



Explorer

Lewis & Clark
REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM

FALL 2008

Ceremony Held for Tea and Harrisburg Emergency Connection

With the background of newly built homes and homes under construction, along with ducks paddling on a man-made pond, over 60 people attended the valve opening ceremony for the Tea and Harrisburg emergency connection on September 30 at Lewis & Clark's (L&C) meter house on the outskirts of Tea. The backdrop provided a fitting visual representation of the importance of water to continuing the strong growth in both communities.

After being asked by Tea officials to build this segment of pipeline four years sooner than originally planned and having that request echoed by Harrisburg officials, L&C's Construction Committee approved moving up the schedule in July 2003, so this day was over five years in the making. Speakers at the ceremony included:

Chairman Red Arndt, Tea Mayor John Lawler, Harrisburg Mayor Reed Ramstad, Sioux Falls Mayor Dave Munson, Lincoln County RWS (LCRWS) Chairman Roger Lamp, South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Steve Pirner, Bureau of Reclamation's Ted Hall and staff from the offices of Senators Tim Johnson and John Thune

and Representative Stephanie Herseth Sandlin.

Mayor Lawler and Mayor Ramstad both noted there were times over the last couple years that their water towers came close to running dry. "We need this quality water to help us continue the strong development and growth in Tea," said Mayor Lawler.

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"We need this quality water to help us continue the strong development and growth in Tea."

- Mayor John Lawler



Chairman's Report - Red Arndt



The valve opening ceremony for the Tea and Harrisburg emergency connection was another landmark event for the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System (L&C). It not only marked the second segment of pipeline that is now in operation, but more importantly this segment of pipeline was built years earlier than originally planned to address the critical water needs of two of our members. This is why L&C was formed almost 20 years ago – 20 cities and rural water systems working together to help each other to get that much needed commodity – water – without which none of us can survive. It is this kind of

continued cooperation on a Federal, state and local level that will ensure L&C's success.

On the Federal level, everyone at L&C extends our sincere congratulations to President-Elect Barack Obama. We look forward to working with him and his Administration and ensuring they realize the importance of completing this critically needed project in a timely manner. We also congratulate Senators Tim Johnson, Norm Coleman and Tom Harkin and Representatives Steve King, Stephanie Herseth Sandlin and Tim Walz on their

re-elections. The sharp downturn in our nation's economy will no doubt make our annual battle for adequate Federal funding even more challenging, so the continued strong support and leadership of our entire tri-state congressional delegation will be more important than ever.

Emergency Connection - *continued from page 1*

Mayor Ramstad said, "This is a historic occasion for Harrisburg...The water will help the City continue to grow, both in business and residential." Both mayors and Chairman Arndt thanked Sioux Falls for agreeing to provide the water.

Water from L&C is estimated to arrive by mid-2012. Until that time, utilizing this 12 mile connection of 36", 30" and 16" diameter pipe, L&C will purchase up to one million gallons of water a day from Sioux Falls and re-sell it to Tea

and Harrisburg (up to 500,000 gallons each). LCRWS will receive a portion of the proceeds to fulfill contractual obligations by Tea and Harrisburg. If needed, those communities can also purchase additional water from LCRWS through their existing connections. With these two sources of water, Tea and Harrisburg will more than triple their available water.

L&C thanks the engineers (Banner Associates and HDR Engineering) and contractors (SJ Louis, Winter Brothers and Gridor Construction) for helping make this emergency connection possible. Including the emergency connection between Sioux Center and Hull, L&C now has 21 miles of pipe in operation. Only 316 miles to go....

"This is a historic occasion for Harrisburg."

-Mayor Reed Ramstad



Munson, Lawler, Arndt, Ramstad and Lamp

Pipeline Construction Update

The contractors have made steady progress this summer and into the fall. Below is an update on the two pipeline projects still underway.

Treated Water Pipeline – Segment 6/7A:

SJ Louis (SJL) installed the last section of 54" pipe in early October (photo at right) on this 11 mile segment in northern Clay County. The contractor often experienced wet working conditions as they hit a number of underground gravel pockets full of water. SJL is now working on pressure testing the pipe and clean up.

Treated Water Pipeline – Segment 8/7B:

Don Kelly Construction (DKC) began construction in early August on this 11 mile segment in southern Clay County. By early November, they installed close to four miles of 54" pipe on this final segment of the main transmission line between the Missouri River and Sioux Falls. Unlike other segments, each

joint needs to be welded because of the higher pressures from the water treatment plant (WTP). DKC started installing pipe at the WTP site and are working their way east (photo below) and then north. They plan to cross the Vermillion River and the river basin area before breaking for winter. Over five miles of pipe has been delivered. Each pipe is 50' long and can weigh up to 9.3 tons, depending on the thickness of the steel (max of .435", with a half inch of cement mortar lining).



