

SOUTH DAKOTA
RURAL WATER'S

Quality On Tap!

January 2015 | Volume 10, Issue 3

THE STATE OF
OUR WATERS

System Spotlight:
BDM Rural Water

Legislative Watchlist

South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems Board of Directors

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Southern Black Hills Water System
Bob Peplinski

TM Rural Water District
Tom Kramer

Tri-County Water Association
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Tripp County Water User District
Dale Waters

WEB Water Development Association
Mike Neuharth

West River/Lyman-Jones Rural Water Systems
Richard Douc

Class B East River
Fred Snoderly

Class B West River
Brad Lawrence

Class C
Francis Toscana



A Message From The President of the Board

Dan Carlson
President, South Dakota Rural Water

Winter is upon us, which can only mean one thing – time to make plans to attend our 40th Annual Technical Conference in January! The 2015 ATC will be our largest training event of the year for managers, operation specialists and board members. This year's conference takes place January 13-15 at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center in Pierre, SD.



SOUTH DAKOTA RURAL WATER'S ANNUAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

Registration

Save some money and register early – our early bird registration ends December 15th. Registration is open to members and non-members. If interested in registering, please visit our ATC website at www.regonline.com/ATC2015.

Training Sessions

This year's agenda offers a wide range of water and wastewater topics designed to educate and inform attendees on such topics as water rates, compliance monitoring, testing for EPA regulations, benchmarking and customer service. Our featured speaker is Ross Bernstein, a sports writer from Minnesota.

Take a look at the agenda on pages 14-15 in this issue of *Quality on Tap!* and plan out the sessions you would like to attend.

Spouse Program

We are encouraging everyone attending to bring along their spouse as we have some wonderful events lined up including a tour of a local chocolate shop (including samples), a guided tour of the State Capitol with a chance to view the newly refurbished dome as well as the new additions to the Hall of Statues and First Ladies Dress Display, and a catered luncheon. Spouse registration is only \$25 and also includes entry into our Exhibit Hall and our Awards Brunch.

Exhibit Hall

One of the favorite elements of the ATC is the Exhibit Hall where you can check out the latest and greatest products available in the water and wastewater industry. Be sure to plan some time to visit the booths located in the hallways during the conference as well as inside the Exhibit Hall Wednesday evening. We will also be hosting a buffet dinner inside of the Wednesday Night Exhibit Hall – so make sure you don't miss out!

Limited Booth Spaces Available

For Associate Members interested in exhibiting at the conference, the exhibit booths are reserved on a first-come, first served basis, and spaces fill up fast. We are offering two different types of booths this year – Full Conference Hallway, and Wednesday Night in the Exhibit Hall. Reserve your space online by visiting www.regonline.com/exhibitATC.



Leadership Highlights

Dennis N. Davis
Executive Director

Leadership Seminar

Seventy-five rural water board members and managers gathered at the Ramkota Hotel in Pierre, SD on November 19th and 20th for the South Dakota Rural Water Leadership Seminar.

Training Topics included: "Infrastructure Management Software, Board Member Fiduciary Responsibility, Rural Water System Risk Management & Coverage, Media Tools, and 1926(b) Overview. Two panel discussions were also held - the first featuring Rural Water Managers discussing Diversifying Operations and Long Range Planning, and a Board Panel discussion on Reviewing Financial Reports, Committee Formation (Roles and Responsibilities), and How to Motivate Board Members. The highlight of the session was our featured speaker during the President's Reception Wednesday Evening. Newly retired Professor Emeritus from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Sid G. Goss, Ph.D. gave a fantastic presentation on "South Dakota's Population: Changes and Challenges."

Thank you to everyone who participated in this one-of-a-kind board and leadership training opportunity. Block off your

calendars now for next year's Leadership Seminar, tentatively slated for November 18-19, 2015.

40th Annual Technical Conference

Coming up January 13th-15th is our 40th Annual Technical Conference in Pierre. The ATC is an excellent opportunity for water system managers, board members and employees to gather and take advantage of training sessions and get to know the water-oriented business professionals that fill the exhibit hall. To register online visit www.regonline.com/atc2015. The full agenda is listed on pages 14-15.

Rural Water Rally

Plan now to attend the Rural Water Rally February 9-11, 2015 and join others from around the nation as we bring our message to Capitol Hill. The Rally will officially begin Tuesday morning at the Hyatt Regency. Your dedication to Rural Water makes a difference! It is important that we focus our efforts on informing our elected leaders of the needs and concerns of water and wastewater utilities in South Dakota. To make hotel reservations at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill, call 202-737-1234.

Happy Holidays

*from the South Dakota Rural Water
Board of Directors & Staff*

Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

Through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP), USDA Rural Development helps finance the cost of renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements for rural small businesses and agricultural producers.

Over 200 of your neighbors – farmers, ranchers, and small businesses – have already been awarded grants to replace grain dryers, lighting, and coolers as well as installing on-farm wind turbines and geothermal systems.

