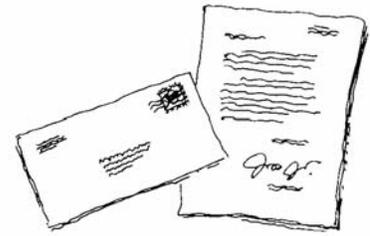


# Letters



**T**he city of Moran would like to thank you (Charlie Schwindamann) for your assistance on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, in determining the level of sludge in the city's sewer lagoons.

The information provided from testing will allow us to properly budget for future expenses involved with our wastewater system.

*Phillip Merkel, Mayor  
Michael Stodgell, Superintendent  
City of Moran*

**It is with pleasure that I write this** letter to you, Elmer, to commend you for have such a fine staff at Kansas Rural Water Association. All of your staff is a joy to work with and have been of tremendous help to us here at Rural Water District #3, Jackson County in Holton, Kansas.

In particular and lately, Lonnie Boller and Tony Kimmi have spent a lot of time with our water operators, Greg Drinovsky and Jerry Bowser. We have

had many projects up in the air here at our water district and Lonnie and Tony have spent time with us and given us solutions to try and implement to help in some of our trouble areas in our district. Most recently, Lonnie helped Greg and Jerry install a water mixer system in our Coleman water tower on Thursday, June 24, 2010. They all worked very hard on developing this system.

Today, as I write this letter, Lonnie has contacted Jerry and Greg about setting up a time to come back again to help on another water tower issue (on Charlie's tower) related to losing chlorine and trying to maintain a residual in the tower.

Lonnie and Tony are both very nice and easy to work with. We find them to be quite knowledgeable in their field and they often have very good ideas, suggestions, etc. for us to try and implement to make our system more efficient and effective.

I greatly appreciate Lonnie and Tony's time and dedication to the water district.

We enjoy working with them and will continue to look forward to a positive and productive working relationship now and into the future.

KRWA is the best resource we have!

*Brenda Adkins  
Manager, Jackson RWD 3*

**Our former mayor, Duane** Kreiensieck, who currently serves at the city's certified water and wastewater operator, told me recently how much he appreciated the Association's help to Robinson.

We had what appeared to be an algae bloom on one of our sewage lagoons and Charlie Schwindamann came and met with Duane to check the problem. He immediately recognized it as duckweed and recommended a treatment to kill it and prevent it from spreading to the outflow lagoon.

I, too, appreciate the assistance and you to thank you (Elmer) and Mr. Schwindamann.

With kind regards,

*Dorothy M. DeDunnah  
Mayor, City of Robinson*

**I apologize for taking so long in** writing my thank you for selecting me as the "City Clerk of the Year" at the March KRWA Conference. What an honor and surprise to have been chosen.

The honor is especially important as KRWA has been a very integral part of Atwood's process in securing our water projects.

The new City Clerks' Forum was wonderful and very informative and I look forward to it at the next conference.

Thank you again.

*Janet Stice  
City Clerk, City of Atwood*

**I appreciate your work (Charlie** Schwindamann) at KRWA on our wastewater treatment operators' behalf and hope you find the survey

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information useful. Enclosed is the completed survey and copy of our city's water and wastewater ordinances which were recently updated. Hope this helps.

I also wanted to thank you for your "on the spot" help in May when we were installing the Flo-Dar monitoring equipment. Confined space entry and exit are always tense, and an extra pair of hands and eyes are always appreciated in those situations.

Also your articles in *The Kansas Lifeline* magazine are informative and helpful and I look forward to reading them. Often wastewater is a forgotten utility until something goes awry. The flush it and forget it mentality is a high hurdle to get over so it is nice to know we have an outlet for good ideas and cost-cutting tips so we are not having to constantly re-invent the wheel.

*Tim Halfhide*  
Wastewater Treatment Facility Manger  
City of Concordia

**Just wanted to let you guys know** that the class on analyzers (Operation, Calibration and Performance Verification of Analyzers, June 30, 2010) was very informative. As a fairly young water operator (Class II), I learned a great deal of information that will be invaluable as I provide safe drinking water to our citizens. One of the perks, being free, was the only way I was able to talk my supervisor into letting me go. The presenter (Jim Schuth) was very easy to listen to and learn from.

*Tony Martinez*  
City of Haysville

**Thank you (Doug Helmke) for the** invitation to your source water protection workshop in Manhattan on March 10, 2010. Unfortunately I was not able to attend. Please accept this letter of support in lieu of attendance.