Congress Approves a Five-Month Continuing Resolution

Congress in late September approved a Continuing Resolution (CR) that continues Federal funding from October 1, 2008 to March 6, 2009. In March, Congress will need to decide whether to pass a budget for FY09 or extend the CR for the rest of the fiscal year. Until then, L&C is expected to receive 5/12ths of the funding it received for FY08 (\$26.5 million).

The House Appropriations Committee this summer approved \$25 million for Lewis & Clark (L&C) and the Senate Appropriations Committee followed by approving \$30 million. However, nothing has been finalized as the entire budget has been held up. "Whether a budget is eventually passed or a year-long CR is enacted, L&C will hopefully end up at least in the mid-\$20 million

range. While this is not the \$35 million needed to keep construction on schedule, it would certainly be enough to keep construction moving forward and would be far better than zero as proposed in the Administration's budget," said Chairman Red Arndt.



Member Profile: City of Sioux Falls

Sioux Falls is by far the largest member of Lewis & Clark (L&C). With a current estimated population of 156,000, the City has experienced amazing growth in all sectors during the past two decades. Sioux Falls is consistently listed by leading publications as one of the top places in the nation to locate a business or raise a family. The value of new building permits hit a record high of over \$520 million in 2007. By the year 2020, the City's population is expected to be nearly 200,000. To sustain this growth long-term, Sioux Falls needs an additional source of water.

The City's main source of water is the Big Sioux River and several aquifers surrounding Sioux Falls. In the late 1980s, it became clear to City leaders that a supplemental source of water would be needed in the future. After examining a number of options, it was determined that partnering with other cities and rural water systems in what

was then known as the Southeastern South Dakota Water Supply System was the best option. To help get L&C off the ground and to keep it going, the project has enjoyed strong support and leadership from current Mayor Dave Munson, former Mayor Gary Hanson and many visionary men and women who have served on the City Council through the years.

Sioux Falls currently uses an average of just over 21 million gallons per day (MGD) with a maximum summer peak of 52 MGD. The City originally reserved 10 MGD from L&C. Agreeing to pay 100% of the cost to upsize the System, the City expanded their reserved capacity by an additional 17 MGD in 2005. The total reserved capacity is estimated to address the City's water needs for the next several decades.

In order to avoid skyrocketing cost increases due to inflation and to help keep construction moving forward, Sioux Falls and 16 other members agreed

to pre-pay their share of the project in 2007. Through pre-payment by the members and the three states, along with continued Federal funding, it is expected Sioux Falls and a handful of surrounding members will receive treated water by mid-2012.



Kevin Smith, Assistant Public Works Director, has been with the City for 17 years. He has been on the L&C Board since December 1999,

and currently serves on the Executive, Construction, Budget and Personnel Committees. He is originally from Pierre and is a graduate of South Dakota State University. Kevin and his wife, Lonna, have three children. Kevin enjoys running and any other activity that gets his family and him outside.

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Water Treatment Plant Construction Begins

Foley Company of Kansas City, MO, began work on Phase 1 of the water treatment plant (WTP) in September. Located three miles north of Vermillion along Highway 19, this \$20.8 million contract includes a three million gallon underground reservoir (clear well), pump station, electrical building and two standby generators. These are separate structures from the main WTP building.

The first work has focused on general site preparation. This has included stripping the top soil, moving in three office trailers (see photo below), installing utilities and constructing roads and entrances. Using scrapers, excavation has begun for the clear well and pump station, which when completed will have dimensions of 149' wide by 237' long and over 20' deep. Some of the dirt being removed for the

clear well and pump station is being used to build up the base for the electrical substation that it is anticipated East River Electric will begin constructing in mid-2010. Before taking a break for winter, the contractor will continue excavating the clear well and pump station area. The deadline for substantial completion of Phase 1 is August 1, 2010.


Looking ahead to Phase 2, the engineers from Banner and HDR and Lewis & Clark (L&C) staff continue to make good progress on the design. Under the current schedule, the plans and specs should be ready for agency review by January with bid opening in May 2009. Phase 2 includes the main WTP building. The completion of Phase 2, estimated for mid-2012, will allow L&C to deliver 28 or 34 million gallons a day (MGD) of treated

water, depending on the number of filters constructed. Phase 3 would expand the plant's capacity to the originally planned 45 MGD, and will be bid when more capacity is needed. It is anticipated all 20 members will be hooked up before Phase 3 is bid.

Banner's Dennis Micko will be the lead on-site engineer during construction of both Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the WTP.

Dennis, a native of Claremont, SD, was the long-time President of Banner Associates in Brookings before recently stepping down from that position to work on the WTP.






**WATER TREATMENT PLANT
PHASE 1**
Lewis & Clark Regional Water
System, Sioux Falls, SD

Engineers: **BANNER**
Engineering | Architecture | Surveying
Brookings & Sioux Falls, SD

Contractor: **FOLEY COMPANY**
Since 1915
Kansas City, MO

HDR Engineering, Inc.
Sioux Falls, SD



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Pipeline Construction Photos



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