A variety of energy projects may qualify for REAP financial assistance to help you purchase, install, and construct energy projects

- Heating and cooling equipment, insulation, programmable thermostats, and airtight windows, doors, and ducts.
- Efficient lighting and equipment with customizable controls. Many newer lighting systems also generate less heat and reduce cooling costs while improving lighting.
- Wind turbines or Solar panels.
- Small hydropower systems (less than 30 megawatts) transform the energy of flowing water into electricity.
- Geothermal system.
- Anaerobic digester breaks down animal waste such as cow manure and other organic materials into biogas that can fuel vehicles or be used to generate electricity and heat.

- Renewable biomass such as crops, wood, and plants, as well as biodegradable wastes such as fats, oils, and other materials can be converted into heat or biofuel.

Available funding:

Grant: REAP grants may cover up to 25 percent of a project's eligible costs.

Loan Guarantee: With REAP, USDA Rural Development may guarantee up to 85 percent of a commercial loan to help you access affordable financing for your energy project. Rates and terms are negotiated between you and your lender, subject to USDA approval.

Combination Guarantee and Grant: You may combine REAP grant and loan guarantee assistance to cover up to 75 percent of eligible project costs

Eligibility – Do you:

- Earn at least 51 percent of your income from farming or ranching? OR
- Operate a privately owned, for-profit small business located in a rural area or town of 50,000 people or less?

Contact:

For more information and to see if you qualify, contact Darlene Bresson, RD Energy Coordinator

Phone: 605-886-8202, Ext. 120 or by email: darlene.bresson@sd.usda.gov.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).



Did you prepare for winter?

Winter is well upon us and hopefully you made preparations for the changes in the weather. If not, you may still have time to perform some basic tasks that can protect your rural water service.

- Make sure all exterior faucets are turned off and hoses disconnected.
- If you have an underground lawn irrigation system, make sure it is winterized and the main supply valve is turned off.
- If your water meter is in a meter pit, make sure the lid is securely in place. Cover the meter pit with bags of leaves, hay or straw to provide extra insulation.
- If your water meter is in your basement, make sure nearby windows are closed. If you have any cracks in your foundation or gaps near the sill, plug them with insulation. Cold air drafts can freeze a meter in a basement even if it is heated. Insulating the water meter and associated piping can also help.
- If you use a heat tape on any piping, make sure it is in good working order and follow the manufacturer's recommendation when installing new heat tapes. Heat tapes burn out over time so do not assume it is working – check it after it has been plugged in for a short time.
- Know where your main shut off valve is in case of an emergency. If your water meter is in your basement, the valve is located next to the water meter. If your meter is in a pit, there should be a valve where the water line from the pit enters your residence.
- Each rural water service has a main shut off valve located between the rural water system main pipeline and the water meter. In some instances it is marked with a post or sign. Make sure the sign or post is in place so that rural water operators can find the valve in the event it needs to be turned off in an emergency. If you are not sure where your outside shut off valve is located, contact your water system office.
- Make sure your sump pump is in good working order for spring snowmelt and rains.
- If you will be away for an extended period of time, contact your water system office for information on having your water service turned off.

Legislative Updates

The South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) is the only water and wastewater association who monitors legislation in both Pierre and Washington, DC regarding issues pertaining to rural and municipal water and wastewater in South Dakota. A registered lobbyist is contracted through SDARWS and can be found in Pierre during the entire session, and is prepared to activate their legislative network on issues that affect the water/wastewater industry.

The 2015 Legislative Session will commence on January 13, 2015 in Pierre. SDARWS was pleased with the passage of HB 1194 regarding railroad crossings during the 2014 Legislative Session. In 2015, SDARWS is planning on introducing a bill to amend the number of signatures a director of a sanitary district would need in order to be placed on the ballot for election. The current law maintains that the minimum number of signatures is fifty. This proposed piece of legislation was requested by the sanitary districts of South Dakota.

A proposal brought forward by the South Dakota State Bar Association will be closely watched by SDARWS in the coming months. The State Bar is proposing a complete re-write of the Nonprofit Corporation Code. The Nonprofit Corporation Code was studied by attorney members of the State Bar over the past five years. Nonprofit laws in South Dakota have not had a major update in over four decades – so the State Bar is proposing to replace the current Nonprofit Code with a version of the American Bar Association's revised Model Nonprofit Corporation Act as a template. The proposed bill addresses changes necessitated by technology and provides legal authority where none otherwise existed.

This legislation will be closely reviewed and followed as it will

impact every non-profit rural water system in South Dakota. If the legislation passes, each non-profit rural water system will need to carefully compare the Act to determine if the revised procedures addressed in the Act conform to the nonprofit rural water system's standard operating procedure.

