

Utilities Section Newsletter

League of Nebraska Municipalities

March 2022

Four individuals receive Water Industry Service Award

*By Rob Pierce, LNM Field Rep./
Training Coordinator*

This year, four municipal employees were presented the Water Industry Service Award (WISA) during the Nebraska Section-AWWA banquet held at the November Annual Conference in Kearney. The WISA is designed to recognize members of the Nebraska Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) who, over the years, have untiringly served the waterworks industry. Five criteria must be met which include: must be a current member and have been a continuous AWWA member for at least five years; served the water works industry for a minimum of 20 years; no more than one award can be made annually from each utility or company; and up to six nominees can be awarded per year. More information on the WISA and past awardees can be found at www.awwaneb.org/awards/wisa.

The individuals who received this service award have a combined 160+ years of service as municipal employees.

Jim McGowen of Schuyler started working for Seward in 1976 in the electric line department, then later as the Utility Superintendent at Schuyler in 1994. The Schuyler water system was completed in 1890 and the past 131 years, improvements have been implemented to provide quality water to Schuyler. Jim has



*Top left from left: Jim McGowen receives WISA from Rob Pierce.
Top right from left: Chuck Sliva receives WISA from NS-AWWA Chair Craig Reinsch. Photo by Daryl Kottwitz Photography.
Bottom left: Terry Derr with his WISA. Photo by Kim Robb.
Bottom right: John Grimes, third from left, on a project. Photo by City of Kearney.*

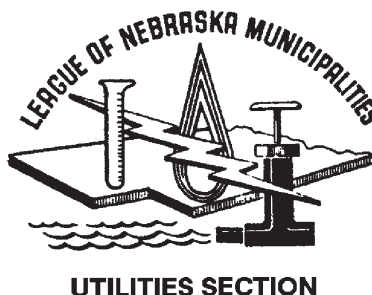
been the Utility Superintendent, Water/Sewer Commissioner and Water Operator with the City of Schuyler for over 27 years. Jim has supervised a number of water projects such as construction of a new well in 2009, installation of water mains and the construction

of a new 500,000-gallon elevated storage tower. Jim is a licensed grade 3 operator and has been a Nebraska Section AWWA member since 1991.

Chuck Sliva of Columbus started as a water operator in Columbus in 1981. He was named sewer supervisor in 1994, then water utility supervisor in 1996 and finally Public Works Director in 2017. Chuck graduated from Columbus High School. He

Continued on page 2

1335 L Street, Lincoln, NE 68508
(402) 476-2829
Fax (402) 476-7052



Lash Chaffin
Utilities Section Director
Rob Pierce
Utilities Field Representative

Four individuals receive Water Industry Service Award

Continued from page 1

followed his father into public service as his father was a 40+ year city employee working in the transfer station, landfill, water utilities and street departments. He also has two brothers and two sisters-in-law who work in city government. The Columbus Water Works and Light Company was established in 1885-86 with bonds of \$20,000. Many upgrades have occurred since and by 2015, the water distribution system had more than 125 miles of water mains ranging from four to 30-inches, 12 production wells, two pump stations and four storage facilities serving approximately 9,000 metered service connections. Columbus has been an AWWA member since 1965 and Chuck has had an individual membership since 2001.

Terry Derr of Lyman has been a village employee and grade 4 water operator for over 26 years with the Village of Lyman. He has worked through a decrease in population, plant changes in the commercial/industrial sector and water quality issues. In 1999, the Village of Lyman was confronted with high nitrates in its wells and by 2004-2005, was looking at a water project to address well treatment, uranium, arsenic and nitrates, main replacement, meters and controls at an estimated cost of \$1,431,250. Lyman soon shared a joint wellfield with Morrill and Henry. Terry has been devoted to making sure the Village of Lyman (population 315) has an abundance of safe, quality drinking water. Terry has been a NS-AWWA member since 1998.

John Grimes of Kearney started his employment with the City of Kearney in the Utilities Department as summer help. This summer position soon grew into a career that has spanned 50 years as of April 2021. He started out like the majority of the people in the water and wastewater industry, as a laborer on the backside of a shovel and worked hard to move up the ranks to the equipment operator, foreman and to his current position of Supervisor of the Water Operations Division. Over his years of employment, he has spent numerous hours away from his family and family gatherings working on leaks, main breaks, snow removal, cleanup after natural disasters and other job duties to provide the City of Kearney's citizens with safe water, flowing sewers and open streets. John,

Continued on page 3

2022-2023 Executive Board

President

Bill Bischoff

Utility Superintendent
Wauneta

1st Vice President

Al Schoemaker

Director of Public Works
Blair

2nd Vice President

Duane Hoffman

Public Works Director
Oxford

Past President

Eric Melcher

City Administrator
Aurora

Board Member

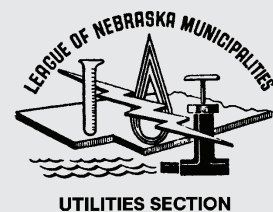
Pat Heath

City Administrator
Gering

Board Member

Gary Thurlow

Utility Superintendent
Atkinson



Board Member

Sarah Sawin

Asst. Director of Utilities
Kearney

Ex Officio Member

Tom Goulette

City Administrator and
Utility Superintendent
West Point

Four individuals receive Water Industry Service Award

Continued from page 2

unlike many other people of his age, encourages the use of new technology to help improve safety and the way tasks are completed at work. He was – and still is – a big supporter of Kearney’s GIS and is trying to ensure the knowledge he has learned during the past 50 years of service is written down or mapped out for those who will follow in his steps serving Kearney. Over the years, John has accomplished some goals of his own within the city’s water system. A major improvement for the water system was inventorying and replacing all non-break

away fire hydrants with new break-away fire hydrants. This was no small accomplishment because currently, Kearney maintains over 1,800 hydrants and 278 miles of water mains alone. He also devised a system to assist stall in locating the water and wastewater infrastructure buried below the surface. This system is the scoring or grinding of arrows and a marking system in the concrete streets and curbs to identify the locations of the infrastructure. This is extremely helpful during the chaotic times of main breaks, especially at night, and when doing utility locates for construction

projects. Even after working for 50 years, John has not wavered from his dedicated work ethic and leadership that he provides to the department. He is a trusted and loyal employee for the City of Kearney that I am truly fortunate to work beside. John is a licensed grade 3 & 6 operator and Kearney has been a member of the NS-AWWA since 1974. *Application bio submitted by Anthony Jelinek.*

Congratulations to Jim, Chuck, Terry and John for their many years of dedication and service to their respective municipal systems!

Nebraska Breaktime Trivia “Just For Fun”

- Q-1. What year did Nebraska become a territory?
- Q-2. When and where was Nebraska’s first newspaper published?
- Q-3. What year did Nebraska become the 37th state?
- Q-4. Where is this city building located?

Answers on page 8.



MONGAN PAINTING CO., INC.

Floor Coatings * Sandblasting * Epoxy Coatings
Water Plants * Storage Tanks * Swimming Pools
Sewage Plants * Ethanol Plant
PO Box 515 – Cherokee, Iowa 51012
Phone (712)225-0626 Fax (712)225-0627
Email: monganmd@ncn.net

MA

Miller & Associates
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, P.C.
www.miller-engineers.com

MILCO
Environmental Services, Inc.
www.milcoinc.com

ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
ARCHITECTURE
PLANNING
GRANT WRITING
ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES

SAFETY/HEALTH CORNER

March is Eye Safety month

*Reprinted from March 2022 Lean
on LARM Newsletter*

*by Fred Wiebelhaus, LARM
Loss Control/Claims Manager*

More than 2,000 eye injuries occur on the job site every day and about 1 in 10 of them require missed workdays to recover. Of the total amount of work related eye injuries, 20 percent will cause temporary or permanent vision loss in the affected employees.

While people may think that eye injuries primarily occur in manufacturing, construction, or trade jobs, 40 percent of work-related eye injuries occur in offices, laboratories and similar environments. Protect your eyes as most of us were only awarded two of them! Below are a few tips to help protect your eyes while on the job:

- Always wear the appropriate safety eyewear for your job site or role, even if you are just passing

through the hazardous area.

