

Letters



I want to thank Doug Guenther on behalf of myself and the city of Bennington for his assistance on November 21. We had well no. 18 acidized on November 20, 2006 and had requested Doug Guenther to help the next morning on flushing the well and adjusting the flow. We completed the task and thought we were done for the day. But, when we pulled up to the well house to make our final check we found water running out of the electrical conduit, control box and outlets. Doug immediately determined that the diaphragm in the flow switch had ruptured. We located a new meter and while I went to pick it up, Doug continued to work on our system.

I knew he had other commitments, so I told him that if he could tell me what to do I could get our system back on line. He cancelled his other commitments and stayed until our system was operational.

A special thanks to Doug for his gracious commitment to our needs, especially on Thanksgiving Eve.

*Calvin Burke, Operations and Mayor / Council
City of Bennington*

When we decided to tackle our project of replacing all the waterlines, meters, and fire hydrants in town, we never guessed how invaluable that KRWA would be to us. Without the guidance and direction from the professionals at Kansas Rural Water Association, we would have been the proverbial "ship lost at sea." From our first meeting with Elmer, to the last day of help from Pete Koenig, Greg Duryea, Jon Steele and Doug Guenther, the people from Agra knew we had nothing but the best help.

This note is to thank you, KRWA, for your excellent help during our project. Pete was a major asset for us. With his experience, knowledge, and work ethic, we were able to complete our project correctly and successfully. Doug, also, was a much needed help and was on-site for answers and work.

Even though a thank you is not sufficient for what Kansas Rural Water Association brings to small towns like ours, we wish to send a huge thanks to you all from the people of Agra, Agra City Council, City Clerk Lyndi Bell and City Supervisor Francis Gordon.

*Scott Bretton, Mayor
City of Agra*

I want to express my gratitude for your assistance (Bob Kirby) in attempting to determine the problem that we have been experiencing with the intake pumps at Spring River. This problem has been ongoing for several months and is of great concern. I have sent a copy of your report along with a cover letter to Joe Harbison, District Manager for Layne-Western. Hopefully, he will have some ideas regarding how we can fix this problem.

Again, thanks to you and KRWA for your assistance.

*Huey York
City of Baxter Springs*

I know it's been awhile and I apologize for not writing sooner.

I wanted to thank Jim Jackson for all his assistance in helping me locate a water leak. I had spent several days trying to find it. Jim was very prompt and courteous in helping me and found it right away. He saved us many hours of tedious work.

Again, I would like to thank you and I appreciate the quality time Jim spent with us.

*Charles Bowen, Operator
Jefferson RWD 2*

Preferred Aqua Technology, LLC

Controls and Service for the Water and Wastewater Industry

Jeff Holzbaur
2816 Berry Ave
Independence, MO 64057
jholzbaur6668@bcglobal.net

816-590-4940

Fax 816-373-1262



ALEXANDER PUMP & SERVICES INC.

- Turbine and Submersible Pumps
- Down-Hole Camera Casing Inspection
- Linear Installation
- Variable Speed Drives
- New & Rebuilt Motors
- Pump Overhaul
- Digital Flow Meters
- Well Rehab

St. Mary, KS 66536 Ph. 785-437-6305

Web site: AlexanderPump@AlexanderPump.com
E-mail: aps@kansas.net

This is way over-due, but I wanted to let you know (Greg Duryea) how our low pressure ordeal turned out.

We corrected the pressure at the meter that had too much pressure; we eliminated the 5/8 meter being used to monitor the spur line. Nothing changed at the problem meters. We even opened the clean-out and ran it for four hours. Still no change. We then upped the pressure on that whole section of line on a Saturday. Sunday another customer called to report low pressure. When we checked it out, the water was being pulled by this meter and going down the original problem line.

The next morning, Labor Day, Eileen and I walked the total line again. This time we found a little water standing in a draw. We went downhill a hundred feet and found 18 gpm running wild. Evidently the small amount we were losing was soaking through the rocks. When we increased pressure, it blew the line open enough to make the water come to the surface.

Anyway, we fixed that and went to the low pressure meter and after a few minutes the pressure was at 66 psi.

We had walked that line at least twice before with no luck.

The other reason for writing is to thank you for taking the time to come down and lend us a hand. We appreciate the help.

*Bill Jackson, Chairman
Pottawatomie RWD 2*

The city of Troy would like to say a big, "thank you," to Greg Duryea for all your hard work and for helping us find a number of water leaks in our town. From water mains to fire hydrants, you took the time to check everything possible that could be leaking. Thank you for returning several times to help with repairs and to check to make sure there were no

additional leaks. Without this extra help and knowledge from KRWA, the city of Troy would be losing a lot of water and having to spend extra work hours to keep the plant operating and costing the city more time and money.

