde, Jerauld, Potter, Sully. (Portions of) Aurora, Buffalo, Davison, Kingsbury, Sanborn, Faulk, Spink

Towns Served Individual: Agar, Broadland, Cavour, Harrold, Lane, Lebanon, Oahe Plains Development, Orient, Polo, Storla, Virgil, Yale

Communities Served Bulk: Alpena, Blunt, Gettysburg, Highmore, Hitchcock, Hoven, Huron, Miller, Onida, Ree Heights, St. Lawrence, Spring Creek Sanitary System, Tolstoy, Tulare, Wessington, Wolsey

Individual Bulk Customers: Agtegra Cooperative, Agtegra-Wolsey, Agtegra-Miller, Agtegra-Tulare, Jasen Albrecht, B&B Equipment, Barber Farm Services, Neal & Linda Bartel, Brown Agronomy Center, Cannon River Ranches (2), Cheyenne Ridge Lodge, Christensen Farms A, Christensen Farms B, Christensen Farms A C, Christensen Farms D, Christensen Farms and Feedlot, CHS, Inc., Maxon & Linda Conkey, Consolidated Ready Mix, Mark & Delilah Cotton, Cowan Ranch, Crete Ready Panel, Crop Production Services, Das Agri Genetics, Del Acres Trailer Park, Michael S. DeRouche Inc., DNA Genetics, Eagle Pass Lodge LLC, Fulton Ranch, Harrold Housing, Heartland Pork, Huron Continental Marketing, The Junction, Stan Kopfmann A, Stan Kopfmann B, Doug Kroepelin Farms, Amy Lake, Liberty Farms LLC, Links Snacks Inc., Mayer Ranches Inc., Mid-Dakota WTP FO, Miller Dale Colony, M & K Farms (2), Doyle Musick, Nachtigal Farms Inc., Our Home Inc., Paul Nelson Farms, Peoria Flats Cattle Co., Potter County Oahe Water Association, Red River Grain, Ringneck Energy LLC, River Crossing Resort, Rivers Edge Landing LLC, David Runge, Sal Roseland, Scattergun Lodge, Robert Schlechter, Spencer Livestock, Spring Valley Colony, SD GF&P- Lake Louise, SD GF&P-Little Bend, SD GF&P Okobojo Point, SD Soybean Processors, Tim & Melanie Stampe (2), Sunshine Bible Academy, Sutton Bay LLC A, Sutton Bay LLC B, Sutton Bay LLC C, Chad & Sara Thompson, Twisted Land and Cattle, US Corps of Engineers, Mark & Terri Undeberg (TMT), West Whitlock Resort, Matthew Wiebe

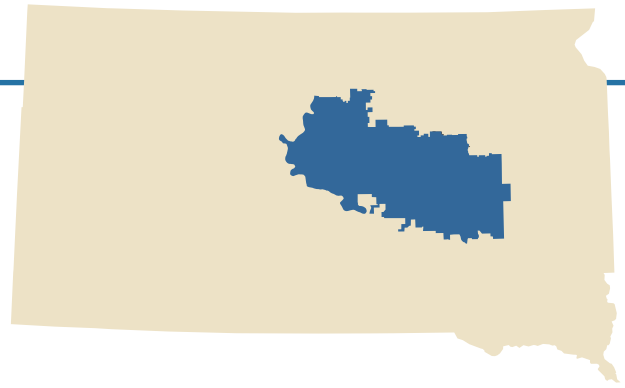
the project engineered by Bartlett & West Engineers of Topeka, KS began in September of 1994 on the Oahe Water Intake on the Oahe Dam north of Pierre, SD. Every year, directors and staff went to Washington, DC to request funding for the project and completion of the authorized project was in 2006.

The customers of Mid-Dakota are currently being served by a system which consists of: a water intake with four 400-hp pumps and a caisson that is 108' deep connected to a pipeline that is bored and jacked 1,100' into Corps Bay on Lake Oahe; a water treatment plant that can produce 13 ½ million gallons of water per day using a state-of-the art ultrafiltration submerged membranes treatment system which uses four 500-hp pumps to send the water to the distribution system; 4,700 miles of pipeline in sizes ranging from 1 ½" to 36"; 5,500 meters; 16 treated water storage tanks ranging from 100,000 to 2,500,000 gallons capacity, 2 raw water storage tanks; 14 booster stations; and a state-of-the art SCADA system which allows every aspect of the rural water system to be monitored. In order to get more water past Highmore, Mid-Dakota will see construction starting this spring on a mainline extension. This includes an additional 1.5 million gallon tank to the west of the existing tank. It will also include additional pipeline parallel to Hwy 14.

