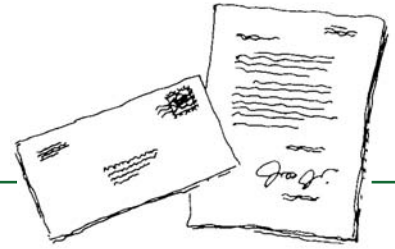


Letters



Last week (October 11, 2008) I was in Wichita representing Glasco, sharing a day of celebration and learning at the annual PRIDE Day. The accumulative impact the PRIDE program has on the state, on rural Kansans, on the PRIDE communities is really overwhelming! It is sobering to see how many volunteers give of their time, their energy, and their love for their hometowns.

As for Glasco, we received STAR AWARD recognition for our Farmers' Market. This week at the Farmers' Market we shared the story and stood a little taller. We also participated in the Get It – Do It project, furthering our awareness and actions for a healthy community. There is no doubt; the PRIDE program does inspire trying. Small steps, different steps.

Thank you for having the foresight to sponsor the PRIDE program. It reflects a level of cooperation and caring about each other's success that is not found just anywhere.

*Joan Nothern, Secretary
Glasco Chamber Pride*

Support Associate Members

When a city or rural water district needs products or services,

SHOP ASSOCIATES FIRST!

For a current directory, with contact, e-mail addresses and Web site information for Associate Members, check out

www.krwa.net,
then under "membership."

See Advertisers' Index
on page 111 in this issue.

I am writing on behalf of Montgomery County Rural Water District #2 to thank KRWA for your invaluable assistance in devising both our Emergency Contingency and Conservation Plans.

When confronted with the prospect of devising these plans we were somewhat overwhelmed to say the least. Upon our first endeavor, the Emergency Contingency Plan, the State Department (KDHE) advised us to call KRWA for help. Fortunately, we were directed to Greg Duryea for assistance. Greg was both patient and knowledgeable. He walked us through the paperwork effortlessly. What originally seemed to us a monumental task was easily handled by phone and email. Greg is a great representative of KRWA.

Needless to say, when told we also needed a Water Conservation Plan in order to qualify for the "mapping program grant", we again turned to KRWA and Greg, and once again, our "monumental task" was handled easily. It gives us great sense of relief to know we have an organization like KRWA to depend upon for assistance and information.

Whenever we have contacted KRWA for any reason, we have been assisted professionally, courteously and efficiently. We cannot thank KRWA and your staff enough for all your help.

*Dan Radcliff, Chairman
Montgomery RWD 2*

I would like to thank Pat McCool for his recent visit to Coffey County Rural Water District 3. I had sent an e-mail to Pat one morning to ask questions concerning one of his Lifeline articles. In no time Pat was on the phone with me. His schedule was open enough that he was willing to

come visit that afternoon. We were able to visit at length about chlorine residual problems we were having and trade ideas. Pat's experience was very helpful.

Thanks to Pat McCool and KRWA.

*Chris Withers
Coffey RWD 3*

Thank you for your contribution to the Highland PRIDE awards we received. We greatly appreciate them. The prize money will help us fund our many projects.

*Betty Lewis, President
Highland PRIDE*

I would like to commend Gary Armentrout of your fine organization for his work and help on the pigging of our water lines from our well to Lake Ridge Estates on October 28, 2008.

Gary not only did a good job when it came to the pigging, he also gave us some training in this and other areas of our operation in between waiting for the pigs to do their thing. He worked hard and gave us very detailed explanations on the pigging and other questions we had about our operation here at District 11.

What a Super Associate you have in Gary. Thank you for sending him to us.

*Duane Williams, Chairman
Jefferson RWD 11*

The city of Eskridge wishes to thank you for allowing our local newspapers to re-print your recent article that was published in the November 2008 issue of The Kansas Lifeline magazine. "Zebra mussels invade Kansas (spread the message – not the mussels)". The city owns and operates Lake Wabaunsee which is the

public water source for the city of Eskridge in addition to three area Water Districts. The governing body implemented new regulations this year which restricted access to the lake and required an inspection every time a water vessel was launched. As with any change, it was met with opposition but as a whole, was very much supported. We believe education is the key to stopping aquatic hitchhikers and felt your article was worth sharing with our residents and visitors to the Lake.

Again, thank you.

*Lisa K. Cernich, City Clerk
City of Eskridge*

This year has been quite an eventful one for all of us here at Jefferson RWD 13. It started out rough but is ending smoothly thanks in large part to the assistance we received from KRWA.

In particular we would like to thank Gary Armentrout, Lonnie Boller and Jim Jackson for their knowledge, promptness and tremendous patience with us. I can sincerely say that without their help, we would not have made such great strides in accomplishing what we did in the district.

Thanks again to all of you and we look forward to your assistance in the future.

*Jerry Stewart
Jefferson RWD 13*

Because of the help our district received from Greg Duryea, a major leak was found and repaired resulting in a decrease of 40,000 gallons per day of water being pumped.

No words can truly express how grateful we are to Greg and KRWA for all the assistance we receive when we need it.

p.s. I'm looking forward to our next water loss report.

