

KRWA Has New Pressure Tank for Water System Use



This new pressure tank was recently constructed for use by KRWA to help public water systems during emergencies or periods of tank maintenance. Financing for the tank was provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment with the funds originating from US EPA.

Thanks to funding through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and US EPA, the Kansas Rural Water Association now has a new portable pressure tank to provide help to public water systems. Likely uses of the tank are during system emergencies or at times when tank maintenance is being performed.

The tank is mounted on an eighteen-foot steel floor trailer with dual, seven-ton axles. A connection port measures 2.5 inches where a fire hose can be attached to draw water from the tank. The tank can be installed at any location in a city or RWD where a fire hydrant is available.

The design includes a support jack on each corner of the trailer; they are lowered when the tank is filled. It is complete with pressure gauges, pop off valves, and a way to add air to the tank for additional pressure if needed. If everything goes according to plan, it should only be necessary to pressurize the tank one time at the initial fill. The only reason for the need to re-pressure would be a line break that would drain the tank. A portable air compressor is also part of the package.

With a total capacity of approximately 4,000 gallons, the usable storage space should allow for at least

3,000 gallons. That ratio has been demonstrated to maintain a sufficient air pocket in the tank to provide adequate pressure to the connected water system. The tank was designed with a sight tube so users can readily

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determine the water level inside the tank. The tank also has a two-inch drain valve to allow for draining when the tank needs to be relocated or returned. The tank interior was painted with NSF-approved paint and the outside was powder coated. The tank can be towed with a half-ton or three-quarter ton pickup.

As an example of likely use, at the time of the Greensburg tornado, KRWA helped arrange for a company to bring in a tank to supply pressure to the town. The requisitioning process was time-consuming. With KRWA now having a tank that it controls, it can respond in a timely manner for whatever needs a system might have.

Constructed by a manufacturing shop in Horton, KS, the tank was taken to Independence, Kansas to be machine-welded.

KRWA also has new fire hoses that can be used with the tank. Also, there is a new, small, generator with the project that can also be of benefit to water systems. KRWA anticipates imposing a charge for mobilization and set up of the tank, but no charge for use of the tank as it was provided to KRWA with public funding through KDHE and US EPA's State Technical Assistance Grant program.

KRWA Tech Tony Kimmi and I oversaw the construction and assembly of the tank. Any city or RWD interested to learn more about use of this tank can reach me at lonnie@krwa.net or call the KRWA office at 785-336-3760.

Lonnie Boller is a Technical Assistant at KRWA. He has been employed by KRWA since 2001. Lonnie is a Class II certified operator; he previously was Water Plant Supervisor for the City of Horton. He has also attended and completed training at the



University of Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center.

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