

Water Works



News from Southwest Water Authority
August, 2006
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If success has a flavor, it just might be. . .beef

Southwest Pipeline Project and Missouri West Water System partnership - a recipe for success

"If you guys can get this done, I'll buy you each a steak."
And so there it was. A challenge put forth by Southwest Water Authority (SWA) Director Steve Tomac only two short years ago. His specific challenge was for SWA and the North Dakota Water Coalition to secure funding for Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) including construction in Morton County.

You may recall that SWA and the North Dakota Water Coalition were successful in acquiring \$5.3 million of state funding for the current biennium for construction of the SWPP in Golden Valley, Billings and Morton Counties. An additional \$3.6 million, obtained through a United States Department of Agriculture loan/grant program, brought the total funds acquired for construction to \$8.3 million.

This level of funding permitted construction to continue throughout the Medora-Beach and Morton County Service Areas.

Funding wasn't the only challenge, however. Before construction could proceed in Morton County, SWA and Missouri West Water System (MWWS), which serves a portion of Morton County, had to reach an agreement on how the two systems could integrate. The result is a bulk water service agreement whereby SWA purchases water from MWWS and provides service to three areas within Morton County - one by Junction Inn, another near Crown Butte Dam and a third by Tower Hill.

SWPP construction within Morton County began in the fall of 2005 and will be completed this fall. In July, MWWS board members and Morton County Commissioners joined SWA in Flasher for our monthly board of directors meeting and a tour of the constructed area and afterward, a steak, grilled to perfection by the man himself, Director Tomac.

No matter the cut, the marinade or cooking technique, a steak is always better when shared with colleagues after achieving a major feat - construction of the Morton County Project.



Left: SWA Director Steve Tomac pays off a two-year old challenge by hosting a steak fry for Morton County Commissioners, MWWS and SWA Directors.



From left: Morton County Commissioner, Jim Boehm; SWA Director, John Klein; Morton County Commissioner, Bob Christianson, SWA Director Larry Ziegler and Bartlett & West Construction Administrator, Bob Keller tour SWPP construction in Morton County.



SWA Manager/CEO, Ray Christensen and MWWS General Manager, Mike Kennitz watch as SWA Chairperson, Loren Myran and MWWS Chairperson, Alfred Underdahl sign a bulk service agreement bringing MWWS water to Morton County via the SWPP. Afterward, the two organizations toured the construction area with Morton County Commissioners.

Water Works



State funds available for livestock water projects

7th Annual
**“Make A Splash”
Water Festival**

September 21-22
Dickinson Recreation Center
Dickinson, ND. Contact Nola at
701-225-4677.

Governor Hoeven’s recent drought disaster declaration made \$200,000 available for farmers and ranchers to develop permanent water supplies for livestock, including connections to the Southwest Pipeline Project. The State Water Commission’s (SWC) Livestock Water Supply Assistance Program provides up to 50 percent of eligible costs of approved projects, but no more than \$3,500 total. Priority is based on earliest date of application.

To be eligible for funds, an applicant must:

- Be a livestock producer with livestock water supply problems caused by drought.
- Apply for water cost-share assistance from the Farm Service Agency and have been denied assistance.

Requests for assistance must be submitted on a form provided by the SWC and include:

- Written proof the applicant applied for and was denied cost-share assistance from the FSA.
- A map or aerial photo showing the location of the proposed water supply project.
- An estimate of proposed project costs.
- Certification that the applicant is a livestock producer.

“High temperatures and lack of precipitation are taking a toll on our farmers and ranchers, as well as on businesses that depend on the agriculture community,” said Hoeven. “The steps we’ve taken will provide help with the cost of creating reliable water supplies for cattle.”

For more information, contact SWC’s office at 701-328-4989 or visit their web site at www.swc.state.nd.us.

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People and business succeeding with quality water.

Mission Statement:
Providing quality water for southwest North Dakota.

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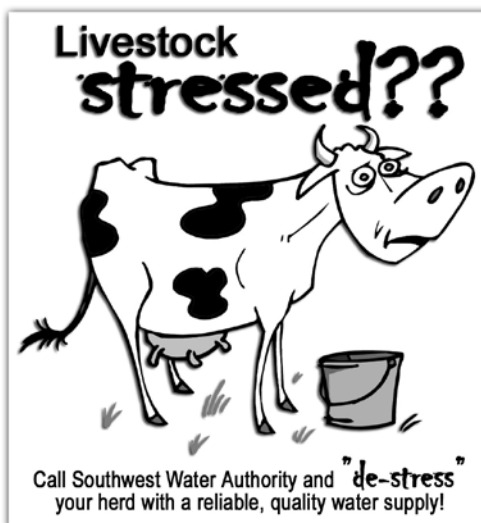
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Clockwise from left: Myran, Flynn and Oech are the SWA Board of Directors' new executive team.

Board elects executive committee

At their July board of director's meeting, Southwest Water Authority re-elected Loren Myran, Taylor, to serve as the board's chairperson and Don Flynn, Scranton, to serve as vice chairperson. Darrel Oech, Beach, was elected to a first term as secretary/treasurer. He replaces long-time secretary/treasurer, Leonard Jacobs of Reeder, who chose not to run for the office.

Construction update

By: Tim Freije

Vickie's water notes

By: Vickie Franchuk

Summer is a busy time for customers to connect to the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP). If connecting to SWPP this summer, please provide a minimum of 72 hours notification. This gives us time to schedule the connection with one of our trained SWPP operators. Often, operators are able to turn water on within 24 hours of notification, depending on workload. You can schedule a connection by contacting us at 225-0241 or toll free, 1-888-425-0241.

You cannot connect to the pipeline until you receive official notification from our office. If connections are made without official SWA notice, you will be subject to penalties of: \$150 the 1st time, \$300 the 2nd time. Service will be disconnected the 3rd and final time a connection is made without official notice.

It is unacceptable for you and/or your plumber to turn the water on. Water is not considered safe for human consumption until an operator adequately flushes your service line and the water passes inspection.

This summer's warm, dry weather has allowed construction to proceed fairly rapidly throughout the Medora-Beach and Morton County Service Areas. The following synopsis provides a quick glimpse into the pipeline's most recent construction achievements.

Medora-Beach Regional Service Area-Phase II

Abbott, Arne, Schwindt Inc. (AAS) continues to work on Contract 7-8B, the Medora-Beach Regional Service Area Phase II, near Beach and Golva. They have turned more than 70 customers over for service. Finished in the Beach Service Area, the plow crew is currently near Golva whereas the trenching crew has finished work near Golva and has moved to Belfield.

In Morton County, Northern Improvement Co. has plowed in all of the pipe for this contract. The Tower Hill Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) Booster, North Crown Butte VFD Booster and the Junction Inn Special Meter have been installed. The Junction Inn Service Area has been tied into the Missouri West Water System. The North Crown Butte VFD Booster is operational and the North Crown Butte Service Area lines have been filled and tested.

Beulah Interim Service Area

The Beulah Interim Service Area Contract, 7-9A, has been awarded to AAS. Recent natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, have significantly increased the price of pipe/construction costs. Therefore, we have applied for additional funding (\$58,500) from the United States Department of Agriculture-Rural Development. AAS is scheduled to start work in early August following completion of a six inch pipeline installation in the Belfield area.



This summer's dry weather allowed construction of the SWPP to proceed rapidly. At the beginning of August most of the pipe had been installed in the Morton County Service Area and nearly three-fourths of the pipe was installed in the Beach/Golva Service Area.



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