SDARWS has also been monitoring the activities of the Watershed Task Force. The Task Force has met four times this summer and is currently reviewing four pieces of legislation for possible introduction in 2015. The first proposal establishes a mediation procedure of drainage disputes through the South Dakota Department of Agriculture. The second proposal establishes River Basin Natural Resource Districts throughout South Dakota and a River Basin Natural Resource District Oversight Advisory Task Force. The third proposal establishes a uniform drainage permit and disclosure system for counties to use in managing drainage issues. The final proposal establishes a technical assistance program to be created by the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources for counties on matters relating to regulation of drainage activity.

The Legislative Session in 2015 will be a busy year for SDARWS. The Association will be hosting a Legislative Open Forum at their Annual Technical Conference on January 15, 2015 in Pierre. This forum provides a valuable time for you to reach out to your legislators and let them know your questions and concerns regarding water and wastewater issues in the state.

South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems is dedicated to improving and maintaining the water of South Dakota. As an organization, they strive to help the people of South Dakota through technical assistance, certification classes, and many training events held throughout the year.

SDARWS Vision Statement: A state where all South Dakotans can drink clean, healthy drinking water; where agriculture, business, and industry each have the quality and quantity of water to produce the products South Dakota needs. SDARWS has a vision of a wastewater industry that adequately addresses the public's needs and ensures against environmental hazard and pollution.



SOUTH DAKOTA

The State of

Jay Gilbertson, East Dakota Water Development District

Every year, the people of South Dakota, along with thousands of visitors, make use of the many and varied water resources of the state. Rivers and lakes are tapped by public water suppliers and private citizens for drinking water; irrigation provides water to crops and lawns to augment natural precipitation; anglers scour our lakes and streams in search of fish; and young and old enjoy a quick dip to escape the heat of summer. All of these activities are things we take for granted, but how do we know that the water on which we depend is really up to the task?

The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), in cooperation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), have identified a number of general classes of activities, known as beneficial uses, for the waters of the state. These are:

- (1) Domestic water supply;
- (2) Cold water permanent fish life propagation;
- (3) Cold water marginal fish life propagation;
- (4) Warm water permanent fish life propagation;
- (5) Warm water semipermanent fish life propagation;
- (6) Warm water marginal fish life propagation;
- (7) Immersion recreation (swimming);
- (8) Limited contact recreation (boating and fishing);
- (9) Fish and wildlife propagation, recreation, and stock watering;
- (10) Irrigation; and
- (11) Commerce and industry.

All rivers and streams in South Dakota are assigned the beneficial uses (9) and (10) unless otherwise stated in the Administrative Rules of South Dakota (ARSD) Chapter 74:51:03. Lakes listed in ARSD Chapter 74:51:02 are assigned the beneficial uses of (7), (8) and (9) unless otherwise specified. These water bodies may also be assigned additional beneficial uses depending on local conditions.

For each beneficial use, DENR and EPA have established measurable standards (numeric criteria) to determine if the use can be safely met. For example, if the intended use is Immersion Recreation (swimming), bacteria counts in the water must be below a certain level and dissolved oxygen must be over a particular level. If the water body is to be used as a domestic

water supply, concentrations of nitrate, sulfate, total dissolved solids, and other constituents cannot exceed specific levels. Temperature and suspended solids are the primary criteria used to evaluate suitability for the fisheries classifications, (2) through (6).

If most of the analyses from a particular water body meets the numeric criteria, then the resource is considered fully supporting of the designated use. It should be noted that a “fully supporting” designation does not necessarily mean that there were no problems found. It just means that if they were, they were few and far between, and not considered a serious risk to human health and safety. However, if violations of the numeric criteria are frequent and/or severe, then the water body can be considered impaired, and not supporting one or more of its intended uses.

Every two years, DENR assembles water quality information on the rivers, lakes and streams of the state. The purpose of this report is to assess the water quality of South Dakota’s water resources and to identify the impaired water bodies. This report meets the requirements of Sections 305(b), 303(d), and 314 of the federal Clean Water Act, which mandate a biennial report on state water quality to Congress. This report is also intended to inform the citizens of South Dakota on the status of the quality of their water resources. Finally it serves as the basis for management decisions by natural resource agencies and interested stakeholders to plan and prioritize water pollution control activities. The report is published in even-numbered years. The 2014 South Dakota Integrated Report for Surface Water Quality Assessment is available on the DENR website, <http://denr.sd.gov/documents/14irfinal.pdf>.

The Integrated Report breaks the State into fourteen major watersheds. It shows the name and location (county) of each lake and river/stream segment for which information is available. Each specific beneficial use is listed, along with whether or not it is meeting the intended use. In some cases, most often for immersion and/or limited contact recreation, there is insufficient information on which to determine if the use is supported or not. If an impairment exists, the cause is given, and where possible, potential sources of the problem are listed.

In the 2014 Integrated Report, excessive amounts of bacteria (primarily from livestock) and total suspended solids (agricultural and natural sources) were the most common sources of impairments to recreational and fisheries/aquatic life uses respectively.