Ree Heights is having their mains and services replaced or repaired. The project will then be turned over to Mid-Dakota once it is complete.

Mid-Dakota serves a population of approximately 31,000 which includes 25 communities and towns, the largest of which is Huron. The residents of eleven smaller communities are currently served on an individual basis which has allowed those communities to get out of the drinking water business. Mid-Dakota also has Administrative Agreements with several towns which provide that town with the services of Mid-Dakota's operators to do the day-to-day operations and the billing department sends out and collects their bills. The system has 28 full-time employees and is governed by a nine-member board of directors.

It has not been an easy road but it has been well worth the effort. The system has experienced problems such as: a moratorium on new hookups when capacity was sold out; mainline washouts caused by flooding; funding shortages during initial construction; power outages during storms, etc. Even so, the staff and the board of directors have been able to assess the problem and maintain a dependable supply of water to Mid-Dakota customers. Mid-Dakota Rural Water System is a prime example of how big things can get done when people dare to dream of a better quality of life for all.



DIRECTORS:

- James McGillvrey** – Chairman/SA Director
- Dwight Gutzmer** – Vice Chairman
- Jeff McGirr** – Secretary/Treasurer
- Rick Benson** – Director
- Leslie Brown** – Director
- Lennis Fagerhaug** – Director
- Scott Oligmueller** – Director
- Darrell Rashcke** – Director
- Steve Robbenolt** – Director

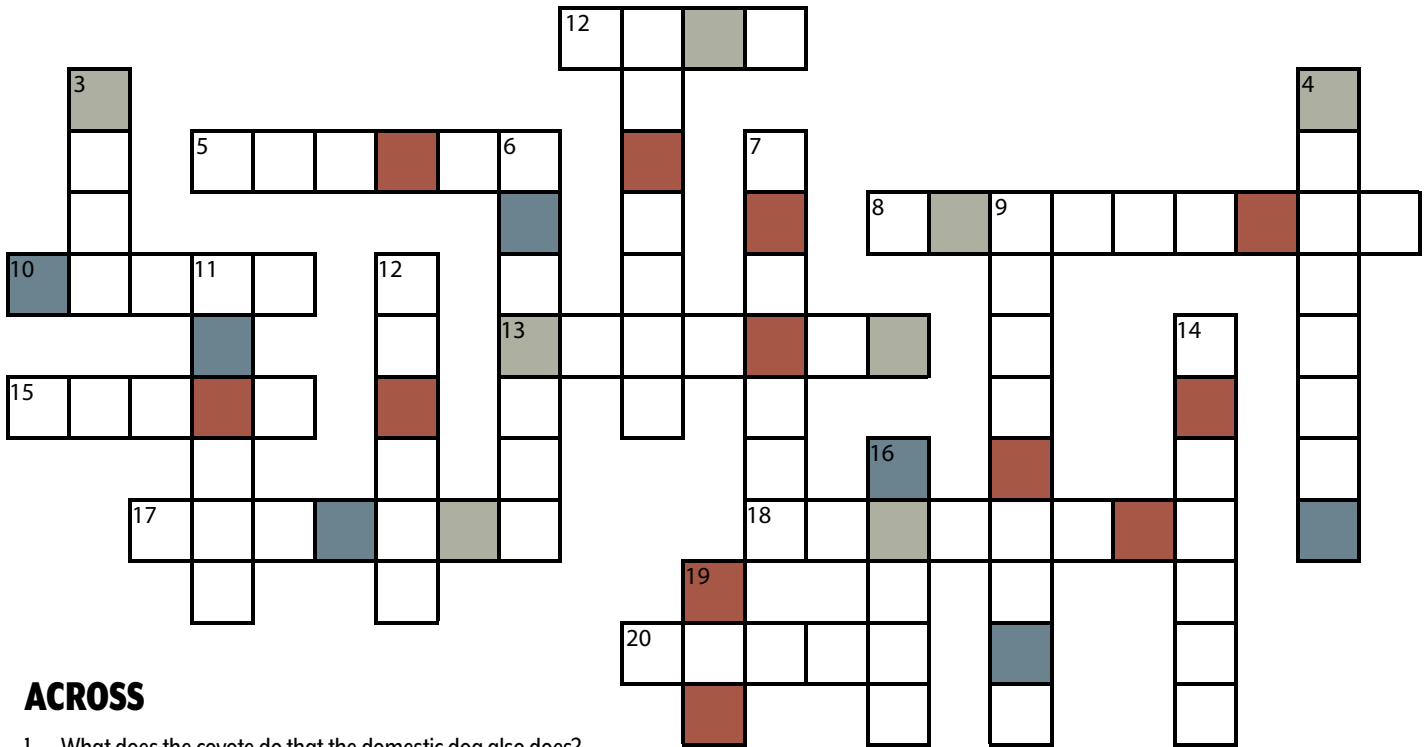
STAFF:

