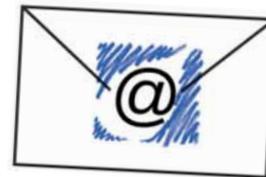


# Letters



**T**he city of Dearing recently had two projects we were working on and needed help.

We were put in touch with KRWA staff member Kris Kline. His help was invaluable.

First, we had a fire hydrant that was damaged and needed replacement. Our main problem was keeping the pressure steady all through the city and no part have low pressure. Kris came and looked over the whole layout of the city. He discussed the valves that would isolate the tower and nearby valves that would be turned off, while still retaining the correct water pressure. Kris even provided pressure regulators for us, and returned to Dearing in advance to check and see which areas might be affected. We had several people helping with the pressure regulators on a practice run. The installation of the fire hydrant and operating the pressure regulators allowed us to complete this installation without any problems or loss of pressure.

Our second project involves our funds from the American Rescue Plan. We were looking into replacing our current system water pumps with stainless steel pumps. Kris advised us we did not need to hire an engineer since we were not changing the layout of the pumps. Kris even advised us of a company that deals with municipal installation. We contacted the company out of Oklahoma City and they sent a representative up to look over our system. They can help us, and what they will provide will be on a skid and just fit into the same space. At this point, they will even work with our contact who takes care of our telemetry system, and they will be working together.

We want to thank Kris Kline for all his expert help with both of our projects. You can certainly consider him an asset to Kansas Rural Water.

*Patricia K. Smith  
City Clerk  
City of Dearing*

**We would like to take the time to** thank Charlie Schwindamann for coming to Cawker City to help with the problems we were having with our lagoons.

With his help, we think we have found the problem and he has helped me to get the ball rolling to move forward to solve this project. I just wanted to reach out and let Charlie know that we very much appreciated his help.

*Charles Gullion  
Superintendent  
City of Cawker City*

**As a resident of the city of West Mineral**, and the town's water and wastewater operator, I cannot imagine doing my job without the support of the Kansas Rural Water Association.

In the past year, they have helped me obtain the training needed to become certified in both Water and Wastewater to meet the KDHE requirements.

They have also assisted in isolating the city's standpipe, cleaning it and putting it back into service. Advised and provided much-needed assistance on evaluating and repairing defects in both the water and wastewater systems and planning for future improvements.

Representatives of the Kansas Rural Water Association have consistently provided their knowledge, skills and in many instances sweat, in finding workable and affordable solutions.

Assistance came in many forms, from finding, isolating and repairing leaks, contacting competent suppliers of parts or services, advising how to begin applying for funding sources, advising on proper record keeping and problem reporting, to meeting with City Council members and explaining complex issues.

I'm sure the year ahead of me will find many opportunities to challenge

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my knowledge, skills, and abilities, but I find comfort in knowing there is help available just a phone call away to the KRWA.

Just to name names – special thanks to Daryn Martin, Jason Solomon, Kris Kline, Greg Metz, and a shout out to the people behind these that make their support possible.

*Ron Lea  
City of West Mineral*

**On behalf of the city of Scammon,** we would like to thank you and your staff for the assistance from Jason Solomon, Greg Metz, Stewart Kasper and Kris Kline on November 9, 2021. We had been having major problems with water loss since February 2021 ranging from 40 to 50 percent on unaccounted for water.

On November 9, with your staff and their equipment, we located six potential problems areas. The following day we replaced a water meter that had not been registering which showed we had been losing 11 GPM. That was a big one.

As of today (Nov. 18) we have completed the repair of the other five problem areas, finding a leak at each spot. They were all small leaks, but could very well add up to another three to four GPM. I have discussed this with Jason Solomon.

Once again, thank you and your staff for your assistance.

*Jerry Grant  
Mayor, City of Scammon*

**I'm writing this letter in** appreciation for the knowledge, effort and professionalism that the people and the KRWA as a whole bring to the table when it comes to assisting the water/wastewater operators within the State of Kansas.

I have had the opportunity to attend several training classes over the years and more in the past months due to the fact that I have become the operator in-training for our systems here in the city of Elbing. Another thing that I have

found in attending KRWA classes is that you have the opportunity to meet other like-minded operators and have the chance to share knowledge of problems you have experienced.