- If working in an area with particles or dust, be sure to wear safety glasses with side shields to protect against flying objects.

- When working with chemicals, always wear safety goggles or face shields to protect against splashing.

- When working around welders, lasers, or fiber optics, be sure to use special-purpose safety goggles and helmets designed specifically for the task.

*By Rob Pierce, LNM Field Rep./
Training Coordinator*

March is recognized as “Eye Safety Month.” Several groups provide a multitude of eye injury prevention tips. One website had several tips on recognizing eye strain and methods to minimize eye strain. Often when we think of eye injury prevention, we discuss avoiding items striking or splash-

ing in our eyes, but our day-to-day use also can cause eye strain.

The website www.preventblindness.org listed symptoms of digital eye strain related to “computer vision syndrome,” which includes our phones, as they are basically minicomputers. Symptoms include burning, itching, dry eyes, blurred vision, headaches or tired eyes. Tips recommended involve readjusting screens to be 20-26

inches away from your eyes and below eye level. Other items such as font size, color, proper lighting, chair/desk adjustment, use of document holders, minimizing the constant back and forth motions and giving your eyes a break from the computer screen periodically can help.

Both the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Optometric Association recommend using the “20-20-20” break rule. The rule is every 20 minutes, take your eyes away from the screen and look at something 20 feet away for 20 seconds.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), job-related eye injuries affect about 2,000 people in the United States with about one-third requiring emergency room treatment and many resulting in days away from work. Our eyes are particularly important to our daily functions; take the necessary steps to care for them.

How to check the status of your license with NDEE

When checking on license information for water or wastewater, be sure to **use the NDEE website at www.ndee.gov** The old DHHS and NDEQ websites will no longer divert you to the new site as they did the past few years.

Nebraska utilities history – Elgin

The Utilities Section Newsletter will continue to feature histories of both utilities and associate members. Any historical data and/or photos of your utilities, a specific facility, or articles already written are welcome, along with permission to print. If you have questions, contact Rob at 402-476-2829 or robp@lonm.org.

*By Rob Pierce, LNM Field Rep./
Training Coordinator*

About 1873, School District #18 was organized with sessions held in a “soddie.” In 1883, a wood-framed school was built and William Eggleston apparently organized a post office in his home (Eggleston).

The railroad was being constructed two miles to the south and a town site was selected. Mr. Eggleston proposed the post office name at the new site be named Eggleston, but it was refused. A plat was filed in June and a site was dedicated by July 1887 as lots were sold by the Western Lot Company. The Main Street initially was laid out to run east to west, but after the railroad arrived, it was changed to run north to south. On May 18, 1887, the post office was established and, apparently, E. Gailey, the postmaster at Oakdale, selected the name **Elgin** from the Illinois post office guide and it was accepted by the post office department. By 1888, the

Elgin Clipper newspaper was publishing and the Elgin State Bank and a drug store were established. Elgin, located in Antelope County, was incorporated as a village in 1889 with a population of 421. A new two-story, four-room frame school building was built and by 1892, the population was about 400. Some businesses operating included the Elgin State Bank, the Bank of Elgin, a Farmers State Bank, a blacksmith shop, a livery, a mortuary, a drug store, a creamery, a school, three churches and a one-half mile racehorse track. In 1893, the *Mutual Friend* was being published and the Lutheran Church was organized. By November 1895, a fire destroyed an entire block (many businesses and residences) including the bank at a \$15,000 loss. In 1899, a Catholic Church was organized and a jail was built.

By 1900, the population was 451 and on Nov. 1, 1901, an ordinance was passed to allow pipes, poles, fixtures and the stringing of wire for artificial lights in the village. A

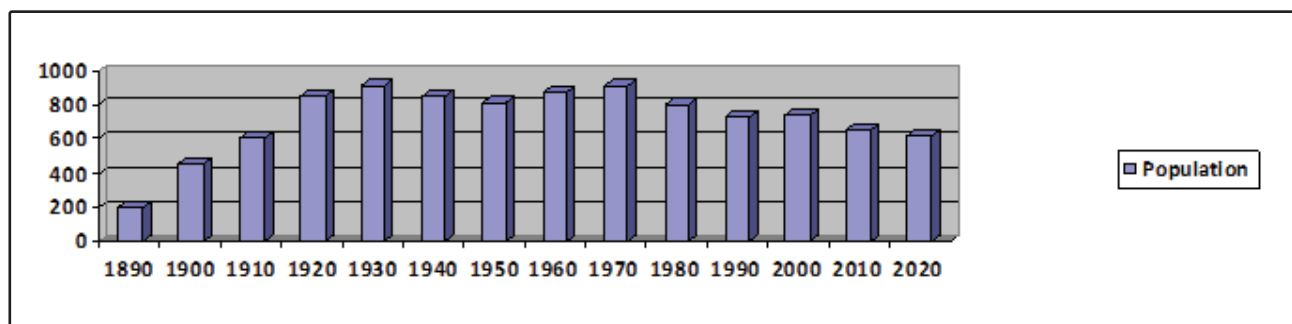
light was installed in 1902 on Main Street and the St. Boniface "Gothic Style" Church was built. Bids were out in 1903

for a new school to be erected with “Neligh” brick and construction started on a six-room plus a basement brick school. The graduating class in 1906 consisted of 10 students with 209 enrolled by 1909 (Orange and Black Elgin Eagles). A devastating chimney fire in 1909 almost destroyed an entire block (\$125,000 loss) of the business district. On Feb. 23, 1909, a \$15,000 bond issue was



Elgin water tower. 1999 photo.

Continued on page 6



Nebraska utilities history – Elgin

Continued from page 5

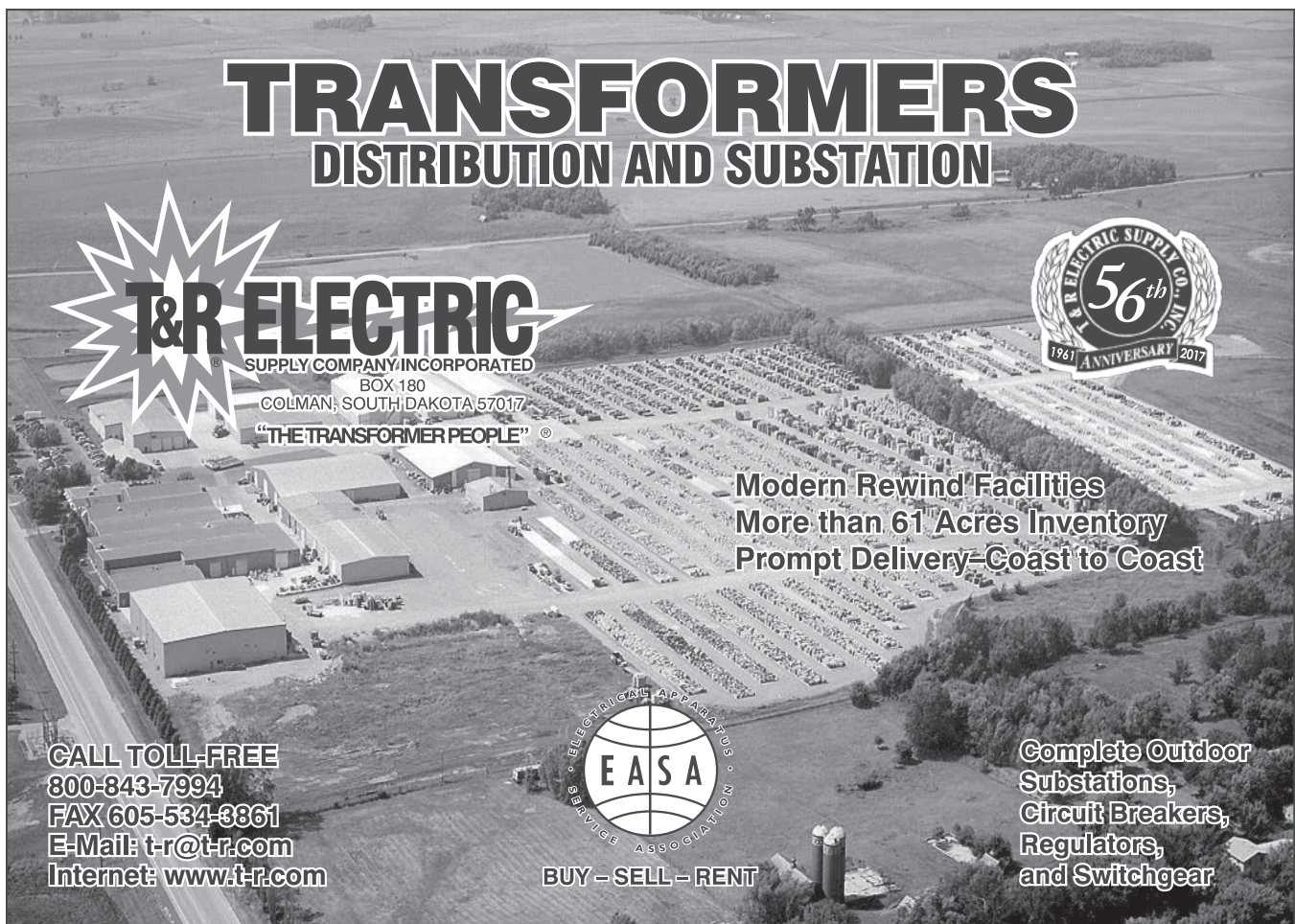
approved for the construction and maintenance of a water system on a 106-19 vote. In March, a bid from the Katz Craig Contracting Company of Omaha was accepted to construct a waterworks with a 50,000-gallon elevated storage tank at a cost of \$11,900. It also included an Otto 25 horse-power engine. Ditches were opened and mains laid with a project completion to be in October. The village also was looking for a solid waste dump site. The Elgin Electric