- Manager** – Scott Gross
- Operations Manager** – Lorin Johnson
- Water Treatment Plant Manager** – Bill Sarringer
- Member Services Manager** – Susan Hargens
- Financial Manager** – Connie Aymar
- Water Treatment Specialists**
 - Mike Polak, Steve Laird
- Electrical Specialist** – Randy Bauer
- Main Transmission Pipe Specialist** – Michael Nicholson
- Water Distribution Specialists** –
 - Shane Bothwell, Troy Dorris, Calvin Kindle, Scott Manning, Mark Gran, Scott Perry, Ron Ramsey, Al Thomas, Gary Tobin
- Small Systems Specialist** – Mike McCready
- Operations & Maintenance Specialist** – Wayne Ruhnke
- Data Aquisition Specialist** – Craig Lunde
- Hookup Specialist** – Shane Bush
- Office Administrator** – Jamie Brueggeman
- Customer & Legal Records Specialist** – DeAnn Hargens
- Customer Accounts Specialists** –
 - Sandy Holt, Tammy Oligmueller, Kristen Arthur

RURAL WATER CROSSWORD & WORD SCRAMBLE CONTEST

THE HUNT

Enter to Win \$100



ACROSS

1. What does the coyote do that the domestic dog also does?
5. A spread of these range in sizes from standard to super magnum
8. Breed of gun dog good for pheasant hunting
10. Snows and Blues
13. Jakes and Jennies
15. Cover device for hunters
17. Deer meat
18. Process of looking for a good hunting spot
20. Like many bird species, the males of this breed of waterfowl often have more colorful feathers than their female counterparts.

DOWN

2. Type of hunting using a bow
3. Deer, but not related to a Donkey
4. Ring Neck
6. Weapon popularly used for bird hunting
7. Popular hunting outfitter in southeast South Dakota
9. Open or enclosed platforms used by hunters
11. Waterfowl and pheasant hunting hours typically end at _____
12. Ruffed, Sage, Blue, Spruce
14. Moving a lure to attract fish
16. This spooks game very easily
19. Deer breeding season

SCRAMBLE ANSWER

RULES: Use the colored squares in the puzzle to solve the word scramble above. Call your Rural Water System (See page 2 for contact information) or enter online at www.sdarws.com/crossword.html with the correct phrase by January 10, 2020 to be entered into the \$100 drawing.

Only one entry allowed per address/household. You must be a member of a participating rural water system to be eligible for the prize. Your information will only be used to notify the winner, and will not be shared or sold.

Congratulations to Kathy Gilbert of Hitchcock who had the correct phrase of "luck is not a strategy" for October 2019.