So, what happens when an impairment is found? Once a water

Our Waters

body is determined to be impaired, DENR is required to conduct a more thorough investigation to better identify the source(s) of the impairment(s). Although the State maintains a network of over 150 surface water monitoring locations on rivers and streams, and annually samples over 50 lakes, their efforts are designed to function largely as screening tools. Rarely does this system provide sufficient information so that a particular problem can be effectively identified and treated.

These detailed investigations result in the development of something called a total maximum daily load, or TMDL. A TMDL represents the amount of a particular contaminant that can enter a water body in a given day without the beneficial use being impaired. A comparison of the actual pollutant load and the TMDL can give a pretty good idea of the amount of effort needed to correct the problem(s). A TMDL report will include recommendations for what actions may be necessary to address the problem(s) and to reduce the pollutant loadings.

In most cases, non-point source (NPS) pollution sources are responsible for identified impairments. NPS pollution, as its name implies, results from the cumulative impact of many small activities across a watershed, as opposed to emanating from a single, readily identifiable location. In South Dakota, where agriculture dominates the economy, it is no surprise that a significant amount of the NPS pollution is ag related. However, there are significant sources of NPS pollution in municipal and other highly developed recreational areas as well. In some instances, natural, or background, sources have caused impairments.

Once a TMDL report has been prepared, DENR works with interested local natural resource agencies and others to develop a project to address the problems. Referred to as watershed implementation projects, they utilize local, state and federal fiscal and technical resources to put into place voluntary changes to problematic land use practices. The changes, or best management practices (BMPs), are designed to allow the landowner to continue to use their property in a manner they desire, while also eliminating, or at least minimizing, adverse impacts on the public water bodies. In most cases, adoption of BMPs results in improved efficiency and productivity, as well as reducing pollution potential. However, in recognition of the very real public benefit derived from BMP implementation, projects provide cost-share assistance of up to seventy-five percent (75%) to willing landowners.

The particular BMPs that may be promoted by a particular

project can vary depending on the type or types of impairments and likelihood of adoption. (The best solution is no good unless someone is interested in putting it into practice.) Examples of BMPs supported by watershed implementation projects around the state include: upgrading animal waste management systems, installing terraces and grassed waterways, irrigation system upgrades, river bank and shoreline stabilization, long-term and permanent easements along rivers, and streams and public awareness and education. Most projects also have a water quality monitoring component to measure impacts on impaired waters.

Unfortunately, there is rarely a single action, or small set of changes, that can alter the status of a water body. NPS pollution comes from many places over a large area, and so “fixing” such problems involves implementing many BMPs across the watershed. As a result, watershed restoration projects may need to put in place hundreds of BMPs to affect change. The problems they are seeking to correct developed over many years – fixing them can also be a long-term, and very expensive, commitment.

Efforts to address known water quality impairments are currently active in nearly every major watershed in South Dakota. Several projects are underway to address impairments in the Big Sioux River basin, working to improve the most heavily used watershed in the state. The Belle Fourche River Partnership is working to improve irrigation efficiency, and a subsequent reduction in field runoff. Ongoing efforts to monitor the waters of the Whetstone River and Yellow Bank River watersheds, part of the Upper Minnesota River watershed, involves state and local government agencies from both South Dakota and Minnesota, not to mention EPA Regions 5 and 8. These are just a few of the efforts underway.

Where do things go from here? DENR and other natural resource agencies continue to monitor the status of our water bodies. For the most part, the problems that have been identified, while real and requiring corrective efforts, do not represent significant threats to human health and safety, provided a little common sense is exercised. Drinking water impairments are rare, and with the ever increasing improvements in treatment technology, public water supplies are unlikely to be seriously harmed. (Provided we are prepared to pay treatment costs.)

What can you do? As noted above, most of the problems arise from NPS pollution. Every one of us can be, or is, a source, so each of us should look at what we might be doing and how to make things better. Never has the old adage, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,” been more relevant.

SYSTEM SPOTLIGHT

BDM Rural Water System



In October of 1977 the first minutes of a steering committee can be found for the Marshall County Rural Water group. Those attending were interested in getting a good quality, reliable water source to the areas around Britton, Langford, Amherst, Claremont, Groton, and Pierpont. Those in attendance were area farmers from those towns along with a Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) area manager and the Marshall county extension agent.

On November 5, 1981, it was decided that the Brown Day Marshall Rural Water System, Inc. should be formed as a non-profit corporation. On December 3, 1981, the Articles of Incorporation were approved by the directors of the newly formed corporation. On December 22, 1981 all of this was approved by the South Dakota Secretary of State.

The current design of the system was engineered by Houston Engineering of Fargo, ND who has been with the System since day one. The Original Brown-Day-Marshall Rural Water System, Inc. was designed for 425 customers in three different counties. The total cost for the original system was \$6 Million. The funding came from State and Federal Loans and Grants along with hookup money that was committed by each water hookup. Almost 600 users were added in the original system. As interest increased as construction began in the summer of 1984. Construction took two full years with the final project clean up in 1986.