*Deb Meyer, Bookkeeper
Harold Hunzeker, Operator
Board of Directors
Nemaha RWD 1*

It's been a while since I've written to let KRWA know how much we appreciate all the help we receive from the Association.

Greg Duryea lives here so of course he's always stepping up to the plate. Most recently, Charlie Schwindamann did smoke testing of our sewer system.

We have never been dissatisfied with any help received from KRWA.

On another note, I was wondering if any other towns, big or small, have had problems with any companies that do their tower cleaning. Recently, we had a company that failed to hold up their end of a contract. We were given lots of "excuses" but not good reasons for any of their shoddiness. We're a very small town so what would we know, right?!

I'd like to know if KRWA would, in any way, assist small towns in inspected the work of these companies.

Keep up the good work and thank-you to everyone at KRWA.

*Anna M. Dietrich
Mayor, City of Morrill*

RWD #1 of Marion County would like to thank Doug Helmke and Bert Zerr for helping us obtain all the information needed and getting it to the State of Kansas in the correct places to finish our requirements for our SRLF loan and for the perfecting of our water rights at the Division of Ag. We truly appreciate all that you have done in this past year and look forward to working with you in the New Year.

It is people like you that make us smile!!

Thanks again!

*Board of Directors and Employees
Rural Water District #1
Marion County, Kansas*

The city of Eudora withdraws its membership to the Kansas Rural Water Association. If any membership dues are reimbursable, please do so. It has become painfully obvious that the Kansas Rural Water Association thru its association policy and actions does not represent what is in the best

2008 KRWA Officers & Directors

*Dennis Schwartz, President, Shawnee Co. RWD 8, Tecumseh
Sharon Dwyer, Vice-President, Douglas Co. RWD 5, Lawrence
Darrell Schlabach, Treasurer, Washington Co. RWD 1, Hanover
Patricia Shaffer, Director, Butler Co. RWD 5, Benton
Sam Atherton, Director, PWWSD 4, Cherryvale
Larry Remmenga, Director, city of Concordia, Concordia*

KRWA Staff

*Elmer Ronnebaum, General Manager
Laurie Strathman, Administrative Assistant
Gary Armentrout, Technical Assistant
Lonnie Boller, Surface Water Tech
Eric Davolt, Technical Assistant
Greg Duryea, Technical Assistant
Mike Fisher, KAN STEP Tech
Doug Guenther, Technical Assistant
Doug Helmke, Water Rights/Source Water Specialist
Shane Holthaus, KAN STEP Tech
Jim Jackson, Training Coordinator/Technical Assistant
Jesse Knight, GPS/GIS Mapping Tech
Pete Koenig, GIS/GPS Mapping Coordinator
Jeff Lamfers, Consultant
Pat McCool, Consultant
Charlie Schwindamann, Wastewater Tech
Jon Steele, Technical Assistant
Mark Thomas, GPS/GIS Mapping Tech
Delbert "Bert" Zerr, Consultant*

interest of municipalities even though half of the association membership is municipal.

*In regards,
Cheryl S. Beatty, City Administrator
City of Eudora*

In reply to the letter from Eudora ...

December 16, 2008

Cheryl Beatty
City Administrator
City of Eudora
PO Box 650
Eudora, KS 66025

Dear Cheryl;
Kansas Rural Water Association is in receipt of your letter dated December 12, 2008 requesting withdrawal of the city's membership in KRWA. While I am disappointed in your request, KRWA is enclosing a refund of 2.5 months of dues to the city, as your membership anniversary date is March 1.

Your letter states your opinion that KRWA's policies and action do not

represent what is in the best interest of municipalities. Your opinion is likely influenced by the ongoing suit between the city and Douglas RWD 4 over service territory. I believe you will find it interesting that there are individuals at Douglas RWD 4 who have also suggested that KRWA does not adequately represent that RWD's interest. There is no basis for either party to have such opinions. KRWA has long ago advised utilities to avoid embarking in lawsuits over service territories. KRWA has successfully counseled many cities and RWDs in these matters and has helped them reach agreements that were in mutual interests of the citizens in the area. KRWA was not requested to "intervene" by either entity but we could have provided some reasonable suggestions had that been the case.

The KRWA legislative committee met last week to formulate amendments that might be introduced in the 2009 Session to require both RWDs and cities to give greater consideration to mediation prior to filing of lawsuits over service territory. I know of no other organization in

Kansas working in as responsible of a manner on such a contentious issue. I hope that you will follow the legislation as it may be called for hearing.

You, the members of the governing body and operators continue to be invited and are welcome to attend KRWA training and other functions. KRWA will continue to attempt to provide reasonable forums for discussion of matters that are of importance to both cities and RWDs. The 2009 Conference (March 25) includes several additional sessions on 1926b-related issues. I encourage your city's consideration to attend those sessions.

I hope you will stay in touch. Please let us know if our staff can be of any assistance to your water or wastewater utilities. I would also appreciate the opportunity to publish your letter and this response in our March magazine.

*Respectfully,
Elmer Ronnebaum
General Manager*

WHATEVER IT TAKES!

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