ATC 2020

SOUTH DAKOTA RURAL WATER'S
ANNUAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

JANUARY 14-16, 2020

Pierre Ramkota Hotel & Convention Center



EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS
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AWARDS BRUNCH
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Member Full Registration
\$250 (Standard)
\$220 (WaterPro Discount Standard)

Member Full + Spouse
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\$155 (Standard)
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Member Wednesday Only
\$205 (Standard)
\$175 (WaterPro Discount Standard)

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\$30 (Standard)

HOTEL INFORMATION

DAYS INN

605-224-0411

GOVERNOR'S INN

605-224-4200

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

605-223-9045

BAYMONT INN & SUITES 605-

224-4140

DOES **YOUR**
SYSTEM HAVE
THE BEST
DRINKING WATER
IN SOUTH
DAKOTA

All entries must be submitted to the registration desk by 2:00 pm on January 14th in order to be entered into the contest. Entries must be submitted in a glass jar. A representative from each system submitting an entry must be in attendance; no person can represent more than one entry.

The winner's name will be announced at the ATC Awards Banquet on Thursday, January 16, 2020. The winner will go on to represent South Dakota at the NRWA Great American Water Taste Test in Washington, DC in 2021.

WIN a new 40" Smart TV!



All 2020 ATC attendees will be given a chance to win a 40" RCA Smart TV. The drawing will be held on Wednesday, January 15th at 8:00PM in the Ramkota Exhibit Hall. Must be present to win.

www.sdarws.com/annual-conference.html



SOUTH DAKOTA RURAL WATER'S ANNUAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TUESDAY

JANUARY 14, 2020

8A - 4P	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION – Registration Desk
8A - 4P	WATER PAC RAFFLE – Lobby Area
8:00 AM	BREAK TABLE – Lobby Area

TIME	GALLERY D-E	GALLERY F	GALLERY G	LAKE SHARPE B
10:00 AM	<i>New Metering Technology - Win Win Win!</i>	<i>USDA Rural Development Funding Opportunities for 2020</i>	<i>City Water Planning - Case Study</i>	11:00 AM Quality on Tap! Editorial Board Meeting <i>(This meeting is open to Rural Water managers, board members and office staff)</i>
10:45 AM	<i>How the EPA's Drinking Water MCL's Affect Your Life</i>	<i>Temporary Water/ Taking a Tank Offline</i>	<i>EPA Risk Assessments</i>	

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NOON	LUNCH – On your own
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1:00 PM	AMPHITHEATER II Opening Session/Keynote Chuck Gallagher	<i>In 1987, Chuck Gallagher made some bad choices at the height of his career and went from wearing a business suit to an orange jump suit some years later. So... you might be asking yourself, Why would I want a former convicted felon to speak to my organization about ethics and integrity? Why? Because Chuck has experienced first hand how easy it is to move from ethical to unethical. Having rebuilt his life back to immense success – the lessons he learned allow him to share a unique perspective unlike any other business ethics keynote speaker.</i>
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2:30 PM	BREAK TABLE SPONSORED BY COBANK – Lobby Area					
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TIME	GALLERY D-E	GALLERY F	GALLERY G	LEWIS & CLARK	L. FRANCIS CASE	AMPHITHEATER II
3:00 PM	<i>ARC Flash</i>	<i>Rehabilitating Concrete Structures - A Look To Technology to Speed Up the Process</i>	<i>Transitioning Rural Water Districts to Web GIS</i>	<i>Well Field Analysis</i>	<i>On-Site Livestock Water Treatment</i>	Keynote Breakout Chuck Gallagher
3:45 PM	<i>Storage Wars - Tank Options</i>	<i>Communicating in the Pits</i>	<i>Providing a Portal on Construction Progress and Documentation</i>	<i>Where to Find Water Quality Information</i>	<i>Sampling 101</i>	