SYSTEM AT A GLANCE

Hookups: 2,150

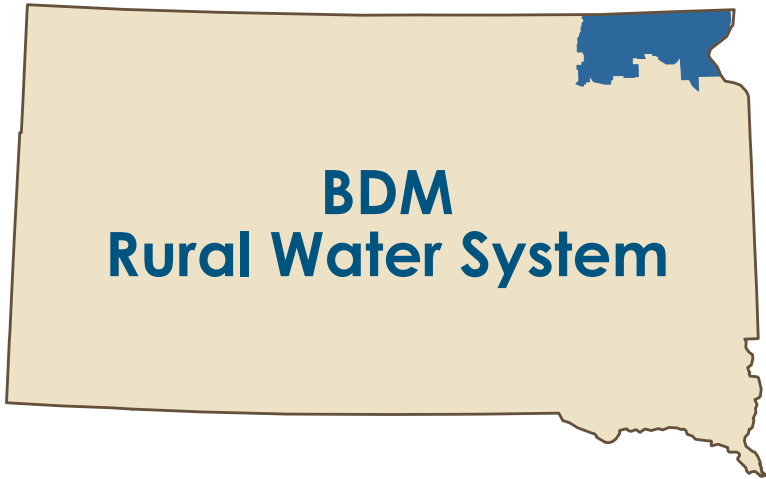
Miles of Pipeline: 2,200

Water Source: Middle James Aquifer

Counties Served: Brown, Day, Marshall, Roberts, Sargent (ND)

Towns Served Individual: Claire City, Houghton, Putney

Towns Served Bulk: Amherst, Pierpont, Langford, Claremont, Britton, Lake City, Veblen, Hecla, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, New Effington, Peever



In 1996, BDM added 45 new users in an internal expansion project bringing the total users to about 660. State, federal, and local funds were used to finance this project. This project was a warm up for what was about to happen in the next few years.

In 1999, construction began on the East Marshall project which would include over 1000 new users in Marshall and Roberts counties. The project was completed in four phases in 2006.

Today BDM Rural Water provides quality treated drinking water to almost 2,200 individual users, 11 cities, and a few large animal facilities. BDM



Some of the BDM Rural Water Staff from L to R: Kim Peters, Shannon Wegleitner, Darin Roehr, Jim Hagen, David Wade

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Clayton Moen**, Chairman
- Robert Watkins**, Secretary/Treasurer
- Nathan Steiner**, Vice-Chairman
- Torre Raap**
- Mark Hagen**
- Lance Fliehs**
- Hal Treeby**

MANAGEMENT & STAFF:

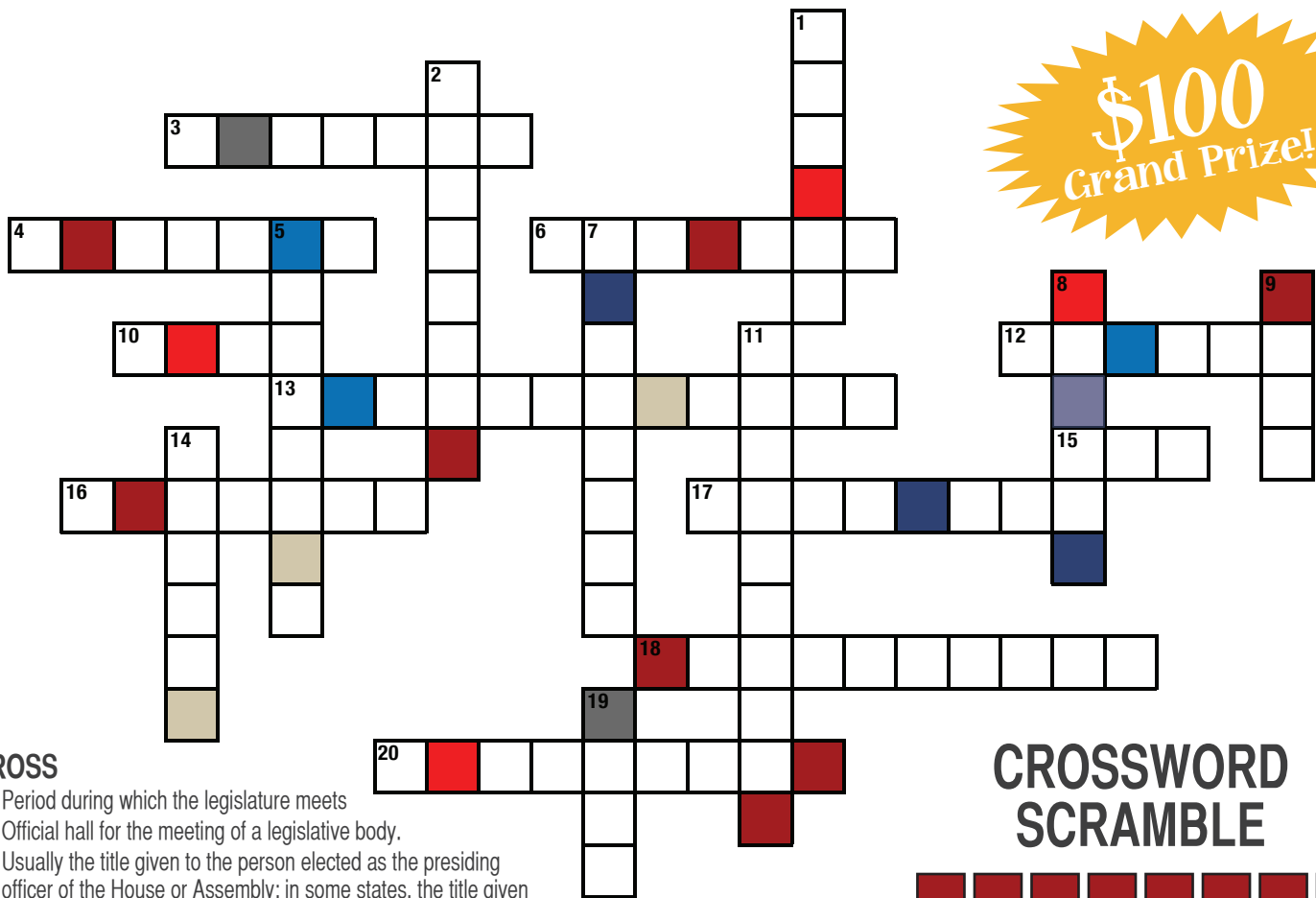
- David Wade**, General Manager, SDARWS State Director
- Kim Peters**, Office Manager
- Darin Roehr**, Water Technician
- Jim Hagen**, Water Technician
- Wayne Erickson**, Field Services Representative
- Shannon Wegleitner**, Office/Billing Assistant
- Larry Bosse**, Maintenance