Company constructed a power plant building and started generation Jan. 10, 1909.

By 1910, the population increased to 606 and an ordinance passed that buildings were required to be built of brick, stone or non-burnable material in some areas of town. By September, a fire department was organized with 34 signing up and a fire bell purchased. On Jan. 28, 1911, Huffman & Seymour began furnishing electricity to Elgin when the Elgin Electric Company


first turned on power from its new engine. Twenty customers were connected at that time with a notice posted for any buildings that needed wiring. Electric lights soon began replacing gas lights. By the end of 1911, there were 45 customers connected. The Elgin Public School added an assembly room, offices, a gymnasium and a 12th grade in 1911. The St. Boniface Catholic School started in 1904, added an 11th grade in 1906 and added the

Continued on page 7




TRANSFORMERS

DISTRIBUTION AND SUBSTATION




T&R ELECTRIC

SUPPLY COMPANY, INCORPORATED
BOX 180
COLMAN, SOUTH DAKOTA 57017
"THE TRANSFORMER PEOPLE" ©



Modern Rewind Facilities
More than 61 Acres Inventory
Prompt Delivery—Coast to Coast

CALL TOLL-FREE
800-843-7994
FAX 605-534-8861
E-Mail: t-r@t-r.com
Internet: www.t-r.com



BUY – SELL – RENT

Complete Outdoor Substations, Circuit Breakers, Regulators, and Switchgear

Nebraska utilities history – Elgin

Continued from page 6

12th grade in 1911. Telephones were installed in the Hotel Logan in 1911 and by 1913, three grain elevators were operating and a new railroad depot was erected. In 1911, the downpipe from the elevated storage water tank froze and the street and business gas lighting was being replaced by electric lighting. In January 1913, the village entered a contract with Huffman-Seymour Inc. to furnish electric light for street lighting of 14 lamps at 100 watts each. An engine was added to the power plant and the new electric lights were turned on for testing Jan. 22. Two more streetlights were ordered in October 1914 with several more ordered from 1914-1939. By 1915, the Huffman & Seymour Company Power Plant had a 185 horsepower (HP) boiler, a 60 HP gas engine and a generator rating of 40-kilowatt Ampere (kVA). Engines were added in 1915-1916 to the power plant. In 1915, the gas plant ceased operation as almost all building and street lighting were changed to using electricity. On Feb. 24, 1913, a vote (79-24) approved a

\$5,000 bond for water extensions. Work on the water system began in 1914 as the water storage tank was cleaned, repainted and mains were installed, which included a water extension project in July 1916. A resolution was passed in 1916 to replace the 1895 boardwalks and install sidewalks. On Jan. 29, 1917, an application was made by Nebraska Gas & Electric Company to construct a transmission line from Elgin to Petersburg, which was granted Feb. 18, 1918. The electric line from Petersburg to Elgin was completed that year. On Feb. 19, 1917, Huffman & Seymour Inc. was contracted to install an electric motor in the pump house to pull the south well at its rated speed.

By 1920, the population was 854 and by 1922, the fire department purchased/installed a new siren for \$400. In 1924, a new truck was purchased to add to the equipment, which consisted of a hook and ladder truck, two 30-gallon chemical tanks, 250 feet of chemical hose, a hose cart and 1,000 feet of hose, pyren fire extinguishers, axes and other miscellaneous equipment. The

Elgin Electric Power Plant, owned by Huffman-Seymour Inc., was sold in 1924 to the Cornell Hydro Electric Company of Ainsworth. Construction started in 1924 on a two-story brick high school, which was completed in 1925. A sewer system was discussed and a resolution passed Jan. 19 to construct a sanitary system and a disposal plant, but a Feb. 5, 1926 petition caused the village to abandon the project. On Oct. 26, 1925, a special bond election was held as the water bonds passed on a 69-3 vote. On March 29, 1926, a contract for work on the water system was awarded. Street paving was discussed and by April 1926, the streets were first paved in the business district. In 1928, the power company held an “electric stove school” for those interested in using or those currently using electricity. The electric current was provided to the village via transmission lines at the rate of \$0.125 per kilowatt hour (kWh). In May 1929, Ordinance #130 passed to allow the Western State Public Utilities Company to construct, operate and maintain an electric

Continued on page 8



JOHNSON
SERVICE COMPANY

- Municipal Pipe Cleaning
- CCTV Pipe Inspection
- Foam Root Treatment
- Manhole Rehabilitation
- Trenchless Sewer Liners
- Point Repair Liners
- Pipe Bursting

Phone - (308) 237-6651
Fax - (308) 234-5390
PO Box 1065 Kearney, NE 68848
johnsonservicecompany.com

Engineering a world where
everyone thrives.



Nebraska utilities history – Elgin

Continued from page 7

light/power plant and distribution system. In 1929, the library that opened in 1927 was turned over to the city (one source noted a public library was established in 1931).

The population in 1930 was 917 and following the 1929 stock market crash, nearly half of the country's banks closed, including the First National Bank of Elgin in 1930 and the Farmers & Merchants Bank in 1932. On July 10, 1930, again a resolution was passed to construct a sanitary sewer system and a disposal plant and, again, a petition killed the resolution. In 1933, plans were discussed to gravel Highway #53 from Elgin to the "Four Corners" and all the residential streets. In November, a motion passed for material and reconstruction of water mains including gravel used. In 1934, street and waterworks projects were underway and Elgin became a new member of the League of Nebraska Municipalities. On Aug. 31, 1935, the village board moved to apply to the Work Projects Administration (WPA) for a grant to aid in the construction of a sanitary system and disposal plant. In 1935, a fire gutted the school and in 1936, a new fire

truck was purchased. The Interstate Power Company power plant in 1936 had a capacity 172 kilowatts (kW) of internal combustion power generation. In 1937, an air compressor explosion/fire at the Elgin Power Plant caused an estimated \$40,000 damage. On Aug. 26, 1938, the village board passed a resolution establishing a sanitary sewer system and a disposal plant known as Sanitary District #1. On Oct. 17, a bid was accepted from Lee Young of Maywood for \$13,428.50 for materials, equipment to construct the sanitary sewer system and sanitary disposal plant. WPA funding was allotted (\$36,132) for the sewer project to be completed in 1939. WPA funds of \$6,700 were to improve street and water systems also was completed in 1939. On Feb. 27, 1939, the board added sewer districts #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6 and contracted Lee Young for \$1,741 for a sewer extension April 17, 1939.

