

Utilities Section Newsletter

League of Nebraska Municipalities

November 2023

Utilities/Public Works Section Annual Conference coming in January!

By Lash Chaffin,
Utilities Section Director

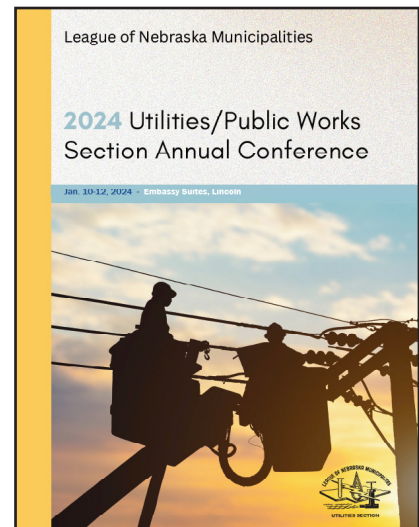
Mark your calendars! **The 2024 League of Nebraska Municipalities Utilities/Public Works Section Annual Conference is scheduled for Jan. 11-12 at the Embassy Suites in Lincoln.** In addition to the wonderful opportunities to share time and information with colleagues, there are some important educational opportunities. *The last several years, this conference was approved for an average of up to 17.5 wastewater operator hours and 15 water operator hours! We expect similar approval this year.*

[Click here](#) for the conference program and registration information. [Click here](#) to register online with a credit card.

On Jan. 10, the conference kicks off with an optional **Preconference Seminar: *Financing, Managing and Maintaining Municipal Utility Infrastructure in Today's Crazy and Rapidly Changing World!!!*** This session will focus on maintenance policies, effective purchasing techniques, and how to calculate the life span of municipal property (*designed for 5 water credit hours and 5 wastewater credit hours*). **This is a "stand-alone" session. Preconference Seminar attendees do not have to register for the entire conference.**

On Jan. 11-12, share time with your colleagues and learn how to better manage your utility and public works departments:

- Use of Personal Cell Phones and Other Public Records Issues Employees Need to Think About
- New and Innovative Health Insurance Options for Municipal Employees
- Lead Service Lines: State and Federal Expectations
- Remote Utility Infrastructure: Turning vulnerability into resilience.
- New Innovative Health Insurance Options for Municipalities
- Understanding Your Utilities History Benefits Customers
- Effective Employee Evaluations
- Project Management Basics
- Considerations for Hiring Seasonal Workers
- Per- and Polyfluorinated (PFA) Substances Update: Yes, this is real.
- Are Small Nuclear Power Units in Your Future for Well Houses and Other Remote Facilities?
- Acceptable Utility and Public Works Rules for Customers
- The Importance of Regular Infrastructure Maintenance Programs
- Back Injury Protection



- When Do You Need to Hire an Engineer?
- Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act Updates
- Municipal Utility and Public Works Legislative and Regulatory Update: Whether you have a water, wastewater, electric, natural gas, street, recreation or other department, the Nebraska Legislature has a tremendous effect on how you do business. Do not miss the latest information on legislative and regulatory activities.
- And much, much more!
There will be water, wastewater, and engineering credits available for many of these sessions. Do not miss this great opportunity!

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



UTILITIES SECTION

Lash Chaffin
Utilities Section Director
Rob Pierce
Utilities Field Representative

SAFETY/HEALTH CORNER

Roadside construction worker safety tips

By Rob Pierce, Utilities Field Rep./Training Coordinator

Roadside work zones pose extreme risks for the laborers who build and maintain our highways, roads, bridges, tunnels, and utilities. That is why highway maintenance jobs are among the most dangerous jobs in the United States according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2003-2021).

Every year, an average of 123 workers are killed in roadside work zones. Many of these fatalities can be avoided by establishing safe work zones and making sure workers are trained in best safety practices when working along the roadside or in street construction zones. A sound traffic control plan, which adheres to federal, state, and local

laws, needs to be implemented and consistently followed to provide a safe work area. A designated or competent person needs to oversee the plan. Trained flaggers should be used where necessary. Proper lighting at the site is required along with proper signage and cone/barricade setup. All affected workers need to be trained and informed on best safety practices. Workers should stay alert to the traffic changes, work facing the traffic as much as possible, avoid walking in blind spots, communicate clearly, wear required high-visibility clothing, and dress for the weather.

It seems that drivers are distracted, have a lead foot, and are slow to acknowledge inclement weather hazards, especially the first ice or snowstorm. Strictly adhering to best



safety practices is a must in work zones to reduce work zone accidents and fatalities. Work safe!

Utilities Section members can place an ad in the classifieds section of the *Utilities Section Newsletter* for free. Email your ad to brendah@lonm.org.

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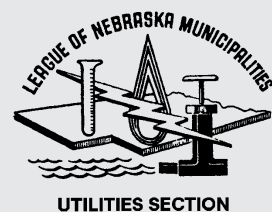
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Nebraska utilities history – Shickley

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, Utilities Field Rep./Training Coordinator

Shickley, located in Fillmore County, was named for President Millard M. Fillmore and first established with boundaries defined by the Nebraska Territorial Legislature in 1856. The county was formally organized in 1871 and divided into 16 townships (each six square miles) in 1873. The Stockholm community formed a school district in 1875 and a Lutheran House Church. Five acres were set aside for a cemetery in 1878.

In 1885 when the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad was surveying for a branch line to run from Beatrice to Holdrege, they were made an offer that diverted the siting of a townsite three miles to the east. The proposed site also would be located midway between the future town sites of Ong and Strang on the 1883 homesteads of two early settlers. A general (dry goods) store was in operation by 1886 and a post office was established April 18, 1886. The post office name submitted was Vint

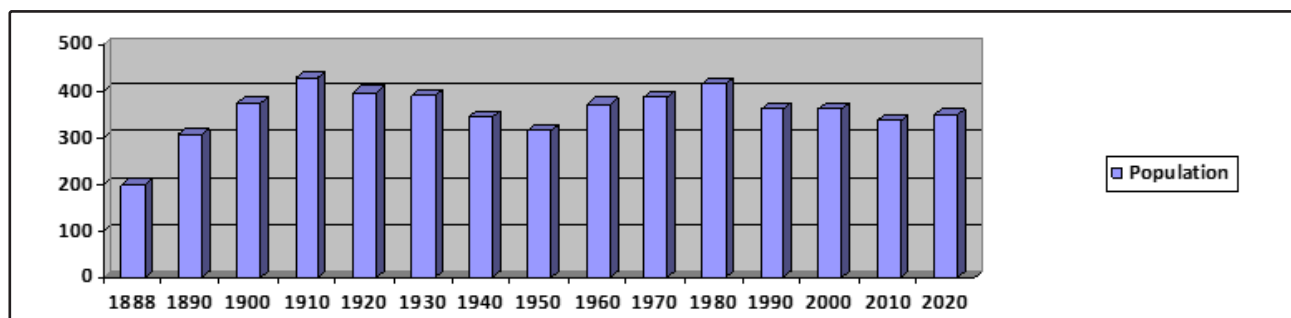
for which the post office rejected, thus Shickley was selected. The townsite apparently was named in honor of the Fillmore County Judge Benjamin Franklin Shickley, but one source noted it was named for a Fillmore Shickley railroad official (same person or possibly his son, Vincent C. Shickley). Vincent C. Shickley was engaged in buying right-of-way for the railroad and locating towns for the Lincoln Land Company. He was in charge of construction and operations locally. The village was platted in the Bryant Township with the Burlington tracks dividing it into two parts. Mr. Kline owned the land on the south side of the railroad and Mr. Campbell the land on the north side. Each man tried to interest investors in either businesses or homes to choose his land and for several years this competition existed. With the arrival of the railroad, Shickley had grown to a population of at least 200 and on March 20, 1888, it was incorporated as a village. The cemetery was laid out with lots in 1889 and was operated by the Shickley Cemetery Association. By 1890, the population reached 307,

but in the late 1890s, an eastern "money panic" and several dry years resulted in many investors pulling out by 1896.

