



Annual Meeting Changes

The Board of Directors has made the decision to discontinue having the in-person Annual Meetings. In 2020, the meeting was cancelled due to the pandemic, and there was no Board election because there were no Board Member terms expiring that year. In 2021, the meeting was again cancelled, and the Board approved the acceptance of mail-in ballots for the election. Because we had a much better voting response with the mail-in ballots than we had with in-person voting, the Board decided to continue with mail-in ballots and discontinue the in-person meetings.

The financial report is available in our office or on our website. If you have not yet viewed the website, check it out now at www.lyonsiouxruralwater.com.

Board Member Elections

Enclosed you will find a ballot and a return envelope. You can return your ballot by mail, or in person to our office. It must be received by Friday, March 18, 2022, in order to be counted.

The following people have been nominated for election to the Board of Directors:

For the Big Sioux Subsystem

Bruce Bonander - Incumbent

Bruce and his wife Lynne live west of Larchwood and they have 2 daughters. Bruce crop farms corn and soybeans. He also has cattle and hogs. He previously served on the REC Board, L & O Board, and the Elevator Board. He currently is serving on his Church Council and as a Sioux Township trustee.

Dylan McCarty

Dylan and his wife Kelsey live west of Larchwood and they have one son and one daughter. Dylan crop farms corn and soybeans and has cow/calf pairs. He currently is serving on his Church Board.

For the Doon Subsystem

Jeff Hoogendoorn

Jeff and his wife Crystal live southwest of Inwood and they have 5 children. Jeff crop farms corn and soybeans. He also has cattle and hogs. Jeff also works at Professional Ag Marketing Inc.

Galen Van Beek

Galen and his wife Shirley live southwest of Inwood and they have 5 children and 15 grandchildren. Galen crop farms corn and soybeans and has hogs. He previously served on the Lyon County Pork Producers board, Iowa Farm Business Association board, Hegg Memorial Hospital board, and Hope Haven board.

For the Rock Rapids Subsystem

Tyler Klaassen - Incumbent

Tyler and his wife Kim live northeast of Rock Rapids and they have 3 children. He crop farms corn and soybeans and also has cattle and hogs. He has served on the United Farmers Coop Associate Junior Board. He is currently serving on the Rock Rapids Kids Club board.

Eric Stuerman

Eric and his wife Erica live north of Rock Rapids and they have 2 sons. Eric works in the assembly area at LVO Manufacturing in Rock Rapids.

2021 in Review

We repaired 87 water leaks in 2021. The majority of the leaks were on original, solvent weld pipe. We installed 4 miles of replacement lines in 2021, and we will continue with the ongoing pipe replacement program, concentrating in areas that have recurring leak problems.

We added 19 new users to the system bringing the total number of users to 2,010. We sold over 964 million gallons of water about the same amount as the previous year.

Drought Continues

For most of 2021, Northwest Iowa received well below average rainfall, putting us in a severe drought situation. And thus, LSRWS felt it was best to pass along many water conservation requests to our customers. Conservation does not mean to prohibit the use of a natural resource for protection; but to utilize it in such a manner that is sustainable and protected for generations to come. Even though we did receive some welcome rainfalls, the levels of our shallow wells still remain a concern. In order to prepare for continuing/future drought situations, we have installed a deep well (580 feet) at our Klondike wellfield that will be put into use in the fall of 2022. In the past, LSRWS has relied on our 34 shallow wells, at 5 different well fields, to provide water to our customers. Shallow wells typically have a better quality of water so the cost of treating and pumping the water is less. Also, the cost of test drilling and installing a deep well is about 4 times the cost of a shallow well. However, the shallow wells are more susceptible to drought conditions and surface contamination. Future plans include deep wells at the Boyden wellfield and the George wellfield.

Because of the drought situation, we were not able to add-on all of the livestock facilities that requested service last year. This year, there may also be limitations for adding on livestock facilities. It is dependent upon the location where service is requested, whether is along a larger distribution line, or in an area of service where the is adequate supply. If you are considering a new livestock facility this year, please contact Dave Harmsen, Operations Supervisor, as soon as possible to see if we are able to provide service to your potential location.

Construction in Progress

Klondike Water Treatment Plant

The existing treatment plant at Klondike was built in the mid 70's and was the first plant built in our system. The new plant will be built at a higher elevation one-half mile east of the current plant. Construction began on the new plant in August, 2021, with completion and startup scheduled for fall of 2022.

As part of this project, a new Dakota Sandstone well at a depth of approximately 580 feet was constructed, and 2 miles of 12" pipe was installed to connect into the existing distribution system.

Inwood Water Tower

Construction has begun on a 750,000 gallon tower near Inwood. This is a joint project with the City of Inwood. The underground portion has been completed and erection of the steel tower has begun. Fall of 2022 is the expected completion date. At that time the 50,000 gallon tower located just west of Inwood will be taken down.

Jerry Van Voorst Retires from the Board

Jerry was elected to the Board in 2009, 7 years as the Vice President of the Board. We'd like to thank Jerry for his 13 years of dedicated service as a Board Member for LSRWS!

Thank You, Cheryl!

We would like to say a final thank you to long time employee Cheryl Hulstein. Cheryl began working for LSRWS in 1988 and retired at the end of 2021. Over the past 33 years, we have appreciated Cheryl's hard work and dedication.

We wish Cheryl the best in her retirement, knowing she will be enjoying her free time with her husband Dave, and her 7 grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by fellow employees and customers!

Welcome, Sharon!

We would like to welcome Sharon Postma as our new Office Manager. Sharon began working in November, 2021.

Sharon and her husband Dwayne live north of Edna and are also customers of LSRWS. We are excited to have Sharon joining our team!