By 1940, the population decreased to 853 and on Aug. 4, 1941, the village board voted to install four alley lights. By Dec. 5, 1940, all towns in Antelope County, with the exception of Oakdale and a portion of service furnished

by Iowa-Nebraska Power & Light Company, were served by the Interstate Power Company. On Dec. 28, Consumers Public Power District purchased the Interstate Power Company facilities/property.

Main Street was paved and sidewalks were installed along with brick buildings in 1945. The fire department in the 1940s had 20 volunteer firefighters and in 1946, purchased a new fire truck.

Continued on page 9

"Just For Fun" **Answers**

A-1. May 30, 1854 – signed by President Franklin Pierce.

A-2. Bellevue. In 1854, the *Nebraska Palladium* was first printed.

A-3. March 1, 1867.

A-4. Clarkson (*July 2001 photo*).



Ideas transform communities

At HDR, we're helping our clients push open the doors to what's possible, every day.

HDR

hdrinc.com
402.399.1000

Nebraska utilities history – Elgin

Continued from page 8

In 1950, the population was 820, new streetlights were installed and by December 1951, the Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Company Inc. started its pipeline to this area from St. Paul and Palmer. Ordinance #157 was passed to advise Kansas-Nebraska Gas Company to pay an occupation tax of \$40 per year for providing gas to the village. The electric distribution system was owned by Consumers Public Power District. On Sept. 26, 1952, a bid of \$4,105.25 was accepted from Murray and Ball of Norfolk for a sewer extension project.

A street oiling project was approved, there was discussion of a public park in 1952 and the village was free of sewer bond debt in 1957. In 1958, the electrical distribution system was owned by the city and operated by Consumers Public Power District. The cost of street lighting was \$100.67 per month. Electric rates were for first 12 kWh at \$1 minimum per month, with next 38 kWh at \$0.065, next 100 kWh at \$0.033, and all additional at \$0.02, minimum \$1 per month with meter readings every two months. Power rates were for first 3,000 kWh at \$0.25, and over 3,000 at \$0.015 with a minimum of \$75. The cost of current for pumping water was \$75 minimum. For natural gas rates, the first 1,000 cubic feet (cuft) cost \$0.20; the next 4,000 cuft cost \$0.10; the next 45,000 cuft cost \$0.06, and the next 50,000 cuft cost \$0.055, minimum \$2 per month. In 1959, the public-school consolidation plan involved Districts #45, #55, #87, #110, #18 and #1.

By 1960, the population was 881, a new heated public swimming pool opened in May (bonds \$50,000), a new park was completed and the St. Boniface School built a new (160 feet x 80 feet) auditorium for \$90,000. A new post office was opened in 1962 and dial telephones were in use. In 1962, the fire department purchased a new fire truck and a sewer extension tax was established. A new Pope John XXIII Central Catholic High School was built (1966-67) and opened in the fall by seven Antelope/Boone County Parishes (St. Boniface-Elgin, St. Theresa, and rural St. Johns-Clearwater, St. Bonaventure-Raeville, St. Francis-Neligh and St. Johns-Petersburg).

The water plant and meters were owned by the village.

Water rates in 1960: first 12,000 gallons @ \$0.25/1,000 gallons, 12,000-30,000 gallons @ \$0.20/1,000 gallons, 30,000-90,000 gallons @ \$0.15/1,000 gallons, 90,000-300,000 gallons @ \$0.10/1,000 gallons, over 300,000 gallons @ \$0.08/1,000 gallons, minimum of 6,000 gallons @ \$1.50 per quarter.

Water rates in 2010: base rate of \$6.67 then \$1.50/1,000 gallons.

The population by 1970 was 917, the electrical distribution system was owned by the village and supplied by Nebraska Public Power District and a new city/fire hall was dedicated in 1971. The city dump used since 1955 was relocated as the city entered into a one-year contract in 1970 for a site five-and-one-half miles west of Elgin to be used as a landfill. A project to enlarge/repair

the sewage treatment plant was underway by 1972. On Aug. 4, 1975, a resolution passed to apply for a grant to construct a secondary wastewater treatment facility. In 1973, several street improvement districts were created for paving streets. A new shelter was erected and seven trees were donated to the park in 1974. On Nov. 5, 1974, an election was held to decide on the addition of fluoride to the water system, the vote was 284-105. In 1976, the water storage was cleaned and disinfected and on April 14, 1977, a bid of \$43,147 was received from Layne Western to construct a new water well. By 1977, a street paving project was awarded to Midwest Bridge and Construction Company for \$107,758.80. A new library was built in 1978 and the city population was 807 in 1980. On Oct. 5, 1981, the city received an EPA grant for the construction of a new wastewater treatment plant. A bid was accepted in December from Ed Jipp Construction for \$280,506.70. Work began in 1982 and it was completed in April 1983. A hail-storm damaged the water tower roof, which was replaced in 1984 and in 1986, one of the older wells was abandoned with repairs made to the other existing water well. A 10 percent increase was added to both the water and wastewater rates. In 1987, the city office was moved from the fire hall building to a new building on Main Street and in November 1988, the city office began using computers. Police protection was provided by contract with the Antelope County Sheriff Department. By 1990, the

Continued on page 10

Nebraska utilities history – Elgin

Continued from page 9
population dropped to 731 and on Dec. 5, 1994, an ordinance was passed to remain a city of the second class as the population fell below second-class city population status. In 1997, the city offices were moved into the former senior center building, which was purchased in 2008 by the city for \$50,000.

The population in 2000 was 735 and the electrical distribution system was owned by the city, operated by Elkhorn Rural Public Power District and supplied by Nebraska Public Power District. The city operated an activated sludge oxidation ditch treatment facility with a capacity of 65,000 gallons per day (present load of 30,000 gallons per day). The municipal water system consisted of two wells (average depth 280 feet) with a capacity of 600 gallons per minute with an average

consumption of 230,950 gallons per day and a peak consumption at 600,000 gallons. There were 367 residential services and 68 commercial service connections.

From 2010-2020 the population decreased from 657 to 613. The Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Company operated and provided natural gas service from 1951-2008 (SourceGas) until 2009 when that service was provided by Black Hills Energy. Today, Elgin has a population of 613, has been incorporated since 1889 (132 years), 46 as a city of the second class. Elgin has been a League of Nebraska Municipalities and Utilities Section member for over 44 years (records only to 1977). The electric distribution system is owned by the city and operated by Elkhorn Rural Public Power District.

References: Nebraska Directory of Municipal Officials, 1956,

1960, 1962, 1964-75, 1977-87, 1990-2021; Nebraska Municipal Review Magazine, 1928; Elgin Nebraska Centennial 1889-1989, 1989; Elgin website, 2018-2021; Water Resources of Nebraska, December 1936; Pages of History, Nebraska High Schools, Past & Present, 1854-1994, 1994; Nebraska Our Towns...North Northeast, 1990; Perkey's Nebraska Place Names, 1995; Nebraska Place-Names, 1925, 1960; Maps Tell Nebraska's Story, 1991; Who's Who in Nebraska, 1940; Hooper Electric Light Company, History & Biography: History of the Elkhorn Valley, Nebraska, 1892; Antelope County History Vol. 1, 1868-1985, 1986; History of Antelope County 1883-1973, April 1976; Nebraska Blue Book, 1928, 1942, 1946 and the Eleventh Annual Report of the Nebraska State Railway Commissioner, 1918.

Crow Line: A line of positive communication that all can share

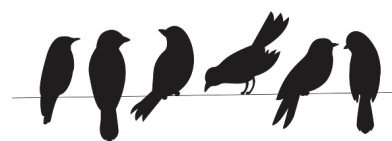
Incorporation Anniversary Recognition: 130 years – Spencer (March 5, 1992-village) and Raymond (March 9, 1892-village); 135 years – **Leigh** (March 7, 1887-village); and 140 years – Talmage (March 7, 1882-village).