produces and distributes over 500,000,000 gallons of water each year through over 2,000 miles of distribution line.

This would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of the past members of the original Steering Committee, past and present BDM Board of Directors, and dedicated employees.

Rural Water Crossword Word Scramble Contest

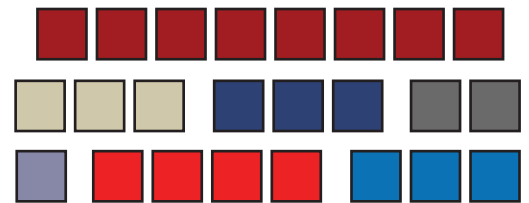
POLITICS



ACROSS

- 3 Period during which the legislature meets
- 4 Official hall for the meeting of a legislative body.
- 6 Usually the title given to the person elected as the presiding officer of the House or Assembly; in some states, the title given to the presiding officer of the Senate.
- 10 Formal expression of a decision by the body
- 12 A legislative body; usually the body in a bicameral legislature having the fewer number of members.
- 13 A written instrument embodying the fundamental principles of the state that guarantees powers and duties of the government and guarantees certain rights to the people.
- 15 Legislation enacted into law.
- 16 Public discussion and appearance on a proposal or bill; usually scheduled by a committee.
- 17 The division of the state represented by a legislator distinguished numerically or by geographical boundaries.
- 18 Capitol of the United States
- 20 A body of members appointed by the presiding officer (or another authority specified by the chamber) to consider and make recommendations concerning disposition of bills, resolutions and other related matters.

CROSSWORD SCRAMBLE



DOWN

- 1 A formal document that reflects the authorized expenditures of the state.
- 2 A representative of a special interest group whose function is to influence legislation affecting his special interest.
- 5 Act of selecting a person to fill an office.
- 7 Associated or affiliated with a single political party or caucus.
- 8 Discussion of a matter according to parliamentary rules.
- 9 Action by the governor to disapprove a measure.
- 11 The prolonged discussion of a bill to delay legislative action.
- 14 To approve and make valid.
- 19 Draft of a proposed law presented to the legislature for consideration.

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 e-mail info@sdrws.com with the correct phrase by January 8th, 2015 to be entered into the \$100 drawing.

Email Entries: Put your answer in the subject line

You MUST include the following in the body of your email: your name, address, phone number, and the name of your Rural Water System (Your Water System name is located on the front cover of this magazine). Incomplete entries will be disqualified without notice.

Only one entry allowed per email 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 Jason Rabenberg who had the correct phrase of "Just tell them Boris sent you" for October 2014.

Rural Water Across South Dakota

Tripp County WUD \$11.7M Loan Approved

Governor Dennis Daugaard has stated that the state Board of Water and Natural Resources has approved an \$11.75 million loan from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program to the Tripp County Water User District for a drinking water improvement and expansion project.