The population in 1900 was 372 and by 1903, telephone service was installed by the Fillmore County Telephone Company. A two-story brick high school building was erected in 1908, the population increased to 429 in 1910, and the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Co. purchased the exchange in 1913. *Early firefighting equipment was a hose cart and bucket brigade with the water supply coming from cisterns kept filled by the town pumps powered by windmills. At one time, the town was called "Little Holland" because all houses had a windmill, some with a crank well.*

In 1920, the population was 396 and four grain elevators were operating along with School District No. 54 and four churches. Railroad traffic from 1915-1922 consisted of two passengers and two freight trains per day. Three buildings in the business district were destroyed with a loss of \$20,000 in 1920.

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Nebraska utilities history – Shickley

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The *Shickley Herald* newspaper was discontinued in 1922 and the library was founded by the Woman’s Club in 1923. A vote was approved to wire the village for electricity and a contract to the Blue Valley Power Company for current. That year, there was an application to construct a 13,200-volt three-phase transmission line from Ong to Shickley. In 1925, electric rates were \$0.12 per kilowatt (kW) plus a \$1 service charge.

By 1930, the population was 389 and the Farmers & Merchants

Bank was bought by State Bank. The Johnston fire in May 1932 initiated the need for better fire-fighting equipment. A volunteer fire department was organized with 25 original members. The first fire truck was purchased in 1932, a Chevrolet with chemical tank, hose, and buckets. On Jan. 1, 1935, the electric distribution system was operated by the Shickley Municipal Plant.

The population decreased slightly to 342 in 1940 and a water system was installed for \$32,000, half of the cost was paid by the Works

Progress Administration. A well was drilled by Alfs Implement and Well Drilling Co. Early wells had been powered by windmills and stored in cisterns for fire protection. In 1942, Consumers Public Power District was purchasing the private power companies in Nebraska. A pumper truck was purchased (a 1941 Chevrolet) in 1946 by the fire department and the Cemetery Association bought 80 acres in 1948.

The population decreased to 316 by 1950, and a new fire hall

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Nebraska utilities history – Shickley

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was built (fire equipment had been stored at the village hall). An ordinance was passed that all buildings be built of brick or other types of nonburnable material. On March 3, 1953, a second municipal well was drilled near the water tower at a depth of 131 feet (ft) with a six-inch pump connected. The water system had a meter deposit of \$3 and rates were a monthly flat rate of \$1.50 for summer months and \$1.25 for winter months. The school reorganized in 1953 and elementary classrooms, a shop, and gym were built in 1954. A sewer system and disposal plant were installed in 1954 for \$83,000. The sewer system was maintained by a tax levy and a \$2 sewer charge per month. The rural fire department was formed in 1956 and a 1947 International fire truck was acquired. The village cemetery was maintained from a tax levy and the auditorium was maintained from a tax levy and income from rentals. The municipal electric distribution system had 195 meters with current supplied by Consumers Public Power District. The street lighting cost was \$650. Electric rates in 1958 were first 12 kilowatt hours (kWh) at \$1, next 38 kWh at \$0.065, next

100 kWh at 0.033, excess at \$0.02 with a minimum of \$1. For water heating, first 12 kWh at \$1, next \$0.065, next 100 kWh at 0.033, next 450 kWh at \$0.015 and excess at \$0.02 with a \$1 minimum. Power rates were first 200 kWh at \$0.05, next 300 kWh at \$0.03, next 4,500 at \$0.025, excess at \$0.02, with a \$0.50 per horsepower (HP). Meter deposits were \$3 and \$5.

The population was 371 in 1960 and sewer rates were \$2 per month. On Oct. 9, 1962, a dial system was added by the phone company and in 1963, the city/rural fire department purchased a pumper truck. The school added elementary classrooms and a music room in 1964. The Steider Addition was platted to the north in 1965 and the street paving began in 1969, starting with Market Street.

In 1970, the population was 385 and the electric system was supplied by the Nebraska Public Power District.

The school added the north gym and a Voc-Ag Education building in 1977. On May 10, 1977, a 266 ft well using an eight-inch pump was drilled northwest of the water tower. A wastewater treatment plant project was underway in 1978. A

fully equipped Ford rescue unit was purchased in 1981 and the electric system was purchasing power from MEAN in 1983. On Nov. 11, 1980, the original well was replaced with a new one and the original pump was repaired. A new addition was platted on the north side of Shickley in 1982 and several new houses and two churches were built. The population decreased from 413 in 1980 to 360 in 1990 and the electric system had 237 customers by 1993. A brick library building was erected in 1994 and a new ambulance was purchased in 1996. In 1998, the natural gas system was operated by KN Energy Inc., and the wastewater plant consisted of an activated sludge extended aeration system designed for 0.0575 million gallons per day (mgd) with aerobic digester sludge treatment. In 1999, a distance learning, special education, and weight room were completed.

The population decreased from 361 in 2000 to 334 in 2010 and a new fire hall was constructed in 2003. The fire department consisted of 23 firefighters, eight EMTs and a fire insurance rating (ISO) of inside village limits at 7 and outside at 10. By 2005, the village streets

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Nebraska utilities history – Shickley

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were 93 percent paved and the electric system had a capacity of 1,500 kilowatts (kW) and a peak demand of 900 kW. The activated sludge extended aeration sewer facility had an average demand of 0.480 mgd. The water system's average well depth was 260 ft with a rated capacity of 1.296 mgd, an average capacity 0.360 mgd, with peak demand of 0.400 mgd. Water storage capacity was 75,000 gallons. By 2009, the water system had three active municipal water wells with 176 residential and 29 commercial service connections. The natural gas system in 2009 was operated by SourceGas.

A new 8,640-square-foot brick/metal community center building

was completed in 2013 and the natural gas system by 2015 was operated by Black Hills Energy. Solid waste collection was provided by a private collection company.

Today, Shickley has a population of 347, has been incorporated for 135 years and is a League of Nebraska Municipalities and Utilities Section member.

References: Nebraska Directory of Municipal Officials, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964-65, 1967-75, 1977-87, 1990-2021; Nebraska Municipal Review Magazine, 1925, 1987; Water Resources of Nebraska, Dec. 1936; Nebraska Place Names, 1925, 1960; Shickley, Nebraska-The First 100 Years, Shickley Centennial, 1988; Shickley website, 2003, 2005, 2010, 2019-2023;

Wikipedia website, 2019; Public Power Magazine, Vol. 51, Number 1, Jan.-Feb. 1993; Nebraska Our Towns...Central Southwest, 1991; Maps Tell Nebraska's History, 1991; Lincoln Journal Star Newspaper, 2005; Broadwater News newspaper, 1920; Nebraska Blue Book, 1918, 1928, 1936, 1942, 1946, 1978; Directory of Electric Utilities in the United States, Federal Power Commission, 1941; Annual Report of Nebraska State Railway Commission to the Governor, 1923; Utilities Section solid waste survey, 2015; and the Federal Power Consumers Electric Rate Survey, Domestic and Residential Electric Rates in Effect Jan. 1, 1935 in the State of Nebraska, 1935.