At the 2022 Nebraska Rural Water Association Annual Conference, Don Reves of **Duncan** received the *Russell Topp Award* and Loup City's water was the winner of the "Best Tasting Water" competition. Other water systems in the competition were **Aurora, Cortland, Maxwell and Scottsbluff**.

At the NMPP Energy 2022 An-

nual Conference, Jerry Fales of **Cozad** received the *Bob Arraj Innovation Service Award*.

Associate member **HDR** received the *2022 Engineering Excellence Awards* from the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC). One winning award was the "Digester Improvements and Biogas Utilization" Honor Award. Since 2013, HDR has assisted the City of Lincoln's Wastewater System with digester improvements and biogas utilization at its two wastewater treatment facilities (Theresa Street Wastewater Treatment Facility and Northeast Treatment Facility).



Utilities Section members and associate members are bolded.

Do you, your department or facility have something to crow about? Received an award, had an article written highlighting an event or person? Do you have a project worthy of acknowledgment in the Utilities Section Newsletter? If so, please send your information to us so we can share your excitement with other members.

Nebraska utilities history – Lyman

The Utilities Section Newsletter will continue to feature histories of both utilities and associate members. Any historical data and/or photos of your utilities, a specific facility, or articles already written are welcome, along with permission to print. If you have questions, contact Rob at 402-476-2829 or robhp@lonm.org.

*By Rob Pierce, LNM Field Rep./
Training Coordinator*

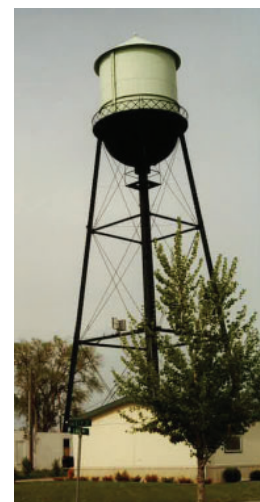
Lyman, located in Scottsbluff County, had trappers and settlers in the area by the 1870s. It should be noted that the signing of the “Horse Creek Treaty” in 1851 was several miles east of the future Lyman town site. In the early 1900s, the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad began building tracks from Alliance to the Wyoming border on the north side of the river. By 1919, a town site was selected by Charles Lyman along the south side of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks halfway between Gering and Yoder, Wyo. The town was named in honor of bankers Charles and W.H. Lyman. On Feb. 9, 1921, a post office was established with an electric system installed that year. By 1922, the population was about 200 and in April, Lyman was incorporated as a village. A two-story brick school building was erected (1924-25) just south of Highway 92, a full 12-grade education system. Classes began in the new building in 1926 with the first 12th grade

graduates in 1927. A new municipal park was established in 1927 on the north side of Packer Lake. Spanish/Mexican-style gates were installed on the bathhouse (\$500). The Great Western Sugar factory opened in 1927 with a dormitory, warehouse, lime house and a main building. Streets were graded in 1927 and the first records indicating the waterworks was in operation in June 1928 with water mains installed on Main Street. In 1929, a water ordinance was issued with water rates for the first 5,000 gallons at \$0.25 per 1,000 and less than 5,000 gallons at \$0.15 per 1,000.

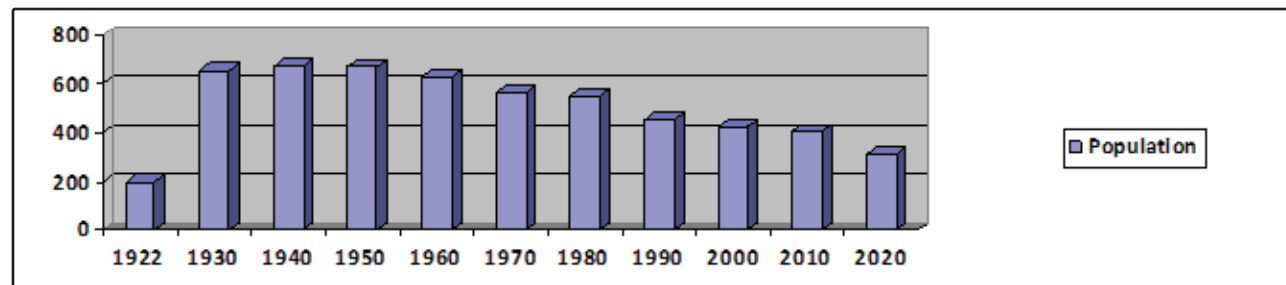
The population increased from 656 in 1930 to 672 in 1940. The sugar beet factory closed during World War II, later opening for two seasons before permanently closing in 1949. The population started to decline from 666 in 1950 to 560 in 1958. In 1956, the four miles of electric lines and 241 meters in use in the distribution system were owned by the village with a meter deposit of \$5 for resident and \$20 for commercial. Current was supplied by the

U.S. Reclamation Bureau at the kilowatt hour (kWh) wholesale cost of a minimum demand at \$1 and excess at \$0.0045. The cost of street lighting was \$0.004 per kWh and the cost of current for

pumping water the regular power rate. Electric rates for residential were first 15 kWh at \$0.10, next 35 at \$0.06, next 75 kWh at \$0.04, next 100 kWh at \$0.025, and all over 225 kWh at \$0.015 per kWh, minimum \$1.50. Commercial rates were first 15 kWh at \$0.10, next 25 at \$0.065, next 200 kWh at \$0.04, all over 240 kWh at \$0.02, minimum \$1.50 per month. Power rates first 100



*Lyman water tower.
2001 photo.*



Continued on page 12

Nebraska utilities history – Lyman

Continued from page 11
kWh at \$0.05, next 100 at \$0.04, next 100 kWh at \$0.03, next 200 at \$0.025, all over 500 kWh at \$0.02, minimum \$1.50 per month. The municipal water plant had 161 meters in service and a meter deposit of \$5. The fire department had 25 volunteer firefighters and an addition was made to the fire hall in 1958. The municipal water plant had a meter deposit of \$5 with rates for residential of \$1.25 per month from Oct. 1 to April 1, and \$2.25 per month from April 1 to Oct. 1. Commercial rates were first 5,000 gallons at \$1.25, second 5,000 gallons at \$0.09 per 1,000 gallons, third 5,000 gallons at \$0.08 per 1,000 gallons and fourth 5,000 gallons at \$0.06 per 1,000 gallons and excess at \$0.05 per 1,000 gallons with a minimum of \$1.25 per month. Garbage collection was collected by a private company for a charge and the municipal sewer system was maintained by a tax levy.

By 1960, the population was 626 and the Couplmatic Inc., a hydraulic hose manufacturer began operating out of the former brick office of Great Western Sugar. A tennis court project was underway and by the fall of 1960, a franchise was signed with Northern Central Gas Company for natural gas service. In 1962, the electrical distribution system (seven miles of electrical lines) and the 240 meters in service were owned by the village with a \$5 meter deposit. In 1967, the main office of the former sugar factory became the office of House of Hose, another hydraulic hose company that opened. A sewer lagoon project was

underway and the municipal water rates for residential were \$1.25 per month from Oct. 1-April 1 and \$2.25 per month from April 1-Oct. 1. Commercial rates for the first 5,000 gallons at \$1.25 per month, second 5,000 gallons at 0.09 per 1,000 gallons, third 5,000 gallons at \$0.08 per 1,000 gallons, fourth 5,000 gallons at \$0.06 per 1,000 gallons and excess at \$0.05 per 1,000 gallons and a minimum of \$1.25 per month.

From 1970-1980, the population decreased from 561 to 551 and railroad passenger service was discontinued in 1971 (depot was removed). The electrical distribution system was owned by the village and served by Department of Energy WAPA and Tri-State Generation. The Kelly Bean Company had a warehouse fire in 1982 and the gas system was operated by KN Energy, Inc. A wastewater upgrade project was underway in 1986 and on Sept. 23, 1989, the Bank of Lyman closed. A kindergarten through 12th grade school system was in operation until 1990 when the high school was discontinued. The population decreased from 452 in 1990 to 421 by 2000 and the natural gas system was operated by Black Hills Energy. The village operated a two-cell facultative flow through the lagoon system designed for 0.055 million gallons per day (mgd). A \$213,000 CDBG grant funded paving Main Street and four other streets was approved. The electrical distribution system was operated by the village and supplied by Western Area Power Association (WAPA) and Nebraska Municipal Power Pool (NMPP).