The Stakeholder Leadership Team of the Middle Kansas River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) project continues to appreciate your work in our area with public water systems. The teams

continues to have a goal of having every public water system in our watershed adopt a source water protection plan and to adopt or update their water conservation plan. I am hopeful you can report successful completion of at least one plan in the coming year.

Thank you for recruiting us to become a WaterSense partner too. This program should be helpful to us in accomplishing our water conservation goal.

Please let me know of any completed projects in our watershed and of any projects that are appropriate of our support and assistance. We hope to work with you as we pursue our common goals of restored and protected surface water and groundwater.

Thanks, on behalf of the Middle Kansas WRAPS Stakeholder Leadership Team.

*Rick Davis*  
Coordinator

**I want to take this opportunity to** thank KRWA, and especially Gary Armentrout, for the help given us in the past fourteen years. Our district was reviewed by Mike Balthazor, KDHE, and didn't receive any violations. Due to KRWA and Gary's help, we were aware of all the regulations, plans, etc. that must be implemented and kept for stipulated number of years. The Annual Conference seminars have been very informative in these areas, also.

I encourage all board members and staff of cities and rural water districts to attend the conference.

Thanks again.

*Corky Gammon*  
Manager/Operator, Miami RWD 4

**Just want to thank you (Elmer and Greg) for attending Rocky Fund's** reception and helping to make it very special for him.

### 2010 KRWA Officers & Directors

*Sam Atherton, President, PWWSD 4, Cherryvale*  
*Dennis Schwartz, Vice-President, Shawnee Co. RWD 8, Tecumseh*  
*Patricia Shaffer, Secretary, Butler Co. RWD 5, Benton*  
*Darrell Schlabach, Treasurer, Washington Co. RWD 1, Hanover*  
*Sharon Dwyer, Director, Douglas Co. RWD 5, Lawrence*  
*Larry Remmenga, Director, Concordia*  
*Allan Soetaert, Director, Johnson Co. RWD 7, Gardner*

### KRWA Staff

*Elmer Ronnebaum, General Manager*  
*Laurie Strathman, Administrative Assistant*  
*Gary Armentrout, AARA Circuit Rider*  
*Lonnie Boller, Technical Assistant*  
*Rita Clary, AARA Circuit Rider*  
*Eric Davolt, Technical Assistant*  
*Greg Duryea, Technical Assistant*  
*Mike Fisher, KAN STEP Tech*  
*Doug Guenther, Technical Assistant*  
*Doug Helmke, Water Rights/Source Water Specialist*  
*Shane Holthaus, KAN STEP Tech*  
*Jim Jackson, Training Coordinator/Technical Assistant*  
*Tony Kimmi, Technical Assistant*  
*Jesse Knight, GPS/GIS Mapping Coordinator*  
*Pete Koenig, GPS/GIS Mapping Tech*  
*Jeff Lamfers, Consultant*  
*Pat McCool, Consultant*  
*Greg Metz, Technical Assistant*  
*Katie Miller, Source Water Protection Specialist*  
*Charlie Schwindamann, Wastewater Tech*  
*Jon Steele, Technical Assistant*  
*Mark Thomas, GPS/GIS Mapping Tech*  
*Delbert "Bert" Zerr, Consultant*

Also, thank you for your help in supplying our district with the samples for our employee handbook. Gary Hanson has advised the board on the changes they made and it will be ready to be voted on at their next meeting.

The board is interested in hiring a new auditor for the year 2010.

Again, thank you for all your help.

*Joyce Bausch  
Office Manager, Jackson RWD 1*

**Last week the wooden gates that** control the height of our primary sewer pond started leaking badly enough that we were beginning to drain the pond into the secondary cell. Charlie Schwindamann dropped off the sewer plugs on Monday morning and within an hour we had replaced all the gates. Using KRWA's sewer plugs made a quick and easy job of it. I don't know where else we would have found some so quickly, let alone get free delivery. Thanks again.

*Donald Lehman  
City Superintendent, City of Linn*

**The city of Morrill would like to** offer an over-due "Thank You" for the assistance provided by KRWA.

The city has requested assistance with smoke testing, sludge judging and obtaining advice for our sewer sampling. Charlie Schwindamann has always been very willing to assist our Superintendent, Lee Wymer.

