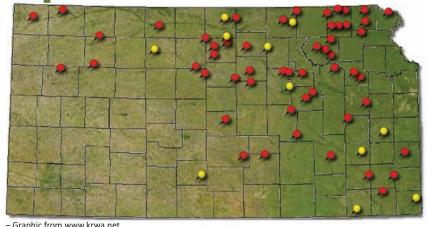
KAN STEP Projects Dot the Kansas

Landscape

ver the years working in the KAN STEP program, which is supported by KRWA providing inspection services and technical assistance, I have met people from many walks of life. Just like the old saying goes, "It takes a village to raise a baby" – well that is the case here except we are talking about concrete, steel and other building materials versus diapers and burp rags. I would like to use this article to provide an update on KAN STEP projects as of October 1, 2010.

Due to a very tough winter of 2009-2010 and an abnormally wet spring and early summer, KAN STEP projects have been slower than normal. Many projects were ready to start but for several different reasons projects had to be delayed and several, postponed.



From time to time people ask how many KAN STEP projects are in progress. The answer is that there are typically between ten and twenty, depending on the year.

The stages of a project

The projects are typically broken down to three stages, as follows:

- Preliminary (in design and bid stage)
- In Progress (dirt has been turned and concrete poured or waterlines buried)
- Finishing (the project is nearing completion)

From time to time people ask how many KAN STEP projects are in progress. The answer is that there are typically between ten and twenty, depending on the year. People might wonder how KRWA could keep up with that many projects. Well, it's only possible because of the different stages of the projects. KRWA has always been available to the projects as needed without any delays. So without any further delay, here is a recap of present KAN STEP projects.



Volunteers on the Caney Fire Station worked through extreme heat conditions from mid-July through August 2010. The new fire station will cover 8,200 square feet. The facility will include a meeting/training room, kitchenette, restrooms and an office. Caney is located in southwestern Montgomery County, west of Coffeyville.

Preliminary

Projects in the design stage include:

- Anderson County Fire Station in Colony (the project will bid on October 11).
- The city of Sterling will be remodeling a downtown building called Studio 96, which has just recently been given the green light to get started on the design. There was an issue with the building being located in a flood zone.
- West Mineral has elected to rebid their steel building for their fire station due to a supplier issue not meeting specifications.

In Progress

Projects in progress include fire stations in these communities:

- City of Caney;
- City of Mankato;
- Mitchell County in Scottsville
- Pratt County in Sawyer.

The city of Caney's volunteer fire department has worked extremely hard this summer when the temperatures were blazing hot. Footings were started July 14 and all the floors have been poured. The city of Caney is rebidding the steel building. Let's just say the first low bid was the low bid for a reason. Depending on the winter weather, Caney may not get their building erected before the snow flies due to these delays.

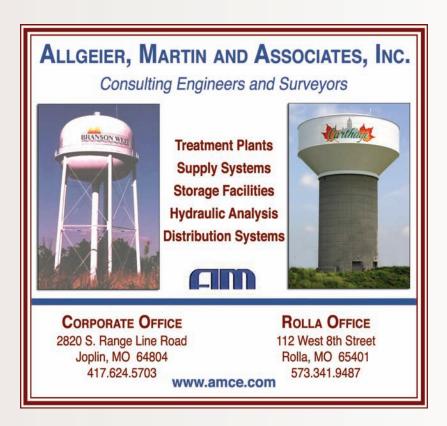
The city of Mankato Fire Station has moved forward by leaps and bounds. The concrete has been completed including the exterior concrete. The steel building is due to arrive October 13 and as soon as harvest is finished, the volunteers in Mankato plan to go at the building with gusto.

The Mitchell County Fire Station in Scottsville will be weathered in by December. That will create a place to work throughout the winter to finish the project by next spring. The Scottsville Fire station is just for truck storage so there not an excessive amount of work that needs to be done on the inside.

Volunteers on the Pratt County Fire Station in Sawyer poured footings on September 18; they plan to get their building weathered in by the end of December.



The new fire station in Woodbine in Dickinson County measures 72 feet x 80 feet. It includes three bay doors and a fourth door for the first responder vehicle. A training room with storage above and a serving area will be included. This photo was taken on January 8, 2009; the project was completed September 28, 2010.



KAN STEP Projects



Volunteers on the fire station at Scottsville in Mitchell County set the red iron on August 4 and 5, 2010. The building measures 40 feet x 60 feet and will be primarily for storage of fire trucks and equipment.

Finishing

There are five projects that are in final stages and which should be completed by the end of 2010 or earlier.

The Dickinson County Fire Station in Woodbine is the first in line with a proposed finish date of September 28. This project has had several weather delays early in the project and has also included the demolition of the old fire station that sat just south of the new one.

The volunteers in Damar have constructed a community center; they plan to have the building completed by Thanksgiving.

The city of Greenleaf is nearing the end of their waterline project. Volunteers and city workers there have had many



It will include three truck bays, a training area with a hospitality area and a maintenance bay with some equipment storage.

challenges keeping their old system in service while installing a new one. Read more about Greenleaf's project in this issue (See pages 8 and 9).

The city of Miltonvale's Emergency Services Building has the fire bays and ambulance bays completed; work is winding down on the meeting rooms, restrooms and office area. This project should finish sometime in December.

Volunteers on the Woodson County Fire Station at Altoona have been trying to finish for quite some time. With

> one more big effort, the HVAC should be installed as will the ceiling tile and floor covering.

There are many challenges to a commercial project of any kind but the fact is that volunteers can, with time on their side, do a great job and accomplish the goal of improving their communities. In communities that can qualify, volunteers happily donate time and talent to help construct facilities that will last for generations. KRWA is pleased to be a partner with them and the Kansas Department of Commerce. Check the KRWA Web site at www.krwa.net and then under "Technical Assistance" and then "KAN STEP" to read about and see hundreds of photos of the ongoing and completed projects.

Shane Holthaus has been a KAN STEP Tech for KRWA since November 2002. He previously worked for thirteen years for a professional contractor.



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