In 2002, one of three municipal wells was rehabilitated and usage was estimated to be 1,300 gallons per person daily. In 2004-2005, a water project consisted of addressing well treatment for uranium, arsenic and nitrates along with installation/repairs of mains, meters and controls for \$1,431,250. By 2010, the population was 205 and the village operated a shared water wellfield (2012) with Morrill and Henry, which is located two miles south of Henry.

Today, Lyman has a population of 341 and has been an incorporated village for 97 years. Lyman has been a League member for over 37 years and a Utilities Section member for over 34 years. The village maintains two park areas and maintains about 32 blocks of mostly paved or gravel streets.

References: Nebraska Directory of Municipal Officials, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964-75, 1977-87, 1990-2007, 2010-2021; Municipal Review Magazine, 1934-2001; Lyman Ledger Newspaper, 1927; Nebraska Place Names, 1925, 1960; Lincoln Journal Star Newspaper, 2008; Water Resources of Nebraska, December 1936; Public Power Magazine, Vol. 51, Number 1, January-February 1993; NHHS Sanitary Survey Results, 2004; Nebraska Our Town... The Panhandle, 1988; Maps Tell a Story, 1991; Wikipedia website, 2018; NEDED Website, 2005; Nebraska Historic Building Survey, Reconnaissance Survey Final Report of Scottsbluff County Nebraska, 1995; Who's Who in Nebraska, 1940; Nebraska Blue Book 1978; and the History of Western Nebraska and its People, 1921.

Nebraska utilities history – Pawnee City

The Utilities Section Newsletter will continue to feature histories of both utilities and associate members. Any historical data and/or photos of your utilities, a specific facility, or articles already written are welcome, along with permission to print. If you have questions, contact Rob at 402-476-2829 or rob@lonm.org.

*By Rob Pierce, LNM Field Rep./
Training Coordinator*

Pawnee County was defined by the territorial legislature March 3, 1855 and organized Nov. 4, 1856. The county was named for the Pawnee Indians who lived in Nebraska for generations. Settlers came to the county (1851-1854) with some living in the area by July 20, 1854, this later become **Pawnee City**. One source listed that Pawnee City was elected the county seat March 5, 1855. Another source noted that once the county was organized, Pawnee City was named county seat in 1856. In 1857, the original town site was platted with about 64 blocks for \$212.70. Stores were being opened and on June 2, 1858, a post office was established. In November 1858, the territorial legislature approved an incorporation making Pawnee City a village. A courthouse was constructed, but a storm in 1860 blew the unfinished structure over. By 1860, five sawmills and the “Exchange Hotel” had been built. About 1869, a permanent

courthouse had been constructed of limestone and it was noted that construction started on a waterworks in 1879.

The population by 1880 was 763 and estimated to be 1,500 by 1881. Many orchards and vineyards were planted in the area by the time the Burlington Railroad branch, called the Wymore division of the Republican Valley Railroad, had arrived in 1881. Some of the businesses in the village consisted of two banks, two newspapers, mills, a cigar factory, a 40-guest hotel and three churches (Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist). Twenty-five businesses (half of the business district-courthouse square) were destroyed by fire (1881). Within a year, 28 “fireproof” structures were constructed. By 1886, the Rock Island Railroad built to the area, businesses included a lumberyard, a brick Opera House, the Shannon House and the population was said to be about 2,000. A brick Horton building was erected in 1887 and by 1990, the population was 1,550.

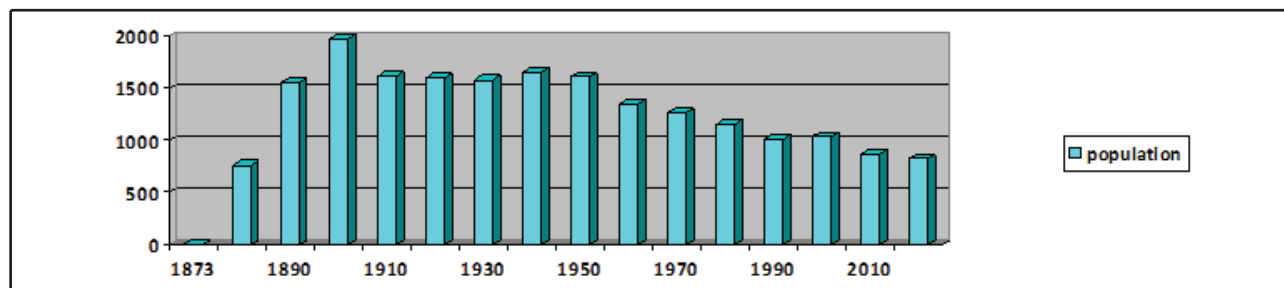
Some of the businesses in 1890

included a cigar manufacturer, the White Lumber Company, a meat market, a hardware store, a shoemaker, general stores, a Pawnee City Mills, an Opera House, a carriage works, a blacksmith and a millinery. John Moore was the superintendent of the Pawnee City Electric Light Company in 1890, which operated with a steam boiler. On September 1892, the waterworks consisted of a brick building with a 60 horsepower (HP) boiler, two eight-inch 16-foot deep hand-dug wells with water pumped to the reservoir by



Pawnee City water tower. 2000 photo.

Continued on page 14



Nebraska utilities history – Pawnee City

Continued from page 13

Buffalo and Cook force pumps. The distribution system had 35 double hydrants, a 12 feet x 100 feet standpipe and four miles of four-, six-, eight-inch diameter water mains. The population was estimated to be 2,500 in 1892 and fire protection consisted of two independent hose carts with 1,000 feet of two-and-one-half-inch hose.

The population by 1900 was 1,969, the Library Association was formed in 1904 and in 1906, the University of Nebraska was excavating an archaeological site in the area. The Carnegie Library was built (1907-08) and the Wheat Brothers erected a building in 1908-09. The brick power plant in 1909 was using an 85-HP engine, two Dynamos and a boiler. The water works pumping station was located at W. Marion and Jackson Streets on the southeast and included a covered 11,500-gallon reservoir.

By 1910, the population decreased to 1,610 and the water system used 13 wells (35 feet deep), a 2,000-gallon reservoir and a 200,000-gallon coagulation basin. A courthouse was built in 1911 and about this time, a waste-water collection system first was installed. The municipal water system by 1915 consisted of wells pumped to reservoirs and a standpipe (12 feet by 100 feet) with a capacity of 80,000 gallons. The pump/engine capacity was one million gallons per day (gpd) with the distribution system consisting of four-and-one-half miles of four- to 10-inch diameter mains, 35 hydrants, 20 valves with 175 services. The system pressure was

60-70 pounds per square inch (psi) and the daily consumption was 25,000 gpd. The power plant had a 300-HP boiler, a 250-HP steam engine and a generator rating of 210 kilovolt amperes (kVA). The lighting rate was \$0.12 per kilowatt hour (kWh) and the power rate was \$0.09 per kWh. The fire department had 40 volunteer firefighters, a hook/ladder truck, two hose carts with 1,500 feet of cotton/rubber-lined hose and an alarm bell/whistle.

The population decreased to 1,595 in 1920 and on April 1, 1922, the Fairview Golf Club was founded with annual membership dues of \$15 per year. The Pawnee City Water & Light, located on S. Sheridan & W. Marion Avenue in 1922, was operating a Skinner 395-HP engine, a Skinner 193-HP engine, one 250-kW and one 195-kW generator. The water system had an 11,500-gallon reservoir with eight-inch mains down W. Marion Avenue. City hall was located on Marion Avenue, west of the courthouse. A hospital was housed at the former Shannon House (1922). In 1928, the city had two weekly newspapers, the *Pawnee Chief* and the *Pawnee Republican*. The electric municipal system was leased in 1929 to a private corporation company. In 1930, the population was 1,573 and the city was using natural gas by 1932. By 1934, natural gas was supplied by Peoples Natural Gas Company, a subsidiary of Northern Natural Gas. The electric system was operated by the Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power Company in 1935. The Pawnee City Municipal Power Plant had a capacity 365 kilowatts of steam

power generation. By July 1, 1936, the city had water bonds of \$10,000 and sewer bonds of \$33,900. A WPA project was underway in 1936 for the construction of a swimming pool.