Water systems receive safety awards

The Nebraska Section American Water Works Association (NS-AWWA) recognized five water systems for safety at its annual banquet Nov. 3, 2023. The awards recognize distinguished NS-AWWA member public water systems for their safety records and respective active safety programs. There are two designations: "Certificate of

Recognition" and "Certificate of Achievement" in the respective classes which are Class I (1-4 operators), Class II (6-10 operators), Class III (11-15 operators), and Class IV (more than 15 operators). This year's awardees are for the "Certificate of Achievement": Class I Division – **Chadron**; Class III Division – **Norfolk** and **Aurora**;

and Class IV Division – **North Platte**. **Beatrice**, in the Class II Division, received the "Certificate of Safety Recognition." These five systems collectively had over 150,000 hours logged with six days lost from two incidents with four systems with no lost days. (*Utilities Section members are in bold.*) Congratulations!



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Nebraska utilities history – Superior

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By Rob Pierce, Utilities Field Rep./Training Coordinator

Superior, located in Nuckolls County, first had a school built in the area by 1872 and a post office established Oct. 23, 1872. By 1875, a townsite was surveyed and platted, which was named from the quality of the land. The Board of County Commissioners approved the filed plat Aug. 4, 1879. A two-story frame school building with bell tower was erected for grades 1-12, located at 3rd & Broom Streets. In 1879, David Guthrie arrived in Superior and built a low dam on the Republican River with a race 40 feet (ft) wide and 10 ft deep and about one-and-one-half-miles long to power the mill which cost \$20,000. A store was built in the spring and on Aug. 4, 1879, was incorporated as a village with a population over 200. By 1880, the population was 458, the railroad passed through town and businesses included a two-story brick Union Hotel building, a general store,

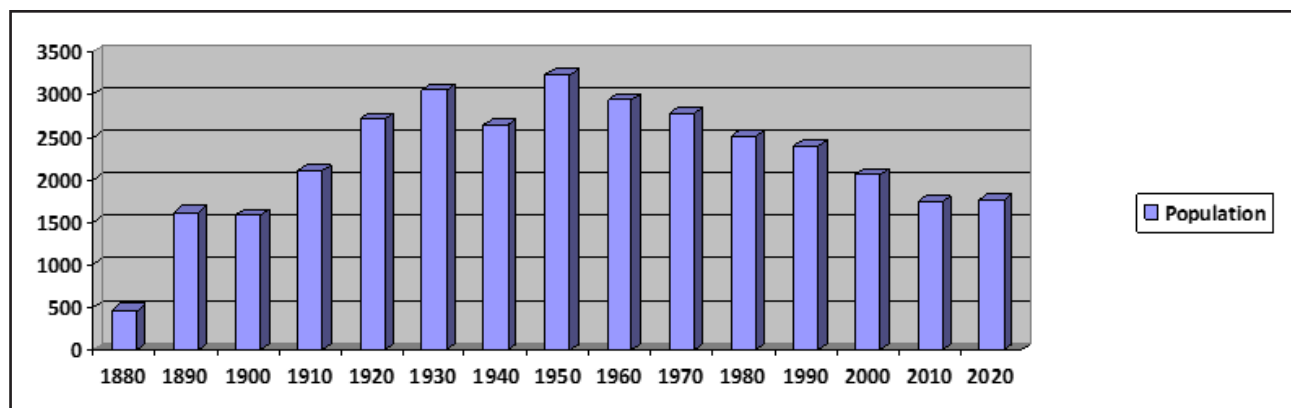
and a Bank of Superior which was established in March. The Superior Lumberyard was operating in 1881 and the IOOF building was built. In 1883, the King, a brick building, was erected and in 1885, the village included the original plat (49 blocks), east Superior (39 blocks), south Superior addition and a Hunters First addition. Streets were from east to west; 1st through 13th Streets and the north/south streets included Wyoming, Colorado, National, Central, Commercial, Kansas, Dakota, Bloom, Converse, Marvin, Loudon, Collett, and Guthrie Streets. One source listed the population at about 750 by 1882 and by 1887, the village had grown into a city of the second class. In 1887, the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway built a branch line from Neva (three miles west of Strong City) to Superior. This branch line was originally called "Strong City and Superior line" but later the name was shortened to the "Strong City line."



Superior water tower. 2000 photo.

The population in 1890 was 1,614 and several brick commercial buildings were being erected. The first waterworks was built in 1888 and by 1889, the North Ward Elementary School was built. In 1892, the fire department was

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Nebraska utilities history – Superior

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organized and by July 1897, had 52 volunteer firefighters, two hose carts, and 1,200 feet of hose. By 1897, the municipal water system consisted of 28 double fire hydrants, one mile of 10-inch mains, one-and-one-half miles of eight-inch and one-quarter mile of four-inch mains. Water was pumped from a 24-inch diameter well by two Deane pumps using two Dynamos at the wheelhouse. The water system operated at an ordinary pressure of 50 pounds per square inch (psi) with

a fire pressure at 140 psi. In 1899, four railroads provided service through town and by 1900, the population reached 1,577. Initially, the sewer system consisted of cess pools until a sewer line was run to the Republican River by 1900. The Mullet-Long two-story brick building was erected in 1901 and in 1902, the Henningsen Produce Company started operation. The Superior Electric Light Company was operating in 1905 and by 1908, a new two-and-one-half-story brick high school building was built.

The population reached 2,106 by 1910 as a grain elevator was built on the south end of National Avenue, which used a boiler, 25 horsepower (HP) engine. The Nebraska Portland Cement Company was started (1910) and in 1911, a two-story brick IOOF #97 building was erected. The population was estimated to be 2,300, the city operated from a city/fire hall building on 4th Street (also water office) in 1912. The Abe King brickyard was operating with three kilns and four drying

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Nebraska utilities history – Superior

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sheds. The city had two hotels (Duwe Hotel and Union Hotel), an Opera House, and a public library. By August, the Superior Mill Company across the race operated with four turbines, two boilers, a 250-kilowatt (kW) Dynamo and a 225-HP engine. The Bossemeyer Bros. Feed Mill & Grain Elevator operated a boiler, a 30-HP engine and electric motor. The waterworks located at the end of Central Avenue consisted of two boilers, a 35-ft deep well with a 170,000-gallon reservoir. Steam-powered three pumps, one Deane (10x16x10) with a capacity of 1 million gallons per day (gpd) and another Deane (8.5x7x10) pump with a capacity of 500,000 gpd and a Worthington (7.5x7x10) with a capacity of 250,000 gpd. In December 1913, bonds for a city park were voted on and by November, a half-million-dollar cement plant was nearly completed. Grading was underway for a new depot (1914) and in October, the new trolley line was being constructed. The Southern Nebraska Power Company, which issued securities (common stock) in 1911, was operating by 1914. The fire department in 1915 had 40 volunteer firefighters, three hand chemical extinguishers, two hose carts with 1,800 ft of cotton/rubber lined hose and an alarm bell. Docket #1029 for David Guthrie & Company in 1915 allowed to use 400 second feet (sec./ft) from the Republican River via canal diverted just west of Superior and returned to the river south of town for a flour mill and hydro-electric power plant. The private power plant had rates of \$0.07-\$0.15 per kilowatt hour (kWh) with a one percent discount

for prompt payment. The municipal waterworks had a flat rate fee of \$2.50 per six months along with a bath \$1.25, closet \$1, meters \$0.20 per gallon, and a \$0.10 minimum. The water system consisted of wells, a 140,000-gallon direct-pressure reservoir, two pumps with engines with a capacity 1.5 million gallons per minute (gpd), five-and-one-half-miles cast iron mains from four- to 10-inch diameter, 46 hydrants, seven valves, and 445 meters. The water system cost was \$41,000 with maintenance costs of \$6,000 per year. A brick railroad depot was built (1915) and the old frame depot building was turned into a warehouse. The system later consisted of eight miles of cast iron pipe, 47 Chapman hydrants, 16 Chapman valves (right and left-hand turns), 465 Thomson, Neptune, and Pittsburgh meters. The average daily consumption was 100,000 gallons for 474 service connections. Southern Nebraska Power Company, which provided electric service, was planning to build a reinforced concrete dam across the Republican River in 1917 with a new generator to be installed.