I reached out at my first training session this year about having someone make a visit to our city for advice and recommendations on some maintenance issues regarding our wastewater lagoon system. I was given Charlie Schwindamann's contact information. In visiting with Charlie about making a visit I learned that he has been to our facility in the past and had a very good knowledge of our system.

He made a visit to our city on October 14, 2021, he was very professional and helpful to say the least, and retained very good notes concerning his past visit. We spent several hours going over everything from valve maintenance, system design

and reviewing the prints of our system as to the flows and the system's valves between the different cells.

I have found that having the Kansas Rural Water association in the loop when it comes to training on water and wastewater systems and managing our city systems is a very valuable tool. One thing I have noticed is that the staff and trainers brought in by KRWA have been in the trenches which means a lot to us people in the field. It's like having a friend in the business.

In closing, I feel that even though our systems in the City of Elbing are small and we buy our treated water from a rural water district, the KRWA brings a lot to the table.

I will in the future turn to them for knowledge and advice.

Sincerely,

*Steve L. Clark  
City of Elbing*

### KRWA Officers & Directors

*Bill Shroyer, President, City of Sabetha*  
*Mike Fulkerson, Vice-President, Leavenworth Cons. RWD 1, Basehor*  
*Scott Robertson, Secretary, City of Hesston*  
*Paul Froelich, Treasurer, City of Enterprise*  
*Carl Chalfant, Director, City of Washington*  
*Patricia Shaffer, Director, Butler Co. RWD 5, Benton*  
*Allan Soetaert, Director, Johnson Co. RWD 7, Gardner*  
*Bill Shroyer, Director, National Rural Water Association*  
*Mays & Associates, LLC, Legislative Liaison*

### KRWA Staff

*Elmer Ronnebaum, General Manager*  
*Ken Kopp, Assistant General Manager; Water Rights/Source Water Specialist*  
*Laurie Strathman, Administrative Assistant*  
*Bret Beye, Technical Assistant*  
*Lonnie Boller, Technical Assistant*  
*Brian Bowles, Technical Assistant*  
*Doug Guenther, Technical Assistant*  
*Doug Helmke, Water Rights/Source Water Specialist*  
*Stewart Kasper, Technical Assistant / Trainer*  
*Tony Kimmi, Technical Assistant*  
*Kris Kline, Technical Assistant*  
*Jeff Lamfers, Consultant*  
*Daryn Martin, Technical Assistant*  
*Pat McCool, Consultant*  
*Greg Metz, Technical Assistant*  
*Linda Osterhaus, Office Assistant*  
*Charlie Schwindamann, Wastewater Tech*  
*Jason Soloman, Wastewater Tech*  
*Jon Steele, Technical Assistant*  
*Mark Thomas, GPS/GIS Mapping Coordinator*  
*Monica Wurtz, Technical Assistant*  
*Delbert "Bert" Zerr, Consultant*

MARCH 2022

Dear Members of KRWA and Friends:



It is my distinct pleasure and an honor to provide this statement in support of Your Kansas Rural Water Association.

There have been many challenges for our cities and towns, rural water districts and citizens over the past year. COVID has caused many events to be canceled.

We look forward to holding the 2022 Annual Conference & Exhibition in Wichita, March 29 – 31. I know that everyone looks forward to getting together.

I also hope that your drinking water and wastewater systems were successful in all operations and construction projects, and you were able to complete all upgrades or improvements to your systems. I know from our experience in Sabetha that materials are in short supply. Suppliers report this is due to the extraordinary demand for products. Companies that provide brass fittings cannot pour the brass fast enough to satisfy the demand. This begs the question of how the new infrastructure funding will further impact the availability of materials.

I am proud that Your Kansas Rural Water Association was able to continue to provide the leadership to help water and wastewater operators attain the necessary training for their certifications as operators. Attending training just to pick up hours is not the right reason to attend training. Training should be beneficial to the utility staff, managers, and governing bodies as well. KRWA responded by being the first to pilot virtual operator training in 2020. In 2021, KRWA provided 31 online sessions that were attended by 1,676 operators and others.

No organization succeeds without support of membership. KRWA is Your Association. I know that staff request and try to honor any request for training that is made. KRWA encourages any and all ideas to continue making KRWA as resilient as possible and keeping it as a recognized leader in water and wastewater utility support.

KRWA will continue to seek out the newest information and latest technology through the scores of Associate Members and through all who participate in the Annual Conference and other regional training sessions.