Thanks for your insistence that we continue to submit our Water Loss Report. The city was taken off the (special focus) list a few years back, but with your suggestion to continue the paper work, we were able to detect that the city was still losing a lot of water and could tell that something needed to be done quickly.

The city with your help has repaired a number of leaks and is now on the way to having most of the repairs completed.

*Raymond Whittaker,
Working Supervisor
City of Troy*

When a small water district such as ours is faced with a crisis

and needs help, it is a genuine comfort to know you (Elmer) and your capable crew are there to lend a helping hand.

As a relatively new district experiencing well problems, the decision was made to "pig" our main water line from the wells to the R.O. plant. No one had experience with this process but Lonnie Boller came through for us on very short notice. He worked with our crew all day and helped get the job done and then gave a follow-up call the next day to see if we needed additional assistance.

Please accept our gratitude and let Lonnie know how very helpful he was to us. It is reassuring to know you and your staff are there when a need arises.

*Peggy Hawkins,
District Manager
Pottawatomie RWD 4*

I want to thank Jon Steele and the KRWA once again for the

**2005 KRWA
Officers &
Directors**

*Dennis Schwartz, President, Shawnee Co. RWD 8, Tecumseh, Kan.
Patricia Shaffer, Vice-President, Butler Co. RWD 5, Benton, Kan.
Sam Atherton, Director, PWWSD 4, Cherryvale, Kan.
Sharon Dwyer, Treasurer, Douglas Co. RWD 5, Lawrence, Kan.
Mike Mayberry, Secretary, City of Kiowa, Kiowa, Kan.
Larry Remmenga, Director, City of Concordia, Concordia, Kan.
Darrell Schlabach, Director, Washington Co. RWD 1, Hanover, Kan.*

**KRWA
Staff**

*Elmer Ronnebaum, General Manager
Laurie Strathman, Administrative Assistant
Gary Armentrout, Technical Assistant
Lonnie Boller, Surface Water Tech
Greg Duryea, Technical Assistant
Mike Fisher, KAN STEP Tech (part time)
Doug Guenther, Technical Assistant
Doug Helmke, Water Rights/Source Water Tech
Shane Holthaus, KAN STEP Tech
Jim Jackson, Source Water Tech
Bob Kirby, Technical Assistant
Jesse Knight, GPS/GIS Mapping Tech
Dan Knupp, Communications Coordinator
Pete Koenig, GIS/GPS Mapping Coordinator
Pat McCool, Consultant
Charlie Schwindamann, Wastewater Tech
Jon Steele, Technical Assistant
Mark Thomas, GPS/GIS Mapping Tech
Delbert "Bert" Zerr, Consultant*

assistance received for my PRV stations. As this was a first time experience for me, the technical information helped me understand the cause/effect of the problem, and your "hands on" attitude helped me wade through it.

The information you provided also helped me explain to the Board what was and will probably continue to occur as our system ages. As you said, we are not working with "pure" water, so build-up problems are inevitable. Exercising helps and probably delays the trouble, but it will happen.

On a personal note, I want to thank you for the compliments on my service to the District. Being the only operator for the system, there is really nothing to compare my work to and that can be frustrating at times. It's always good to hear that the job is being done correctly.

*Randy Buggeln, Operator
Rice RWD 1*

Thanks to Bob Kirby for all the help he has given to me and the rural water districts I work for. When I call he is always right there to help in any way he can. His help is very much appreciated.

*Arnold Thomas, Operator
Wilson RWD 11 and 13*

The directors of Montgomery County Rural Water District 10 would like to take this opportunity to thank Kansas Rural Water Association, Bob Kirby and Gary Armentrout, technical assistants, for their assistance in pigging two miles of water line.

Their knowledge of this project was very useful. Again, thanks to KRWA for your help.

*Harold Jagers,
Chairman/Operator
Montgomery RWD 10*

I am writing this letter and I will tell you (Elmer) it is long overdue! I would like to give you

some insight of what's been going on with the city of Gorham.

Back in July of this year our city maintenance employee was terminated. Without a maintenance employee I was responsible for all the business conducted for the city and all projects that were to be completed. During this time some of the activities that took place were meter change-outs, installing new meters and tapping the main water and sewer lines, water loss paperwork for all of the above not to mention all the materials that had to be either found or ordered during these projects.

I would like to say that KRWA Technical Assistant Doug Guenther was there for me and for the city through all of these events. He was extremely helpful with his knowledge and ambition! We were able to tackle all of the above projects in pretty decent time without major complications. The city ended up hiring an individual at the beginning of August to take the city maintenance position.