By 1920, the population was 2,719 and a Docket #1020 by Southern Nebraska Power Company was for 400 cuft of water from the Republican River via canal. The original right was for a flour mill and later a hydroelectric power plant installed to develop power and furnish current to a number of towns in the vicinity. The city had electric streetlights along Main Street and in 1922, a junior high school was built. On Dec. 7, 1922, Southern Nebraska Power Company filed an application for the authority to rebuild a transmission line from

Fairfield to Clay Center and also an application for the authority to construct a transmission line to Deweese then to the Lawrence-Nelson line. On April 27, 1927, Southern Nebraska Power Company filed an application to authorize construction of a transmission line between Clay Center and Harvard, which was granted May 12, 1927. By 1928, there were two newspapers published, the *Superior Express* and the *Superior Weekly Courier*. Superior was a member of the League of Nebraska Municipalities in 1928 and the population increased to 3,044 by 1930. In the 1930s, concrete sidewalks were installed, the roads were paved, and decorative electric lighting were added along Main Street. In 1936, the South Nebraska Power Company's power plant had a capacity of 842 kilowatts (kW) with 170 kW of internal combustion and 672 kW of hydroelectric power generation. The South Ward Elementary School was built by Works Progress Administration (WPA) funding. About 1939, a city hall/auditorium was built and the population decreased to 2,650 by 1940. The city purchased the electric system properties in town in 1940 from the Southern Nebraska Power Company with the Superior municipal electric system established by 1942.

In 1950, the population was 3,227 and a 1951 engineer study reported the city had a BOD equivalent to 9,700 people and three major industries discharged waste with a population equivalent to 4,400. A trickling, filter-type plant was recommended. The electric distribution system with five miles

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Nebraska utilities history – Superior

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of lines and 1,443 meters was owned by the city and supplied by Consumers Public Power District. By 1956, the city had a board of public works, operated a cemetery and solid waste was collected by a private collector with residential rates of \$1.25 per month. The fire department had 50 volunteer firefighters and the natural gas system was privately owned. A new wastewater treatment plant in 1957 consisted of a Parshall flume to the Infilco comminutor with a bar-screen bypass if needed. A lift station, where a set of three Fairbanks-Morse pumps raised the sewage 30 feet so gravity flow, can be used in the process. Pumps were powered by Fairbanks Morse motors to a primary settling tank (45-foot diameter) with Infilco sludge removal equipment and skimmer. The tank was designed to provide a detention of 2.310 hours at design flow of 600 gallons per minute (gpm). The trickling filter (anaerobic digester) treatment plant was maintained from a sewer charge of \$1.50 per month per resident and commercial was equal to the water charge. The public swimming pool cost \$30,000 in 1958 and was financed through a bond issue. *Superior was one of the smallest cities in America that supported a professional minor league baseball team, the Superior Senators (1956–58) of the Nebraska State League. Superior was the first professional stop in the career of pitcher Jim Kaat, who went on to win 283 games in a 24-year major league career.*

By 1960, the population was 2,935 and the city maintained a sewer system with a maintenance charge of \$2.25 per month per resident

(1962). The water system in 1962 had 1,087 meters in service with a meter deposit of \$7.50 and a fire hydrant rental of \$3 per month. Residential rates were for the first 2,000 gallons (gals.) at \$1.65, next 5,000 gals. at \$0.45 per 1,000 gals., next 16,000 gals. at \$0.35 per 1,000 gals., with excess gals. at \$0.30 per 1,000 gals.

After the school consolidation, a new high school was built with an open house held Feb. 7, 1965.

The population decreased to 2,779 by 1970 and the electric system was city owned/operated and supplied by the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). In 1980, the population was 2,502, the junior high school was replaced, and a large fire destroyed the Elks Lodge. Upgrades were made on the wastewater treatment plant in 1977 and in 1983, when a second primary clarifier was added along with an aluminum cover for the trickling filter and a new RBC bio disc. The 1915 railroad depot was razed in April 1987. The natural gas system was operated/supplied by a private gas company until July 25, 1989, when the city took possession from the Kansas Power & Light Company (\$682,400 via 15-year bonds).

The population decreased to 2,397 in 1990 and the city negotiated the purchase of the gas system, now a municipal gas system. The electric system is operated by the city and supplied by the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool (NMPP). About 1995, the wastewater treatment facility quit using the RBC unit as the 1996 plant upgrade included an anaerobic digestion complex. Sewer charges in 1997 were: for residential, \$17.50 per month for first 2,000 gals.

and \$1.25 per 1,000 gals; for commercial customers, the rates were \$20 per month for the first 2,000 gals. and \$1.65 per 1,000 gals. with a sewer connection fee of \$350. In 1999, the wastewater treatment plan was using a rock trickling filter system designed for 0.68 million gallons per day (mgd), an anaerobic digester along with two-stage sludge treatment and ultra-violet disinfection. The natural gas system was operated by the city and supplied by Williams Natural Gas Pipeline Company. The fire department in 1998 had 36 volunteer firefighters and 11 volunteer emergency management technicians (EMTs).

In 2000, the population was 2,055 and in 2002, AIG Highstar Capital acquired the Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline System previously owned by Williams Company. The electrical system was operated/supplied by Southern Public Power District and a wholesale customer of NPPD (2003). In 2004, Superior had 28.93 miles of streets, 24.15 miles hard surfaced, 53 percent were curbed, and 52 percent with sidewalks. The fire department had 40 volunteer firefighters with an insurance ISO rating of 6 and 10. The water system had 130 fire hydrants in 2004 and a wastewater project in 2009 consisted of “sliplining” the sewer collection mains throughout town.

The population was 1,738 in 2010 and a project was in phase I of a master plan to replace the distribution gas lines and install valves starting with the downtown area. Both project phases include 16 miles of pipeline at a cost of about \$2.2 million. In 2011, LED

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Nebraska utilities history – Superior

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streetlights were installed and the water system consisted of nine municipal wells with a capacity of 5.200 mgd, an average capacity of 519,000 mgd, and a peak demand at 1,135,000 mgd. The water storage tank had a 200,000-gallon capacity. A CDBG funding downtown revitalization project was underway in 2015 which earned a “Showcase Community Award.” Solid waste collection service was provided by Baker and Sons and hauled to the Grand Island Landfill. The primary trickling filter treatment system was rebuilt in 2012 along with associated pumps and piping throughout the plant. The plant had a rated capacity of 350,000 mgd, and operated at 65 percent. The plastic trickling filter media was replaced and a new stainless steel filter arm was installed. The digester building upgrades included pump replacements, some piping modifications, and the installation of four 25 ft x 75 ft biosolids drying beds at an estimated cost of \$892,847.