KRWA has also offered assistance to Lee with a valve installation (when the center column of our elevated tank froze and broke last winter) to better isolate the water tower. The addition of a fire hydrant between the new valve and tower to allow for servicing the water tower a little easier.

The center column is being replaced in July and thankfully the assistance provided by KRWA years ago kept us providing water service. In this we mean that KRWA assisted with the installation of a by-pass valve in our south pit where we control the flow of water being purchased from the city of Sabetha.

Also KRWA has assisted with leak detection when we were losing more than 25 percent of the water we purchased from Sabetha.

The assistance and training offered by KRWA more than makes up for the annual membership dues the city of Morrill pays. The 2010 Annual conference theme of "Together We Thrive" has never been more accurate.

Again, "Thank you" to you and all of the KRWA staff for the assistance, advice, and training provided.

*Mayor, Council and Staff  
City of Morrill  
Leon Huning, Mayor  
Roger Price, Council member  
Tiffany Baumgartner, Council member  
Greg Duryea, Council member  
Jim Stone, Council member  
Melanie Teeter, Council member  
Linda Hill, City Clerk  
Lee Wymer, Superintendent*

**The city of Madison would like to** thank Kansas Rural Water Association for their assistance in overseeing the water plant during the recent repair of our intake pipe to ensure the safety of our customers.

We would especially like to thank the following KRWA staff:

To Pat McCool for his sage advice over the phone and in person on many occasions.

To Lonnie Boller for his prompt response to our pleas for assistance when we were short-handed and for his following up in person.

To Jim Jackson and Tony Kimmi for operating the water plant when our operator became ill. They worked a lot of long hours and we don't know what we would have done without them.

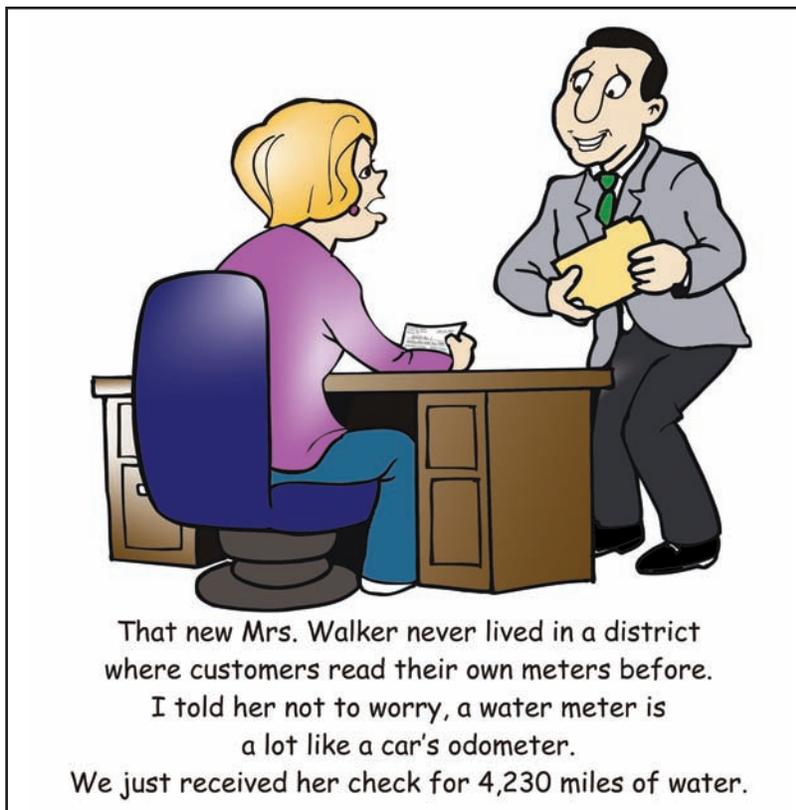
Kansas Rural Water Association is a valuable resource for small communities such as ours. Thanks again for the dedication and support you consistently provide.

Thanks again on behalf of the governing body.

*Carol Porter  
City Clerk, City of Madison*

**Thank you Doug Helmke for** presenting the Groundwater Flow Model at the annual conservation 4th Grade field day! We hope to see you again next year!

*Rena Billington  
Rice County Conservation District*



That new Mrs. Walker never lived in a district where customers read their own meters before. I told her not to worry, a water meter is a lot like a car's odometer. We just received her check for 4,230 miles of water.

Graphic by Linda Windler