

KRWA helps Kansans as never before

It seems to me that every year goes by faster than the year before. This is more evident when it is time at KRWA to prepare for the Annual Conference in March. Actually the preparation for the conference begins in April and culminates the following March.

The 2006 Annual Conference promises to be another excellent opportunity to obtain valuable information for every city or RWD. On Tuesday, March 28, there's a full lineup of eight pre-conference training sessions that are designed for board/council members, operators, city clerks, bookkeepers and all others associated with a water or wastewater utility. Two sessions that should be of particular interest for board and council members are

“Reaching Agreement in New Ways” and “KanCap: Board/Council Session for Better Drinking Water.”

Where did 2005 go?

In conjunction with preparing for the conference, KRWA employees continue to provide the on-site

technical assistance to water and wastewater systems throughout Kansas. These services include, water loss surveys, rate reviews, chlorine problems, smoke testing, and training to name just a few.

Water loss surveys

In 2005, KRWA conducted 45 water loss surveys. These surveys located a total of 141,570,360 gallons of water per year. This

calculates to a savings of \$254,253 in cost of water produced or purchased. Conducting a water loss survey is not just about searching for water leaks. Typically, ‘looking for leaks’ is the last stage in the process to identify the contributors of high water loss. A water loss survey starts with

master meters. These issues need to be eliminated before time is spent looking for leaks that may not exist.

The Kansas Water Office assigns systems that have an unaccounted for loss of 30% or more to KRWA for assistance. In the period of July, 2004 to June

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completing a KRWA form that identifies the amount of water purchased or produced, then subtracts the amount of water sold and/or provided free of charge. At

30, 2005, KRWA worked with 28 such systems. The water loss information is initially obtained from the respective system's Water Use Report that water utilities are



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Example system: KRWA's Monitoring for "Unaccounted for" Water Loss

Year 05	Raw Water	Water	Water Sold	Water Sold	Water Sold	Metered	Jnaccountec	Percent	Quarterly
Month	Diverted	Purchased	2 Other Suppliers	Bulk & Other	Residential	Free	For Water	by Month	Monitoring
January	3702	21	308	1246	1488		681	18.3%	Jan - Mar
February	3282	7	256	926	1314		793	24.1%	average
March	3979	6	234	1052	1085		1614	40.5%	28.1%
April	3951	6	263	1309	1603		782	19.8%	Apr - June
May	4379	15	260	1318	1694		1122	25.5%	average
June	3782	15	305	1170	2013		309	8.1%	18.2%
July	4281	145	277	1304	2353		492	11.1%	July - Sept
August	3991	65	282	1353	1978		443	10.9%	average
September	3003	7	249	731	1626		404	13.4%	11.7%
October	3493	7	315	987	1705		493	14.1%	Oct - Dec
November	3181	5	222	781	1411		772	24.2%	average
December	3576	5	267	712	1524		1078	30.1%	22.8%
Total	44600	304	3238	12889	19794		8983	20.0%	

times we are able to determine that the loss is all in the accounting system. Other times, inaccurate metering creates a false water loss especially if the master meters are inaccurate. Too often, the utility has not read the meters and matched those readings to the

required to complete each year. The emphasis on reducing unaccounted for water loss is just on aspect of a contract that is funded through the State Water Plan and administered by the Kansas Water Office.

Water Conservation Plans

Since 2003, the Kansas Water Office has also requested KRWA to provide assistance to water suppliers in completing and adopting Water Conservation Plans. A total of 137 water systems have been notified that a Water Conservation Plan would be beneficial to them. KRWA provided the assistance needed in helping these systems create their Water Conservation Plan.

After a plan has been developed it is the responsibility of the water system to send the plan to the state requesting approval. So far out of the 137 original plans, nine have been approved by the state another 91 plans are being reviewed by the utilities before being submitted to state agencies for approval. There are 16 other plans under development. Typically these last 41 systems will not be concerned about their plan until a problem arises such as a drought or emergency. That's when concern will suddenly grow about conserving water. If your system is interested in completing a Water Conservation Plan give KRWA a call and we will work with you to produce a plan suited to your system.

On-site assistance

Under the State Water Plan Fund, KRWA employees conducted a total of 1,453 on-site technical visits for fiscal year 2005. Time dedicated to these assistance calls totaled 2,885 hours for an average of almost two hours per visit. Most of these visits were at the request of the water systems. Problems included leak detection, pressure loss and pump problems to name a few. Employees of KRWA do whatever it takes to get the job done, working day or night, weekends and holidays if necessary. KRWA employees are not able to solve

every problem that a system has but if we cannot, we'll find those who can and get them on the job.

2006 Conference & Exhibition

The 2006 KRWA Conference & Exhibition promises to be another great learning event. The technical program is outstanding. Associate members have filled the 275 exhibit spaces with the latest in information and services to help every city or water system. KRWA encourages system personnel to do some shopping at the conference. Many cities and water systems make year long purchases of materials at the conference. The conference is the perfect time for a system to schedule a meeting with a vendor or agency because they are all there – with plenty of tables to hold any discussion.

The participation of the Associate Members – from the Exhibit Hall to helping sponsor the opening night “Servin’ Up a Good Time for You” to donations

for door prizes, etc. all help make the KRWA conference the largest and best in the Midwest. I hope you will plan to be in Wichita at Century II March 28 – 30. Board and council members are particularly encouraged to attend. Their “need to know” has never been greater with new, and many times technical but critical, agency rules and regulations being implemented that need to be understood and dealt with.

It's a great time to make new friends, enjoy the fellowship of old ones and experience the hospitality that is a hallmark of KRWA's conferences. This is your conference, not just the board's or staff's – KRWA is an “Association” dedicated to helping all citizens of the state and those who provide for the health, welfare and safety through their community utilities.



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