Today, Superior has a population of 1,755, is a city of the second class, has been incorporated since August 1879, and is a member of the League of Nebraska Municipalities and Utilities Section.

References: Nebraska Directory of Municipal Officials, 1965-75, 1977-87, 1990-1997, 2000-2023: Nebraska Municipal Review Magazine, 1928, 1960, 1982, 1989: Perkey's Nebraska Place Names, 1995: Nebraska Place-Names, 1960: Water Resources of Nebraska, December 1936: Nebraska Traveler Magazine, 2003: Superior Internet Website, 2003: Sargent Leader newspaper, 1913-14: Public Power Magazine, Vol. 51, Number 1, January-February 1993: Train Time in Nebraska: The Post Card Era, 2005: Nebraska Our Towns... Central Southeast, 1991: Maps Tell Nebraska's History, 1991; Lincoln Journal Star Newspaper, 2005, 2008, 2010, 2020: NEDED Website, 2005: Wikipedia website, 2018-2019: Who's Who in Nebraska, 1940: Electric World, 1917, 1920: Nebraska Blue Book, 1915, 1928,

1942, 1946, 1978: Technology & Engineering, Electric World, Vol. 61 Part 1, 1912: Community Facts Superior Nebraska, NPPD, October 2004: Department of Labor and Department of Compensation, 1917-18: American Public Gas Association Directory, 2001: BLS Report 1905-06, 1907: McGraw Waterworks Directory, No. 1, 1915: Nebraska Blue Book, 1928, 1946: Sanborn Maps, July 1897, August 1912: Nebraska State Atlas, 1885: The “Auburn Granger” newspaper, 1913-15: Annual Report of Nebraska State Railway Commission to the Governor, 1915, 1922, 1923, 1928, and April 19, 1929: 7th Annual Report of the Nebraska Railway Commission to the Governor, 1915: Directory of Electric Utilities in the United States, Federal Power Commission, 1941: Utilities Section solid waste survey, 2015: Federal Power Consumers Electric Rate Survey, Domestic and Residential Electric Rates in Effect January 1, 1935 in the state of Nebraska, 1935; Utility Corporations: Letter from The Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, No. 25, July 16, 1930 and the Insurance Yearbook 1915-16 Fire and Marine 43rd Annual Issue, 1915.

Nebraska AWWA water taste test competition held

North Platte was crowned “Best Tasting Water” at the Nebraska Section American Water Works Association’s annual water taste test competition at their annual conference held in Kearney.

The judges at this year’s competition included Glen Kuehn (**Kenesaw**), Cyril Martinmaas (NDEE), Gerald Pesek (Sarpy Co. SID #23-Westmont), Shelley Schneider (NDEE), Doug

Woodbeck (retired NDEE), and Christine Spitzley (Vice-President AWWA).

North Platte, which uses untreated water, was voted the overall “best tasting water.” **Auburn** was selected as the “best tasting treated water” by the judges. North Platte qualifies to represent Nebraska at the AWWA “Ace” Conference in June 2024 at Anaheim, Calif. Congratulations!

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.

Nebraska utilities history – Wymore

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.

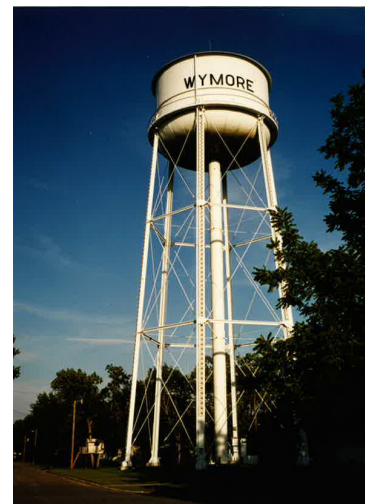
By Rob Pierce, Utilities Field Rep./Training Coordinator

Wymore, located in Gage County, began when the Burlington Railroad announced plans to extend its line west from Table Rock to the Blue River in 1880. Sam Wymore offered land for a town site and on April 7, 1881, a survey was completed by Anselmo B. Smith. On May 21, 1881, the original plat was filed by the Lincoln Land Co. with about 20 lots sold and two cemeteries were established (Wymore and Calvary). The town site, located at Big Indian Creek and Big Blue River, had 60 businesses and residences built. The Reporter newspaper, which had been organized in May 1879 at Blue Springs, was moved to Wymore June 22, 1881, and soon became the Wymore Reporter. The population was estimated to be 1,700, School District #114 was formed, and on October 7, 1881, a post office was established. On Oct. 25, 1881, the first bank in Wymore was built along with the

Catholic and Episcopal Churches. The three-story Touzalin Hotel was incorporated and built by the Reynolds Brothers. A rock quarry, located one-half-mile east of town, was in operation and the population in 1882 was 1,280. A school building was constructed in March 1882 and began separation from the Blue Springs School District. On June 22, 1882, Wymore filed for incorporation as a village.

The population was estimated to be 2,000 by 1883 and the Indian Reservation land was sold (1883).

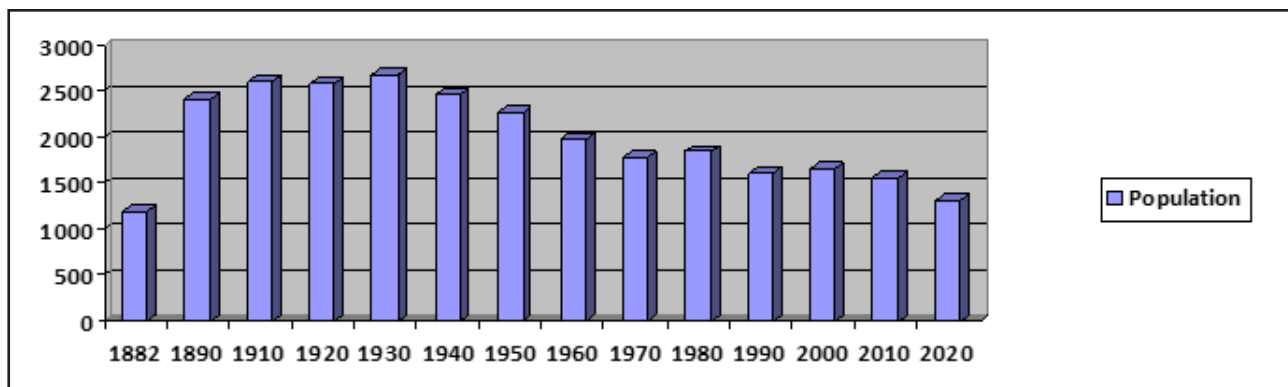
The high school building was completed in 1884 and Wymore was incorporated as a city of the second class. The Blue Springs-Wymore Streetcar Company was incorporated by E.P. Reynolds & Co. and operated from the Burlington Railroad Depot to the Union Pacific Station at Blue Springs. The flour roller mill was built in 1884 and by 1886, had a three-run of stone, kerosene oil lamps, and used waterpower two-thirds of the time. Some of the businesses by 1886 consisted



Wymore water tower. 2001 photo.

of a flour roller mill, a feed barn, a railroad depot, a coal bunker, a B&M 10-stall roundhouse, a National Lumber Company, a lumberyard, a photography shop, a millinery, a restaurant, a livery, a second-hand store, a jewelry store, a clothing shop, two hardware stores, a tin shop, a bank, an opera house, a grain elevator, a drug store, a

Continued on page 13



Nebraska utilities history – Wymore

Continued from page 12
general store, a harness shop, a meat market, and a wagon shop. A brick hotel was being built, the Potter House and a Gordon House were operating, and the W. Loudon Co. elevator was using a 15-horsepower (HP) engine.