To remain unified as one voice, KRWA participates at the federal, state, and local levels of government to help inform and educate member RWD boards and councils. The weekly E-News, the KRWA website at [www.krwa.net](http://www.krwa.net), and the Association's magazine, *The Kansas Lifeline*, are exemplary.

With our unified voice as members, Board, and staff, we are being heard through our efforts at the national and state levels.

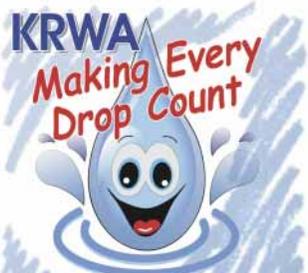
A report beginning on page 99 showcases some of the activities of the Association in 2021. That is followed by a listing of all the members as of January 1, 2022.

We hope you enjoy this year's conference activities, training sessions, and interactions with fellow professionals in your field.

Thank you for your continued support of the Kansas Rural Water Association!

Sincerely,

**Bill Shroyer**  
KRWA President



**KRWA**  
*Making Every Drop Count*

**2022** 53rd Annual  
Conference & Exhibition  
**March 29 - 31, 2022**  
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



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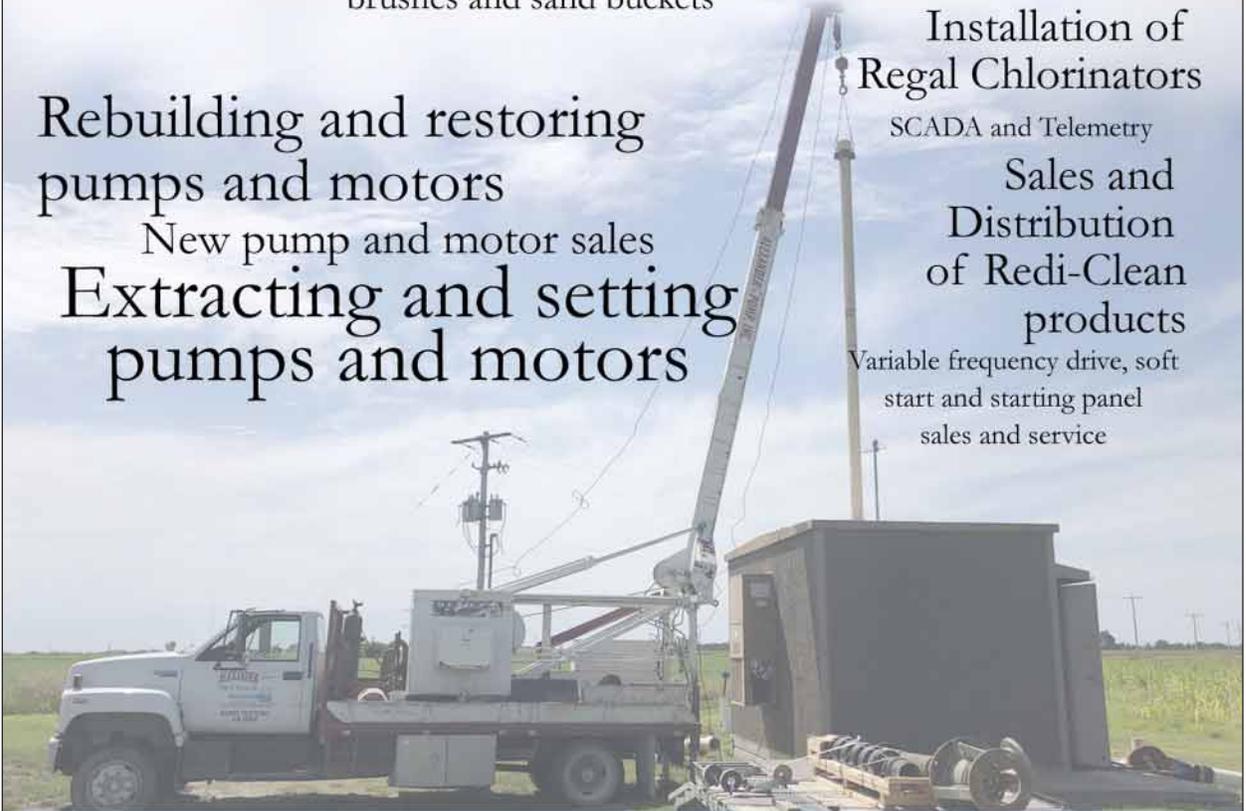
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