The loan will be administered through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

“I am pleased to announce that the Tripp County Water User District will receive this assistance,” said Governor Daugaard. “This funding will help TCWUD make necessary improvements to its drinking water distribution system to

better serve its customers.”

The project involves major improvements to the TCWUD's drinking water distribution mains, service lines, pump stations, PRV's and the addition of two storage reservoirs. It also involves expanding the distribution system to include 95 new users and installing meter pits to 85 users in the East Gregory Service Area in south central South Dakota.

The loan will cover most of the estimated cost of the project. Loan terms are 2.25 percent for 30 years.

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program provides low-interest loans for public drinking water system projects.

South Dakota Cities to Receive \$2.5 Million in Water/Wastewater System Upgrades

The state Board of Water and Natural Resources has approved nearly \$2.5 million in grants, loans and principal forgiveness for water and wastewater projects.

The \$2,678,273 total includes \$1.2 million in grants and \$1.4 million in low-interest loans, with \$250,000 of the loan total in principal forgiveness.

“I am pleased to announce that this money is available to assist local communities,” said Gov. Daugaard. “Grant and loan funds will result in better drinking water, improved wastewater treatment and enhanced protection of the environment.”

The grants and loans awarded by the board are administered through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Water/Wastewater Grant and loan packages were awarded to:

■ Hisega Meadows Water Inc., \$546,000 for water system improvements, which includes a \$273,000 grant and \$273,000 loan

■ Onida, \$1.805 million for water system improvements, which includes a \$900,000 grant and \$905,000 loan with \$250,000 in principal forgiveness

■ Pukwana, \$227,000 for water meter replacement, that includes a \$130,000 grant and \$97,000 loan

■ St. Lawrence, \$373,000 for lagoon repairs, that includes a \$180,000 grant and \$193,000 loan

The grants, loans, principal forgiveness and amendment were awarded from DENR's Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program and Solid Waste Management Program.

The Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program provides grants and loans for water, wastewater and watershed projects. The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program provides low-interest loans for public drinking water system projects. The Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program provides low-interest loans for wastewater, storm water and nonpoint source projects. The Solid Waste Management Program provides grants and loans for solid waste disposal, recycling and waste tire projects.

The Legislature annually appropriates dedicated water and waste funding for the Consolidated and Solid Waste programs through the Governor's Water and Environment Funding Bill.

ATC 2015

SOUTH DAKOTA RURAL WATER'S ANNUAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TUESDAY

JANUARY 13, 2015

TIME	AMPHITHEATER I	AMPHITHEATER II	ROOM D-E	ROOM F
8AM-4PM	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION – Registration Desk			
8AM-4PM	WATER PAC RAFFLE – Lobby Area			
8:00 AM	REFRESHMENT TABLE – SPONSORED BY Butler Cat– Lobby Area			
10:00 AM	40th Annual Membership Meeting (This is the Official Business Meeting of the SDARWS)		Understanding the Deliverables and Processes of 3D Laser Scanning	TBA
11:00 AM				
NOON	LUNCH – On Your Own			
1:00 PM		OPENING SESSION Keynote Address: “The Champion’s Code” – Ross Bernstein		
2:00 PM				
2:30 PM	BREAK TABLE – SPONSORED BY A-1 Sewer – Lobby Area			
3:00 PM	ROOM G Quality on Tap! Editorial Board Meeting (This meeting is open to Rural Water managers, board members and office staff)	KEYNOTE BREAKOUT “The Champion’s Code” – Ross Bernstein	Intelligent Water Tech. – Utility Solutions Beyond Meter Reading	Understanding the Benefits of Mixing Potable Water Tanks and Wastewater Ponds
4:00 PM			Combining GIS with CCTV Data (3:45pm)	
5:00 PM	SDARWS Board Meeting	WWW.REGONLINE.COM/ATC2015		

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS IN 2015

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 14, 2015

TIME	AMPHITHEATER I	AMPHITHEATER II	L. FRANCIS CASE A-B	LAKE SHARPE B
8AM-4PM	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION – Registration Desk			
8AM-4PM	WATER PAC RAFFLE – Lobby Area			
8:00 AM	<i>Rural Water - Moving Forward or Repeating the Past</i>	<i>Guidance for Assessments Triggered by Revised TCR Rule</i>	<i>Mapping with Smartphones</i>	Spouse Breakfast
8:45 AM	<i>Oil Impact on Water Supplies</i>	<i>Ozone & Biological Filtration for Drinking Water</i>	<i>Utility Knowledge Management</i>	
9:30 AM	REFRESHMENT TABLE – SPONSORED BY HR Green – Lobby Area			
10:00 AM	<i>Water System Data Management: Organizing and Using Collected Data</i>	<i>Hands-On Metering Pump Repair</i>	<i>Advancement Trends in Wireless Systems Technology</i>	Rural Water Center Meeting
10:45 AM	<i>Rural Water in Ethiopia</i>	<i>Using Online UV Spectrometers in Water Treatment</i>	<i>Top of the Tower</i>	
11:30 PM	LUNCH – On Your Own			
1:00 PM	Legislative Panel	<i>Optimizing Water Treatment: Oxidation, Softening & Recarbonation</i>	<i>Mapping with Locators</i>	SDWARN Meeting
1:45 PM		<i>Design Build Water Tower Maintenance Program</i>	<i>Asset Management (1:30pm)</i> <i>Using a Leak Correlator (2:00pm)</i>	
2:30 PM	BREAK TABLE – SPONSORED BY CoBank – Lobby Area			
3:00 PM	Attorney Panel / Legislative Watch List	<i>DENR Regulatory Update</i>	<i>Raw Water Ammonia: Distribution System Impacts & Treatment Options</i>	Private Meeting
3:30 PM		<i>Cattail Crossing Intake Project</i>		
4:00 PM	LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITS – Grand Galleria			