By 1890, the population was 2,420, the Wymore/Blue Springs Street Railway Company was operating and a stone quarry was located two miles east of town. Other businesses included a brick manufacturer, a bakery, the Wymore Mill, a saloon, a grocery, a hardware, a shoemaker, a blacksmith, a restaurant, a meat market, a lumberyard, a grain elevator, a laundry, along with the Potter House, Rock Island House, Martin House, Eagle House, Touzalin Hotel, Bank of Wymore, and First national Bank. A two-story depot was built

in 1890 and a waterworks was completed for \$32,000. The Blue Springs Electric Company built its first light plant in 1890. It was a room built onto the Spencer Planing Mill which had one generator and furnished lights for the streets of Blue Springs and Wymore. By 1892, the water system consisted of a 110 foot (ft) 45,000-gallon standpipe with water pumped from a well and the river by two Buffalo Duplex pumps. The distribution system had five miles of four-, six- and eight-inch water mains, and 52 double fire hydrants. The waterworks building was located three blocks north and three-quarter miles east of the Touzalin Hotel. Housed were two duplex pumps from an 80 ft well (two boilers), which for fire purposes, could be connected to the river. In 1892, the railroad had a 20-stall roundhouse with machine shops located

about Blandin, just south of Bennett Avenue east of Nelson and it employed 500-600 men. The fire department had 60 volunteer firefighters, two hose carts, and in June, purchased a new 900-pound (lb.) fire bell. The population in 1900 was 2,626 and 63 trains came through town daily. The two-story J. Neumann Company building was erected in 1901 and by 1903, the city maintained eight parks. On June 30, 1908, a fire destroyed a business block (\$130,000 loss).

In 1910, the population was 2,613 and an

agreement was made with Blue Springs to furnish Wymore with water for the privilege of laying water mains through Blue Springs. From 1892-1911, the city laid nine-and-one-half miles of water mains. Some 5,088 ft of concrete sidewalks were laid in 1911 and the first electric streetlights were installed. The Holmesville Mill and Power Company provided electric current (1912-18) to Wymore, Blue Springs, and Beatrice, operating under Docket No. 1021. By October 1912, the fire department was housed in the frame city/fire hall

Continued on page 14

Nebraska Breaktime Trivia “Just For Fun”

- Q-1. What historical event occurred on Nov. 19, 1863?
- Q-2. How many municipalities in Nebraska start with the letter W?
- Q-3. What city in Nebraska become a city of the second class in 1937, and the light, water, and sewer departments was under a board of public works?
- Q-4. Where in Nebraska is this bridge located?

Answers on page 17.

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Nebraska utilities history – Wymore

Continued from page 13

building on north Niagara Street (lot 304) just east of the steam laundry business. There were 78 firefighters, using two hose carts with 1,200 ft of hose and a one hook/ladder truck. The water system had six deep wells, a 93,000-gallon standpipe (12 x 110 ft), nine-and-one-half miles of four-, six-, eight-, and 12-inch water mains along with 90 double fire hydrants. The average daily consumption was 1 million gallons. The pumping station was in Blue Springs with the old pumping station located three-quarter miles east of the post office. The pump station, located one mile north of the post office, used steam power and motor (fuel-coal) with one Buffalo pump capacity of 325 gallons per minute (gpm). The city waterworks was located between Nebraska Ave. and North Nelson Street on East Bloomfield Street (office & light plant-building) with a 115-horsepower (HP) gas engine with a 75-kilowatt (kW) Dynamo using steam heat. By October 1913, the city was planning a sewer system and in December, was holding a fund raiser to go towards a new fire hall building. A business district fire in May 1914 resulted in a loss of \$90,000. The Municipal Electric Light Plant of Wymore was to provide 24-hour service with meters being utilized. The Wymore plant in 1915 operated with a 300-HP boiler, a 310-HP steam engine, with a generator rating of 175 kilovolt amperes (kVA). The municipal power plant was installed for \$17,500. The municipal waterworks cost \$68,000 with rates from \$0.07-\$0.15 per 1,000 gallons. The water system in 1915 had about five-and-one-half miles of cast-

iron mains (four- to 10-inch), 53 hydrants, 120 services (galvanized pipe) with a maintenance cost of about \$2,500. The fire department had 82 volunteer firefighters, a hook/ladder truck, along with two hose wagons and 1,500 ft of cotton/rubber lined hose. A free public library began in 1916 with a two-story brick Carnegie Public Library built in 1917-18. The Nebraska Gas & Electric Company provided electricity. Electric current from the Holmesville Mill & Power Company also lit the city. The eight city parks included Arbor State Park, McCandless Park, Furnas Park, Rawlings Park, Riverside Park, Horseshoe Park, Taylor Park, and High School Park. A January 1919 application was made for the Nebraska Gas & Electric Company to construct a transmission line from the waterpower plant at Holmesville to Wymore and Blue Springs. The Continental Gas & Electric Corporation provided electric transmission service to town. The city council contracted with the Nebraska Gas & Electric Company to furnish electrical current for five years.

The Nebraska Gas & Electric Company supplied natural gas (1922) and in September, the application to reconstruct a transmission line with increased voltage from Beatrice to Blue Springs and Wymore was approved Nov. 18, 1922. In the early 1920s, brick streets were laid (17 blocks in 1992) with 10 blocks of paving brick in the business district by 1923. A new three-story brick school was built in 1925 and in 1929, a clay deposit for manufacturing brick was found. The population increased from 2,592 in 1920 to 2,680 in

1930. Wymore was a member of the League of Nebraska Municipalities in 1934. The school kept the red and black colors, but changed its mascot name from the Cardinals to the Zephyrs (1934). The CB&Q Railroad moved its shops from Wymore to Lincoln in 1934 and many moved due to the depression. The electric distribution system was operated by the Wymore Municipal Water & Light Department in 1935.

By 1940, the population was 2,458, ordinance revisions were made (1941-42), and a 250,000-gallon elevated water storage tower was installed in the 1940s. The population decreased to 2,258 by 1950 and the city maintained a 40 ft x 100 ft public swimming pool (cost \$51,162.72), which was financed via bonds. In the 1950s, the railroad discontinued passenger service. In 1958, a park roadway paving project was underway and the municipal water had rates of 3,000 gallons (gals.) at \$1.50, next 10,000 gals. at \$0.25 per 1,000 gals., next 13,000 gals. at \$0.18 per 1,000 gallons. Garbage was collected by a private collector with a fee of \$1.50 per month. The municipal-owned cemetery was maintained from a tax and the sale of lots. The natural gas service was provided by Peoples Natural Gas Company and electrical service was provided by Consumers Public Power District. The municipal sewer system and disposal plant in 1958 was maintained from a mill levy.