The population decreased slightly from 1,647 in 1940 to 1,606 in 1950. In spring 1941, Consumers Public Power District purchased the Nebraska properties of the Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power Company. The cost of electric current for street lighting in 1958 was \$225 per month and the cost of current for pumping water an average of \$125 per month. The city owned the cemetery, which was managed by a cemetery board, and was maintained from self-supporting charges and fees for care. The (105 feet by 50 feet) swimming pool was constructed for \$30,000, financed from a bond issue. The water system had 500 meters in service with a meter deposit of \$5 and the cost of electric current for pumping water an average of \$125 per month. Water rates were for the first 2,000 gallons (gals.) at \$0.75 per 1,000 gals., and over 2,000 gals. at \$0.65 per 1,000 gals. The municipal sewer system had rates of \$0.50 per month for residential and \$1 for businesses. The natural gas system was owned, operated and supplied by Peoples Natural Gas with rates of 500 cubic feet (cuft) at \$1, 1,500 cuft at \$1, 3,000 cuft at \$0.85, 45,000 cuft at \$0.75, 50,000 cuft at \$0.65 and all over 100,000 at \$0.55.

Garbage was collected by a private collector with a charge made for each collection.

By 1960, the population was

Continued on page 15

Nebraska utilities history – Pawnee City

Continued from page 14

1,343 and the city-owned cemetery was maintained by the sale of lots and perpetual care. Garbage in 1962 was collected by a private company who charged residents \$1.50 per month and businesses \$3 per month. The natural gas system was operated and supplied by Peoples Natural Gas. The municipal water plant had 430 meters in service and the cost of current for pumping water was an average of \$1,503.53 per year. The electrical system was owned by Consumers

Public Power District with light rates for residential at 13 kWh or less at \$1 minimum then 37 kWh at \$0.06, next 100 at \$2.75, and all additional at \$0.03. Commercial rates at 13 kWh or less at a minimum of \$1 then 37 kWh at \$0.06, next 100 at \$0.05, next 350 at \$0.033, next 2,500 at \$0.0275, all additional at \$0.02. Power rates for first 200 kWh at \$0.45, next 300 kWh at \$0.03, next 4,500 at \$0.025, and additional at \$0.02 with a minimum of \$0.50 per HP, but not less than \$1. The cost of

street lighting was \$2,706.36 per year.

In 1970, the population was 1,267 and by 1974, the electric distribution system was owned by the city and operated by Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). A third water well was drilled in 1977 and the council approved the construction of a new wastewater facility as bids were let. The new wastewater plant was constructed in 1978 and a new 250,000-gallon water storage tower was installed

Continued on page 16



Power Plant Problem Solvers

Leader in RICE NESHAP Compliance & Testing

Stationary Diesel & Dual Fuel Engine Mechanics

Multi-point Engine Inspection Service

Complete Engine Sales, Installation and Removal

Power Plant Design, Construction & Automation

Large/Heavy Equipment & Machinery Transportation

Parts & Service for: Alco, Caterpillar, Colt-Pielstick, Cummins, Cooper-Bessemer, DeLaval, EMD, Enterprise, Nordberg, Waukesha, Fairbanks Morse, Ingersoll-Rand, White Superior, Worthington and others

FMI **Farabee Mechanical, Inc.**
Hickman, NE 68372 • (402) 792-2612
farabee@inebraska.com
www.farabeemechanical.com

Nebraska utilities history – Pawnee City

Continued from page 15
in 1979. From 1980-1990, the population decreased from 1,156 to 1,008 and 42 new fire hydrants were installed using a 1987 grant. The city had a sand green golf course located on the northwest edge of town at the fairgrounds. The city also maintained two public parks, a swimming pool, ball fields, tennis courts and several paved streets with curbs. In 1993, a backflow program was started as the city operated three wells and maintained a rotating bio-contactors wastewater treatment plant designed for 0.13 million gallons per day (mgd) with an anaerobic digester single-stage sludge treatment. The plant had an average daily demand of 0.150 mgd, with a peak demand of 0.200 mgd.

The population was 1,033 by 2000, the fire department had 27 volunteer firefighters and new sidewalks were installed on the business square. New decorative electric lighting also was installed on the business square with electricity provided retail by NPPD. In December 2004, a flow study was completed by JEO for a wet well and a 150,000-gallon lift station project. Water rates were \$13 every two months plus \$1.20 per 1,000 gals. over 4,000 gallons. By 2004, the natural gas system was owned and operated by Aquila and by 2008, the system was operated by Black Hills Energy. A CDBG grant was received in 2007 for the construction of a new brick public library which was built for \$700,000.

The population decreased to 863 by 2010, the fire department had 30 volunteer firefighters with an ISO insurance rating of 6/6. About

85 percent of the streets were hard surfaced and the water system consisted of wells at an average depth of 140 feet with a rated capacity 0.756 mgd, average capacity 0.188 mgd and a peak demand of 0.325 mgd. Inflow and infiltration issues in the collection/disposal plant resulted in the flume getting peaked out, inadequate sludge treatment and an inability to treat the organic loadings. The wastewater treatment facility was upgraded in 2012-2013, consisting of a lift station to a fine screen to an auger to wet well to the digester, oxidation ditch to clarifiers then to ultraviolet (UV) basin. The facility had five blowers: one outside and two mid-lane in the oxidation ditch, three aerated digesters with a digester storage cell and some 11,600 linear feet of slip-lined (eight- to 10-inch) pipe.

Today, Pawnee City has a population of 820, has been incorporated for over 164 years and a member of the League of Nebraska Municipalities and Utilities Section for over 45 years (records only to 1977). The city maintains the Prairie Hills Sports Complex (three ball diamonds), two parks, a wastewater collection and disposal facility, several paved streets and a cemetery. The electric distribution system and power plant is owned by the city and supplied by NPPD. The

natural gas system is operated by Black Hills Energy.

References: Nebraska Directory of Municipal Officials, 1958, 1962, 1964-66, 1968-75, 1977-87, 1990-1992, 1994-2021; Nebraska Municipal Review Magazine, 1934, 1946; Water Resources of Nebraska, December 1936; Lincoln Journal Star Newspaper, 2004, 2007-2008; Nebraska Place Names, 1925, 1960; Nebraska Our Towns...East Southeast, 1992; The Pawnee Republican Newspaper, 2004; Maps Tell Nebraska's History, 1991; NEDED Website, 2005; Wikipedia website, 2018-2019; Nebraska Blue Book, 1915, 1928, 1942, 1946, 1978; Electric Power Development in the United States, Dept. of Agriculture, January 1916; Nebraska Fast Facts-Community Profile, Pawnee City, Nebraska 2011; U.S. Census, 2010; Municipal Journal and Engineer, Vol. XXVII, No. 17, 1909; Sanborn Map, September 1886, February 1900, August 1909, April 1922; Utility Corporations: Letter from The Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, No. 25, July 16, 1930; The Insurance Year Book 1915-16 Fire and Marine 43rd Annual Issue, 1915; and the Federal Power Consumers Electric Rate Survey, Domestic and Residential Electric Rates in Effect January 1, 1935 in the state of Nebraska, 1935.

Remember to recognize your employees' anniversary milestones. The Utilities Section provides certificates for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 and 65.

You can request them by contacting the League office by email brendah@lonm.org, fax 402-476-7052 or call 402-476-2829.