THURSDAY

JANUARY 15, 2015

8:00 AM	REFRESHMENT TABLE – SPONSORED BY Butler Cat – D&E
8:00 AM	LEGISLATIVE OPEN FORUM – Rooms D&E
9:30 AM	AWARDS BRUNCH – Rooms A-B-C

*This is a tentative Agenda.
Session topics and times are subject to change.*

2015 ATC SPONSORS



SPOUSE PROGRAM

TUESDAY

JANUARY 13, 2015

3:00 PM **Chocolate & Coffee tasting at Mostly Chocolates** (Transportation provided. Please meet at registration desk at 2:45 PM)

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 14, 2015

8:00 AM **Continental Breakfast** (Lake Sharp B)

10:00 AM **Guided Capitol Tour** (Transportation provided. Please meet at registration desk at 9:45 AM)

11:30 AM **Spouse Luncheon** (Ramkota Courtyard)

1:30 PM **Rural Water Taste Test Finals** (SDARWS Water Tent)



South Dakota Rural Water
 203 W. Center Street
 P.O. Box 287
 Madison, SD 57042



Water Matters

Aquifers 102



For most South Dakotans, the water that comes out of your tap started out in the ground and has been drawn from things called aquifers. As such, the importance of aquifers to all of us cannot be exaggerated. In the last issue (October 2014), we learned what an aquifer is, how water gets into them and how it is drawn from them. Let's touch on a few more key points:

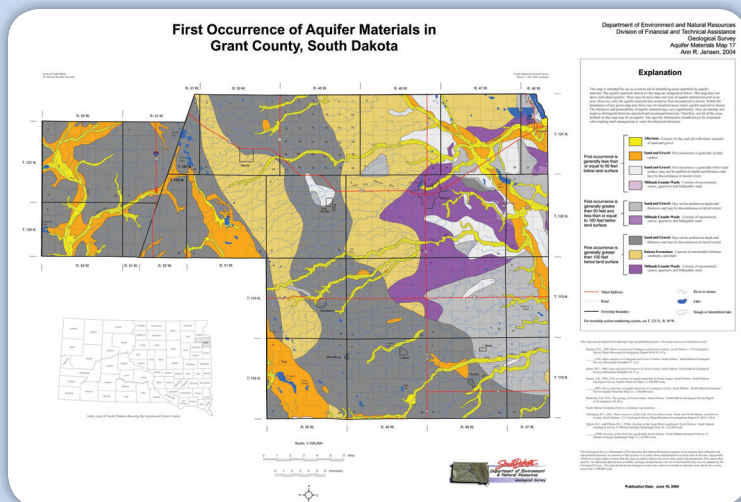
How do we find aquifers?

Because aquifers (water bearing geologic materials) are underground, locating them in any detail often requires the drilling of exploratory (test) holes to see what is down below. Each new test hole in an area helps define where aquifers are, and how extensive they may be. In some cases, the aquifers are large and expansive, cover parts of many counties. In others, an aquifer found in one test hole may not appear in a hole drilled just a few tens or hundreds of feet away.

To learn more about an aquifer, wells are sometimes installed after a test hole is completed. These observation wells allow hydrologists and engineers to measure the amount and level of water in the well, and hence the aquifer. They can also be used to gather samples of water from the aquifer to assess its suitability for various uses and to monitor changes over time.

Where are the aquifers in South Dakota?

In South Dakota, the Geological Survey Program of the Department of Environment & Natural Resources has been working to define the State's ground water resources for many years. They have drilled over 23,100 test holes



to help define the nature and extent of our aquifers. Maps and publications have been prepared that can be used by anyone interested in learning more about these critical resources.

Would you like to know if there are aquifers in your area? The Geological Survey Program has produced numerous reports and maps dealing with the State's water resources. Visit their website, www.sdgs.usd.edu, to find information on aquifer resources in your area.



Provided by:
 East Dakota Water Development District
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