The population decreased to 1,975 by 1960 and the Good Samaritan Foundation purchased the Cadman Hotel for a nursing facility. In 1967, a \$24,330 improvement project to

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Nebraska utilities history – Wymore

Continued from page 14
the sewage plant was approved. The project also included a \$50,000 upgrade to the sewage treatment plant with 30 percent paid by a federal grant. Work began in 1969 and was completed in 1971, which consisted of an oxidation ditch, an outflow structure, final clarifier, chlorination tank, lift station, and a 24-ft deep wet well. In 1968, the last high school seniors graduated as Wymore become a part of Southern School District, which included Liberty, Blue Springs, Holmesville, and Barnston in 1981. The population was 1,790 in 1970 and increased slightly to 1,841 by 1980. The electrical system was owned/operated by the city and supplied by Nebraska Public Power District.

The population was 1,611 by 1990 and Burlington Park was donated to the city. The water system in 1995 consisted of five wells (average depth of 50 ft), a combined pumping capacity of 2,430 gallons per minute, and an overhead storage capacity of 250,000 gallons. The average daily demand was 311,830 gallons and the historic peak daily demand was 1,813,407 gallons. The maximum capacity of the system was 3,749,200 gallons per day. By 1999, the city had 25 miles of streets of which 23 were hard surfaced with blacktop, 30 percent with curbing, and 80 percent with sidewalks.

The sewer system consisted of an activated sludge, oxidation ditch system designed for 0.4 million gallons per day (mgd) with chlorine gas disinfection. The water system maintained 129 fire hydrants and a library project consisted of a \$450,000 addition.

By 2000, the population was 1,656 and a new swimming pool was being considered (2005) to replace the 1950s swimming pool. The electric system was upgraded and in 2007, Wymore received a \$10,000 grant to conduct a study of the water system. Wymore received a \$250,000 grant (CDBG) to install a new control system, two new wells, and 26,000 linear feet of associated transmission mains. Most streets were paved/curbed with five new concrete blocks on 7th Street (2009). The population was 1,558 in 2010 and the city provided solid waste collection service.

Today, Wymore has a population of 1,328, has been a city of the second class since 1884, and has been a member of the League of Nebraska Municipalities and Utilities Section.

References: Nebraska Directory of Municipal Officials, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964-75, 1977-82, 1984, 1987, 1990-2023; Nebraska Municipal Review, 1925, 1934, 1971, 1982, 1989, 2005, 2007; Water Resources of Nebraska, Dec. 1936; Nebraska Traveler Magazine,

2003; Pages of History, Nebraska High Schools Present & Past, 1854-1994; Public Power Magazine, Jan.-Vol. 51, Number 1, Feb. 1993; Perkey's Nebraska Place Names, 1995; Nebraska Place Names, 1925, 1960; Nebraska Our Towns...East Southeast, 1992; NEDED Website, 2005; Wikipedia Website, 2018-2019; The Crete Democrat Newspaper, 1891-92; Lincoln Journal Star, 2007, 2019-2021; Andrea's History of the State of Nebraska, 1882; Beatrice Anniversary Edition, 150 Years in the Making, 2009; History of Gage County, Nebraska, 1918; Nebraska Blue Book, 1915, 1918, 1928, 1942, 1946, 1978; Who's Who in Nebraska, 1940; Wymore Nebraska 1881-1956, 1957; Electric World, Vol. 73, 1917; Electric Power Development in the United States, Dept. of Agriculture, January 1916; Department of Labor and Department of Compensation, 1917-18; Diamond Jubilee History of Gage County, 1918; Diamond Jubilee Wymore, Nebraska, Sanborn Maps, September 1886, September 1892, October 1912; The "Auburn Granger" newspaper, 1913-15; Annual Report of Nebraska State Railway Commission to the Governor, Issue 15, 1922; Annual Report of Nebraska State Railway Commission to the Governor, 1923; Directory of Electric Utilities in the United States, Federal Power Commission, 1941; Utilities Section solid waste survey, 2015; 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.

Work Zone Workshop scheduled

A Work Zone Safety Training Workshop will be held Jan. 23, 2024, at the Holiday Inn in Kearney.

This workshop is approved for five water (grades 1-4) and five wastewater credit hours toward license recertification.

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

By Rob Pierce, Utilities Field Rep./Training Coordinator



Congratulations! Incorporation Anniversary Recognition: 110 years – Funk (1913-village); 130 years – Rogers (1893 village); 140 years – McCook (1883-village); 145 years – Niobrara (1878-village); and 165 years – Pawnee City (1858-village by Nebraska Territory).

Utilities Section members and associate members are bolded.

Congratulations to the following individuals/water systems received awards at the 2023 Annual American Water Works Association (AWWA) Banquet: Adam Darbro of **Aurora** was – “Outstanding Supervisory Operator Award”; Torey Zuver of **Chadron** – “Water Treatment Plant Operator Award”; and Darrell Eggli of **Aurora** – “Operator Meritorious Award.”

Congratulations to David Dailey of the **North Platte Water Department** as he was recognized by Andy Kahle of NDEE with an “Outstanding Water Operator Award.”



David Dailey of North Platte (left) was presented the Outstanding Water Operator Award by Andy Kahle of NDEE (right). Photo by Daryl Kottwitz Photography.

Individuals who received “Water Industry Service Awards” (WISA) included Mike Hill of **Grand Island**, Doug Whitfield of **Metropolitan Utilities District (MUD)**, and Chad Roberts of **Norfolk**. The WISA is designed to recognize members of the Nebraska Section of AWWA who, over the years, have untiringly served the waterworks industry.

Taking first place in the “**Top**



Doug Whitfield of Metropolitan Utilities District (left) was presented the WISA by AWWA Chair Marc Rosso (right). Photo by Daryl Kottwitz Photography.



Chad Roberts of Norfolk (left) was presented the WISA by AWWA Chair Marc Rosso (right). Photo by Daryl Kottwitz Photography.



Mike Hill of Grand Island (right) was presented the WISA by Rob Pierce of LNM (left).

Ops” competition this year was the team of Alan Slater of **Auburn**, Torey Zuver of **Chadron**, and Steve Kelley of **Beatrice**. Rob Pierce and David Hunter were given “Silver Water Drop” awards for 25 cumulative years of membership with the AWWA.

Do you, your department, or facility have something to crow about? Received an award, had an article written highlighting an event or person, or have a project worthy of acknowledgement in the *Utilities Section Newsletter*?

Let us help you celebrate events and accomplishments!

Please send information to any of the League/Utilities staff at info@lonm.org.

Mark your calendars for Jan. 24-25, 2024! Attend the **Snowball Wastewater Conference** at the Kearney Holiday Inn! [Click here](#) to register online with a credit card.

Classifieds

Apprentice Lineman. City of Benkelman is accepting applications for the position of Apprentice Lineman in the Electric Department. This position's responsibilities include, but aren't limited to: Construction and maintenance of overhead and underground electric distribution systems, operate a high lift bucket truck, digger derrick, and other equipment, assists other city operations, and perform other duties as required, available for 24-hour emergency calls. Requirements include high school graduation, ability to obtain a CDL license issued by the State of Nebraska within one year of hire. Excellent benefits package is included. Employment is contingent upon successful completion of a post-offer physical and drug test. Applications can be picked up at the City of Benkelman Office located at 126 7th Ave E, Benkelman, NE 69021 or by calling 308-423-2540. The City of Benkelman is an EOE.

Journeyman Lineman. Village of Morrill (Population 934) is accepting applications for the position of full-time Electric Journeyman Line Worker with a pay range of \$22-\$30 per hour DOQ. This individual will perform skilled line work in the operation, construction, maintenance and repair of overhead and underground electric distribution and transmission systems. A Class B CDL with Airbrakes is required. Applications, with resumes, will be accepted until the position is filled. A complete job description for this position and an application is available at www.villageofmorrill.com or at the Village Office located at 118 S Center Avenue, Morrill, NE. This position includes an excellent benefit package including health insurance, retirement, vaca-

tion, sick leave, and paid holidays.