Classifieds

Water/Wastewater Apprentice/Operator. The City of Broken Bow Water/Wastewater Department is accepting applications for full-time employment. This position involves, but not limited to, construction of new water and sewer mains, tapping services, maintain city infrastructure, clean-up of job sites, and assisting other departments as needed. Multiple skill levels are needed. Department of Health and Human Services certification and NDEE certification preferred, but not required. CDL not required, but must be able to obtain CDL within 6 months. Willing to train the right person. Wage dependent on qualifications and a better than average benefit package. Applications and job description are available at the City of Broken Bow located on the main floor at 314 S 10th Avenue or www.cityofbrokenbow.org. Submit application and related information to the City of Broken Bow, 314 S 10th Avenue, PO Box 504, Broken Bow, NE 68822, or via email at ccranwell@cityofbrokenbow.org. Broken Bow is an EOE. For more information, please contact Water/Wastewater Superintendent Craig Cranwell at (308) 870-1203.

Journey Lineman/Electric Foreman. The Bridgeport Municipal Utility System has an immediate opening for a Journey Lineman/Electric Foreman. Applicants must have a strong journeyman rating and must be able to perform all duties with regard to overhead and underground electric line construction and maintenance. Must be willing and capable to work on water, wastewater, and street operations. Must be or able

to become a Grade 3 water operator and Class L wastewater operator if so required. Must live or be willing to live within 15 minutes of Bridgeport, comply with on-call requirements and possess and comply with Nebraska CDL regulations. Paid vacation, sick days, holidays, 401K and employer-paid health insurance are included with the benefits package. To obtain the position description and an application, contact City Hall at 809 Main Street (308.262.1623) or visit www.cityofbport.com. Salary negotiable depending on qualifications. Resumes and applications will be accepted until position is filled and may be emailed to lheinrich@cityofbport.com. The City of Bridgeport is EOE and Veteran Preference. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Send a resume and completed application to City of Bridgeport, NE; 809 Main Street, PO Box 280; Bridgeport, NE 69336 or to lheinrich@cityofbport.com. NO phone calls, please.

Parks Foreman/Facility Maintenance. The City of Bridgeport has an immediate opening for a Park Foreman/Facility Maintenance person. Applicants must have a strong background in building maintenance and park department operations and maintenance and must be able to perform all duties with regard to operation and maintenance of park system. Will also be responsible for maintenance items at the Prairie Winds Community Center that Center staff is unable to perform. Must be willing and capable to assist the electric, water, wastewater, and street operations. Must be or able



to be become a Grade 3 water operator and Class L wastewater operator if so required. Must live or be willing to live within 30 minutes of Bridgeport, comply with on-call requirements as required and possess and comply with Nebraska CDL regulations. Paid vacation, sick days, holidays, 401K and employer-paid health insurance are included with the benefits package. To obtain the position description and an application, contact City Hall at 809 Main Street (308.262.1623) or visit www.cityofbport.com. Salary negotiable depending on qualifications. Resumes and applications will be accepted until position is filled and may be emailed to lheinrich@cityofbport.com. The City of Bridgeport is EOE and Veteran Preference. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Send resume and completed application to City of Bridgeport, NE; 809 Main Street, PO Box 280; Bridgeport, NE 69336 or to lheinrich@cityofbport.com. NO phone calls, please.

Public Works & Utilities

Director. Gretna, Nebraska is a booming city of the first class located in Sarpy County and the Omaha Metro. With the expansion of the city's corporate limits including additional streets, sewer lines, and sewer lift stations, the city is seeking a highly skilled

Continued on page 18

Classifieds

Continued from page 17
person to oversee all aspects of the Gretna Public Works Departments on a day to day basis. The Public Works & Utilities Director is directly responsible for supervision of staff, functionality of all aspects of the department and performance of senior-level professional work. This person is also accountable for various administrative and managerial duties including evaluating projects to maintain budgetary restrictions, ensuring compliance with all city policies, procedures and codes, and reviewing plans and specifications for infrastructure construction. The following education and experience is preferred:

1. Must possess a valid

driver's license.

2. Bachelor degree in Civil Engineering, Project Management, Construction Engineering, or related field.

3. Minimum 7 years' experience in local government, specifically public works, of which 3 years must be in a supervisory role.

4. Class 3 Water Certification.

5. Class 2 Street Superintendent License.

6. State of Nebraska On-Site Wastewater Treatment Certification, not currently required.

7. Must be willing to obtain further education, training, and certifications as deemed appropriate and within time-frame as established by the employer.

Candidates should have working knowl-

edge of all municipal public works and utilities activities including streets, storm sewer, traffic control, water, and wastewater operations, building and asset management systems, and engineering principles. Please see the full job description for information about this position. This is an exciting time to join the City of Gretna team to aid in the future of Gretna. The Public Works & Utilities Director position range is \$71,281-\$95,097 with initial starting salary at \$71,281 DOQ, with excellent benefits. Application and Job Description is available from the Gretna City Clerk, 204 N McKenna Avenue, PO Box 69, Gretna, NE 68028-0069 or at www.gretnane.org. This position remains open until filled. Initial review of applications begins May 2, 2022.

Utility Employee.

The City of Cambridge, EOE, is now accepting applications for a full-time utility employee. Successful candidate must possess or be able to obtain, within one year, a grade IV water operator license through the State of Nebraska. General maintenance duties in water, wastewater, parks, streets, and equipment. Will train the right person. Must have a valid driver's license. Drug test required. Wage negotiable based on experience. Applications can be picked up at the Cambridge City Office between the hours of 7:30-4 M-F. For more information, contact David Houghtelling, Utility Supervisor, 308-340-3213. Benefits include health insurance, vacation, sick leave, holidays and retirement investment.

Need a water operator licensed?

The 2022 water operator (license) training courses, provided by the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy Drinking Water Program, have been scheduled.

The registration form for water operator training courses can be found on the Drinking Water Program webpage at dee.ne.gov

ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/OnWeb/PWS.

Grade IV Courses

May 24-26 in Beatrice
July 12-14 in Scottsbluff
Sept. 7-9 in Fremont
Dec. 6-8 in Grand Island

Grade III Courses

Oct. 3-7 in Beatrice
Grades I & II Courses
Aug. 22-26 in Grand Island

HAROLD K SCHOLZ CO.

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS SWITCHGEAR ASSEMBLERS

Switchgear Controls Relaying	Generation Automation Metering	Substations Service Breakers
---	---	---

7800 Serum Ave. - Ralston, Nebraska 68127
PH: (402)339-7600 FAX: (402)339-1821
E-MAIL: power@hkscholz.com
www.hkscholz.com

2022 Training calendar

**Visit our website at www.lonm.org
for a complete list of workshops and conferences.**

April

April 26 Solid Waste Workshop Library, Scottsbluff
April 28 Water Operator Training Workshop Fire Hall, Burwell

May

May 17-19 Rubber Gloving Workshop NECC Training Field, Norfolk
May 25 Wastewater Workshop City Hall Council Chambers, Sidney

June

June 9 Wastewater Workshop Atkinson Community Center, Atkinson
June 15-17 Municipal Accounting & Finance Conference Younes Conference Center, Kearney

August

Aug. 9 Water Operator Training Workshop McCook
Aug. 10 Water Operator Training Workshop Holdrege
Aug. 11 Water Operator Training Workshop Hebron
Aug. 16 Backflow Workshop Beatrice
Aug. 17 Backflow Workshop Wayne
Aug. 18 Backflow Workshop Stuart
Aug. 23 Backflow Workshop Ogallala
Aug. 24 Backflow Workshop Grand Island
Aug. 25 Water Operator Training Workshop Grand Island
Aug. 30-Sept. 1 ... Rubber Gloving Workshop Don Winkelman Training Field, Sidney

September

Sept. 7-8 Electric Underground School Sidney
Sept. 14-16 League Annual Conference Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln
Sept. 27 Water Operator Training Workshop Lexington
Sept. 28 Water Operator Training Workshop Broken Bow
Sept. 30 Water Operator Training Workshop Norfolk

October

Oct. 11 Water Operator Training Workshop York
Oct. 12 Water Operator Training Workshop Red Cloud

December

Dec. 7 Water Operator Training Workshop Lincoln
Dec. 8 Water Operator Training Workshop Hastings