

LEWIS & CLARK AWARDS TWO PIPELINE CONTRACTS

For Immediate Release

Contact: Troy Larson, Executive Director - 605-368-2400 (work) and 605-310-0560 (cell)

August 4, 2016

Tea, SD – Lewis & Clark Regional Water System’s board of directors recently awarded two pipeline contracts. The low bids for both projects were significantly lower than what was originally budgeted.

The first contract was awarded on May 26 to Winter Brothers Underground of Sioux Falls for \$2,950,000. This is to construct two segments of the Madison service line – five miles of 16 inch pipe northwest of Sioux Falls and five miles of 14 inch pipe east of Madison. These segments are part of the “wheeling plan” that, along with utilizing infrastructure in between from Minnehaha Community Water Corp and Big Sioux Community Water System, will allow Madison to access up to one million gallons of water a day. Construction is expected to begin in September and June 2017 is the substantial completion deadline. “The low bid was a whopping 40% less than what was budgeted, so we were very happy with the result,” said Executive Director Troy Larson.

The second contract was awarded on July 28 to Carstensen Contracting of Pipestone, MN for \$9,202,317. This is to construct the line from Magnolia to Lincoln Pipestone RWS’s connection two miles east of Adrian. Preliminary construction activities are expected to begin this fall with pipeline construction starting in the spring. November 2017 is the substantial completion deadline. “The low bid was 22% less than what was budgeted, so another really good result. We continue to benefit from a favorable bidding environment,” said Larson.

###

LEWIS & CLARK AWARDS PUMP STATION and METER BUILDING CONTRACT

For Immediate Release

Contact: Troy Larson, Executive Director - 605-368-2400 (work) and 605-310-0560 (cell)

September 12, 2016

Tea, SD – Lewis & Clark Regional Water System’s Board of Directors today awarded a \$3,616,200 contract to Gridor Construction of Buffalo, MN that includes three components – a pump station, meter building and pumps. The pump station will be located five and a half miles south of Luverne and the meter building, which serves as a connection point for Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System, will be located three miles east of Adrian. In addition, the contract includes adding pumps at the existing pump station/meter building along the Iowa-Minnesota border, which serves as a connection point for both Rock Rapids and Rock County Rural Water District. The substantial completion deadline for construction is November 2017.

“The low bid was \$200,000 less than originally budgeted, which is important as it relates to our federal funding ceiling, so we were pleased with the results,” said Executive Director Troy Larson. Gridor is currently constructing meter buildings for Lewis & Clark near Crooks and Madison.

###

LUVERNE BEGINS RECEIVING LEWIS & CLARK WATER!

For Immediate Release

Contact: Troy Larson, Executive Director - 605-368-2400 (work) and 605-310-0560 (cell)

March 15, 2016

Tea, SD – A ribbon cutting ceremony was held yesterday in Luverne to celebrate the city’s connection to the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System (L&C). Mayor Pat Baustian said “This is a momentous occasion that has been 26 years in the making. Having a stable pure water source for our citizens and the growth of our community is a huge deal.”

Luverne is the thirteenth member to be connected to the system, with seven more to go (unconnected members include Lincoln Pipestone RWS, Worthington, Madison, Hull, Sioux Center, Sheldon and Sibley). The city now has access to 821,000 gallons a day from L&C with the opportunity to secure more capacity in the future.

Attendees at the ceremony included state legislators, city officials and representatives from some of the other member cities and rural water systems. Governor Mark Dayton was scheduled to attend but was unable to make it due to the dense fog earlier in the day. Dayton released a statement saying in part, “I am terribly sorry that air travel conditions have prevented me from being in Luverne today. This project is critically important to the people and businesses in the Luverne area. I congratulate everyone who has worked so hard to make it a reality.”

Red Arndt of Luverne, Chairman of the L&C board of directors, is the only remaining board member from the project’s incorporation in 1990. He was presented with a bottle containing the first potable water to come through the faucet of L&C’s meter house in Luverne. Arndt took a big swig and said “Tastes great! I’ve been waiting for this day for a long time – for the last 26 years – and here it is.” In their remarks Arndt and Baustian noted how the L&C water will expand economic development opportunities, improve the resident’s quality of life and sustain the growth of Luverne for generations to come.

Ribbon Cutting Photo (left to right): L&C Vice-Chairman Murray Hulstein of Sioux Center, Luverne City Administrator John Call, Luverne Councilwoman Caroline Thorson, State Rep. Joe Schomacker, Luverne Councilwoman Esther Spease Frakes, Banner Associate’s Dave Odens, L&C Chairman Red Arndt, Luverne Councilman Kevin Aaker, Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian, Worthington Public Utilities Manager and L&C director Scott Hain, Luverne Councilman Eugene Marshall, State Senator Bill Weber, Banner Associate’s Tim Conner, Luverne Water/Wastewater Supervisor Al Lais and L&C Executive Director Troy Larson.

LEWIS & CLARK AWARDS RESERVOIR CONTRACT

For Immediate Release

Contact: Troy Larson, Executive Director - 605-368-2400 (work) and 605-310-0560 (cell)

September 23, 2016

Tea, SD – Lewis & Clark Regional Water System’s Board of Directors yesterday awarded a \$2,961,700 contract to Preload of Louisville, KY for a four million gallon above ground storage reservoir that will be located six miles southwest of Luverne – project officials refer to it as the “Rock County Reservoir”. The substantial completion deadline is March 2018. “The low bid was more than \$300,000 less than originally budgeted, which was great news. We continue to enjoy the benefits of a very favorable bidding environment,” said Executive Director Troy Larson.

Update on Construction Contracts:

Thanks in large part to the combined \$49.7 million in “federal funding advances” approved by Minnesota and South Dakota, in the last two years the Lewis & Clark Board has awarded ten construction projects totaling \$45.65 million. This does not include engineering, easement acquisition, legal or administrative expenses related to construction.

Since construction began on the project in 2004, a total of \$342,370,005 in construction projects have been awarded. The project is currently 67% complete and is estimated to reach 72% complete by the end of 2017. Thirteen of the Lewis & Clark’s twenty members are currently connected to the System. “That may sound like we are getting close to the end, but we still need close to \$200 million in federal funding in order to complete the system so we have a long way to go,” said Larson.

###