Then the beginning of this month, December 2006, we had a 4-inch water main break and our whole tower drained unexpectedly. I called Doug as soon as I knew of the problem to see what to do first. Doug was able to come over on Sunday, December 3, 2006 and evaluate the break and see what parts were needed. He also advised me to some KDHE regulations at that time.

Doug Guenther spent a ton of his valuable time here in Gorham that week with us trying to get the right guys, with the right parts and equipment to help finish the job. I was on the phone and we worked well as a team to get it taken care of. We ended up using Deep Creek Excavating out of Lincoln, Kansas and they had the parts and backhoe that we needed.

I have worked for the city for three years and have yet to meet anyone else that was more helpful

and also that I learned so much from.

I am currently the acting Operator in Training for the city of Gorham and plan on becoming certified the beginning of 2007. Doug has helped me with getting my certification and will continue to do so.

In conclusion, I want to be sure that KRWA knows Doug's time spent here at the city of Gorham was well worth it. I am happy to continue working with him and KRWA with all future projects.

*Allyssa Kraich, City Clerk
City of Gorham*

I completed my year as an Operator In Training and signed up to take the test at Emporia on December 14, 2006. I am very pleased to say that I passed the exam and now hold my Class I license.

The reason I am bringing this to attention is because of the amount of time, money and work KRWA put into my education to get me licensed. I took numerous classes sponsored by KRWA and read the book KDHE provided.

All of that was very helpful and gave me enough information to take the exam but I have been out of school for a very long time and was concerned about taking an examination. Bob Kirby sat down with me and reviewed the information necessary for a Class I operator. He also gave me encouragement and confidence to take the exam. Thanks for the fine services KRWA provides to rural water districts. You definitely make a positive impact on the industry.

*JW Stephenson,
Operator/Manager
Cherokee County RWD 2*

Yesterday the 8th of January, Bob Kirby came by to test some meters at the water plant to verify their accuracy. Bob was very helpful as always and performed

the tests efficiently and quickly. His equipment was good and his knowledge excellent. Thanks for making him available to help on any number of matters and concerns. We look forward to using him in the future to identify water loss in our system or whatever concerns we have. He has been an invaluable help in the past.

*Craig Newland, Superintendent
City of Severy*

I want to relay my sincere appreciation for the work Jon Steele did recently in testing our water meters. It certainly helped to have reliable assistance on that project. Jon always helps out when I call him.

Thanks again for your assistance!
*Bill Maurer, Superintendent
City of Inman*

Jim Jackson, KRWA technical assistant, provided exceptional service to Wilsey the past week. He drove over 100 miles in a snowstorm Saturday afternoon and

evening to repair our chemical feed pumps. Without his help, our system would have not been able to provide the necessary chlorine for the water system. He saved us from being in violation of KDHE rules.

After repairing one pump that evening, he also followed us back five miles to ensure that we did not slip off the snow-packed road because we had done just that on the way to the chlorine building. He then returned for the scheduled appointment the following Monday afternoon to fix the other pump and restored it to working order.

Mr. Jackson was very gracious, kind, patient, and helpful, even with a beginning water operator who has very much to learn. No words are adequate to express the appreciation that Mayor Syl Sauder and I have for Jim Jackson's assistance.

Once again, I wish to thank Mr. Jackson and the Kansas Rural Water Association for such great help in such an expedient manner.

*Marc Evans, Operator
City of Wilsey*

I am writing to tell you how much we appreciate Gary Armentrout's help and experience in assisting Sail-A-Way Home Owners Association in its negotiations and successful contract completion with Rural Water 2. Gary was able to bring good ideas and information into our discussions with the water district. I know that you are already aware of Gary's abilities but the board of directors felt a short note of thanks was in order.

Thanks again for your assistance.

*Robert D. Hannigan, Jr.
Sail-A-Way Board of Directors*

I just want to thank you for this service (creating CCRs) you do. It is really appreciated. You do so much to help the water districts. Thanks again for all the help and support KRWA provides.

*Janet Morgan
Montgomery RWD 10*

Welcome, new members!

Municipal Member
City of Atchison

Associate Members

Aqua Tech Engineering Consultants
Carson Industries
Dalrymple Consulting
Data Access & Support Center
Fellows Marketing
Filtration Specialties
Harben, Inc.
Kansas Biological Survey
Minol, LP

Mississippi Lime
Pratt Well Environmental Services
SE Kansas Regional Planning
Commission
Strother Field Airport Commission
T & P Sales
U.S. Pipe Valve & Hydrants
U.S.F. Fabrication
Underground Solutions
Vegetation Management Supply
VMAC Vehicle Mounted Air
Compressors
Western States Underground
Technologies