Schedule subject to change

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 15, 2020

8A - 4P	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION – Registration Desk			
8A - 4P	WATER PAC RAFFLE – Lobby Area			
TIME	AMPHITHEATER I	AMPHITHEATER II	L. FRANCIS CASE A-B	LAKE SHARPE B
8:00 AM	8:15 AM 45th Annual Membership Meeting (This is the Official Business Meeting of the SDARWS)	<i>Social Media for Utilities</i>	<i>Centrifugal Pump Critical Frequency & Vibration Woes</i>	SPOUSE PROGRAM 8:30 AM - Pollinator Gardens with Deb Springman, East Dakota Water Development District
8:45 AM		<i>Getting the most from Iron/Manganese Water Treatment</i>	<i>The Role of Smart Tanks in Distribution Water Quality Management</i>	
9:30 AM	BREAK TABLE SPONSORED BY BUTLER CAT – Lobby Area			
10:00 AM	<i>Rural Water Center Annual Meeting</i>	<i>Water System Depreciation & Responsible Rate Setting</i>	<i>Addressing Water Storage Problems</i>	SPOUSE PROGRAM Custom Stamped Coasters with Jennifer (Come and go format)
10:45 AM		<i>Source Water Protection</i>	<i>SCADA Security: Strategies to Ensure Reliability</i>	
11:45 AM	LUNCH – On your own			
1:00 PM	<i>Legislative Panel Featuring Representatives for Senator Thune, Senator Rounds, and Representative Johnson</i>	<i>EPA Risk Assessments</i>	<i>Minnehaha CWC EROS Booster Station</i>	SIGN UP TO USE THIS ROOM FOR CLIENT MEETINGS 605-556-7219
1:45 PM		<i>EPA's Proposed Revisions to the Lead & Copper Rule - What's in it for you?</i>	<i>ABC's of VFD's</i>	
2:30 PM	BREAK TABLE – Lobby Area			
2:45 PM	<i>Legislative Preview</i>	SDWARN	<i>South Dakota Plumbing Commission</i>	SIGN UP TO USE THIS ROOM FOR CLIENT MEETINGS 605-556-7219
3:30 PM	<i>Rally Orientation</i>			
4:00 PM	LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITS – Grand Galleria			

2020 AWARDS BRUNCH SPONSORED BY:



THURSDAY JANUARY 16, 2020

8:00 AM	LEGISLATIVE OPEN FORUM – Rooms D&E
9:30 AM	AWARDS BRUNCH – Sponsored by DGR – Rooms A-B-C

SPOUSE PROGRAM



This year's craft is custom stamped coasters. Participants will be able to create their own set of four coasters using a variety of stamps.

SPOUSE PROGRAM SCHEDULE Wednesday, January 15

Continental Breakfast (Courtyard)	8:00 AM
Pollinator Gardens (Lake Sharpe B)	8:30 AM
Craft time with Jennifer (Lake Sharpe B)	10:00 AM
Soup/Sandwich Luncheon (Courtyard)	12:00 PM



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WATER MATTERS

Recurrence Intervals for Water Events

When flood conditions occur because of a heavy rain or rapid spring snow melt, you might hear the radio or TV meteorologist say something like "This has resulted in a 100-year flood on the (your river name here), which crested at a stage of 20 feet." Obviously, this means that the river reached a peak stage (height) that happens only once every 100 years, right? Further, since this just happened, we do not have to worry about an event like this happening again for a very, very long time.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Hydrologists really don't like to hear a term like "100-year flood" because it represents a misinterpretation of terminology that often leads to a misconception (see interpretations above) of what a 100-year water event really is.

Statistical techniques, through a process called frequency analysis, are used to estimate the probability of the occurrence of a given event, such as rainfall or a flood level. The recurrence interval (sometimes called the return period) is based on the probability that the given event will be equaled or exceeded in any given year. For example, there is a 1 in 25 chance that 4.50 inches of rain will fall in Brookings County in a 24-hour period during any given year. Thus, a rainfall total of

4.50 inches in a consecutive 24-hour period is said to have a 25-year recurrence interval. In common language, this is likely to be called a 25-year rainfall event.

Likewise, using frequency analysis, there is a 1 in 100 chance that a stream flow of 33,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) will occur during any year at the Big Sioux River near Dell Rapids. Thus, a

peak flow of 30,000 cfs at the river flow gage near Dell Rapids is said to have a 100-year recurrence interval. This gets translated into calling this event a '100-year flood.'

Ten or more years of data are required to perform a frequency analysis for the determination of

recurrence intervals. More confidence can be placed in the results of a frequency analysis based on, for example, 30 years of record than on an analysis based on fewer data points.

So, the next time you hear someone refer to something as a 100-year flood, remember that this is just a statistical prediction. 100-year events, be they rainfall or flood, can occur whenever the conditions are right. This can include multiple occurrences within a single year. Just because something happened yesterday is no guarantee it will not happen again tomorrow.



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