Electric Distribution Superintendent. The City of Wayne is accepting applications for the position of Electric Distribution Superintendent. The Electric Distribution Superintendent supervises electrical distribution operations and maintenance work of overhead and underground electrical distribution systems and equipment for the City of Wayne. This position is responsible for accomplishing goals and objectives of the City by using independent discretion in utilization of personnel, equipment, and supplies within existing financial resources. This position directs and supervises the work of the electric line crew and provides oversight and field supervision of daily work and project management. Qualifications: Experience and extensive knowledge of the operations of an electrical distribution and transmission system. Must be able to interpret electrical distribution drawings, and electric building and safety codes. Must be able to work with customers, answer questions, and resolve problems. Five to 10 years of experience in a supervisory, management, or in a line Foreman position is preferred. An equivalent combination of experience and education may be considered. Excellent fringe benefits including Group Health, Accident Insurance, Life Insurance, retirement plan along with vacation and sick leave. Starting pay (\$74,422.40-\$96,657.60) will be based on prior experience and certifications. Application and job description are available at the City of Wayne, 306 Pearl Street, Wayne, NE 68787. Applications, along with cover letter and resume, will be received until position is filled and should be returned to



Betty McGuire, City Clerk, with applicable resume. First review of applications will begin Jan. 22, 2024. City of Wayne is an EOE. For more information, call 402-375-1733 and ask for Wes Blecke, City Administrator.

For Sale. City of Friend has Sensus Series B Electrical meters for sale. \$5 each. Contact John R. Schwab, City Clerk/Treasurer, 235 Maple Street, Friend, NE 68359; phone: 402-947-2711.

“Just For Fun” Answers

- A-1. Pres. Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address.
- A-2. 31 (19 are listed as **Utilities Section members: Waco, Wahoo, Wakefield, Wallace, Walthill, Wauneta, Wausa, Waverly, Wayne, West Point, Weston, Wilber, Wilcox, Winside, Wisner, Wolbach, Wood River, Wymore, and Wynot**). Reference: 2023 Nebraska Directory of Municipal Officials
- A-3. Schuyler. Reference: 1937 Nebraska Municipal Review reprinted from Schuyler Sun
- A-4. Northwest edge of Raymond in Lancaster County.

November: Monthly celebration acknowledgments

By Rob Pierce, Utilities Field Rep./Training Coordinator

Some of the acknowledgements for the month of November include All Saints' Day, Will Rogers Day, Sadie Hawkins Day, the changing of our clocks for the end of Daylight Saving Time, Election Day, Thanksgiving, and Veterans Day.

Sometimes, Veterans Day gets confused with Memorial Day as both honor the countless veterans (many are municipal employees)

who served the United States throughout the country's history. The distinction is Veterans Day is to thank and honor ALL who have served, living or deceased. Memorial Day specifically commemorates the men and women who have died while serving their country.

A short history of Veterans Day. Veterans Day originally was called Armistice Day in the United States, commemorating the signing of the agreement that ended World War I on Nov. 11, 1918. President

Woodrow Wilson celebrated the first Armistice Day in 1919, and on Nov. 11, 1938, became a legal holiday by an Act of Congress. In 1954, this federal holiday was changed from Armistice to Veterans Day. I want to personally thank each veteran who has or is currently serving in the U.S. armed forces.

In the past few years, several veterans memorials have been installed in villages and cities across Nebraska. Just a few of the memorials are pictured below.



Clockwise from upper left: Memorials in Kenesaw, Auburn, Lincoln (bell), Elm Creek, Pender, Alma, and Arapahoe.

Clockwise from upper left: Memorials in Norfolk, David City, Taylor, Wood River, Palmer, and Adams.



2024 Training calendar

Visit our website at lonm.org/education-events/ for a complete list of workshops and conferences.

January

- Jan. 10-12Utilities/Public Works Section Annual Conference Embassy Suites, Lincoln
- Jan. 17Water Operator Training Workshop Utilities Building, Schuyler
- Jan. 18Water Operator Training Workshop Rowe Memorial Public Safety Complex, Nebraska City
- Jan. 23Work Zone Safety Training Workshop Holiday Inn, Kearney
- Jan. 24-25Snowball Conference Holiday Inn, Kearney

February

- Feb. 6.....Water Operator Training Workshop BPW Building, Beatrice
- Feb. 7.....Water Operator Training Workshop Engineering Building, Beatrice
- Feb. 8.....Water Operator Training Workshop Glenn Hawks Building, Lexington
- Feb. 13-14Electric Meter Conference Holiday Inn, Kearney
- Feb. 26-27League Midwinter Conference Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln

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Utilities Section Webinars

(Credit hours for water 1-4, 6, and wastewater available where listed)

Email info@lonm.org to request a webinar.

Safety Committees by speakers Rob Pierce and Lash Chaffin, LNM; covers requirements, liabilities, financial benefits, unions, etc.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4 and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$0 (free), non-members \$35

Safety Session Series (If you purchase all five sessions as a bundle, the cost for members is \$140 and for non-members is \$180.)

Implementing an Effective Safety Meeting by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM; covers requirements, topics selection, how and when to present, safety focus, and building a safety culture.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4 and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Safety: Lockout/Tagout Programs (Practices and Procedures) by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4 and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Safety: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4 and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Safety: General Roundtable Discussion by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM; covers safety programs, injury/near miss issues, and hot topics.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4 and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Safety: Slips, Trips & Falls by Speaker Rob Pierce, LNM.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4 and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Water/Wastewater Sessions

Asset Management by speaker Shelly Rekte, DHHS; covers a general overview on asset management and associated recordkeeping options.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4 and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Pump Application, Operations & Maintenance by speaker Brad Harris, Layne Christensen.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4 and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Well Rehabilitation and Relining by speaker Brad Harris, Layne Christensen.

(Approved for 1.5 hours grades 1-4 and 1.5 hours wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Steps and Guidelines to Drilling a New Water Well by speaker Brad Harris, Layne Christensen.

(Approved for 1.5 hours grades 1-4 and 1.5 hours wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Water Storage Tank: Operation/Maintenance by speaker Jake Dugger, Maguire Iron.

(Approved for 1.5 hours grades 1-4 and 1.5 hours wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Utilities Section Webinars

Backflow Sessions (If you purchase all four sessions as a bundle, the cost for members is \$60 and for non-members is \$100.)

Cross Connection Control Programs: Past & Present by speaker Mike Wentink, DHHS.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4, 1 hour grade 6 and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Cross Connection/Backflow Safety: Confined Space by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM; covers a variety of confined space issues.

(Approved for 1.5 hours grades 1-4, 1.5 hours grade 6 and 1.5 hours wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Basic Requirements of a Cross Connection Control Program by speaker Rich Koenig, DHHS; covers requirements and regulations in a summary overview.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4, 1 hour grade 6, and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Public Education concerning a Cross Connection Control Program by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM; covers options for educations, communication options, monitoring, feedback, etc.

(Approved for 1.5 hours grades 1-4, 1.5 hours grade 6, and 1.5 hours wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Landfill/Transfer Station Session

Hazardous Waste Identification and Random Load Inspections by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM.

Members \$35, non-members \$45