

# LINCOLN COUNTY RURAL WATER SYSTEM, INC.

## 2021 ANNUAL MEETING OFFICIAL NOTICE

According to Article VII, Section 1, of the By-Laws, the Annual Meeting of the members of Lincoln County Rural Water System, Inc., will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at the American Legion Hall in Harrisburg. Registration will begin at 6:30 PM. Accommodations are being planned around COVID-19 concerns.

This newsletter announcement will serve as the official notice to all members.

The Annual Meeting is held so members can elect directors, review the financial status of the Corporation, vote on proposed Amendments to By-Laws or Articles of Incorporation, and vote on proposed resolutions. As outlined in Article V of the By-Laws of Lincoln County Rural Water System, Inc., two petitions were successfully submitted. Joe Burns for District 1 and Chris Hofer for District 3. No nominations will be received from the floor at the Annual Meeting of the members.

All members are urged to attend the annual meeting. A one-time \$10 credit per member, (regardless of the number of memberships) will be applied to your water bill when you attend this meeting. This does not apply to tenants or renters.



**Joe Burns**



**Chris Hofer**

### FROM YOUR PRESIDENT - Joe Burns



There are many challenges involved in running LCRWS. We discovered this last year while planning and re-planning our annual meeting. One of the requirements is to have a quorum of members and due to COVID-19, getting people together was not easy. Eventually we were able to have the meeting partially outdoors keeping everyone safe. We would appreciate your efforts to attend the meeting on March 16, 2021. Your presence allows us to conduct yearly business including the annual election. Additionally, we would like to provide updates on our rural water system and our plans moving forward.

The staff has done a wonderful job of adjusting to the changes during the pandemic. This is in addition to all of the day to day concerns including congested right of ways, new city projects, new schools, developments to serve and many other daily tasks. I continue to be impressed with how our staff is able to work together to get the job done. Running a rural water system is not easy they just make it look that way.

Board members, like everyone in our community, have had to make numerous adjustments in their own businesses, jobs, and personal lives over the last year. I sincerely appreciate them lending their expertise to the system. I am sure there are evenings they would rather spend time with their families instead of going to the monthly meetings. Their hard work does not go unnoticed.

## **LINCOLN COUNTY RURAL WATER SYSTEM ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES (draft)**

### **ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 17, 2020**

The March 17 Annual Meeting of the members was called to order by President, Joe Burns at 7:00pm. Joe asked for a count of members present. The count revealed only eleven members present. Because a quorum of twenty-five members was not met, the Annual Meeting could not be conducted. A motion to adjourn the meeting for lack of a quorum, and to reschedule to a date selected by action of the Board of Directors, was made by Bill Burns and seconded by Lonna Smeenck. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **ANNUAL MEETING JULY 21, 2020**

The Rescheduled Annual Meeting was called to order by President, Joe Burns at 7:00pm. Members were able to attend in person, socially distanced at 201 Railroad Ave., Harrisburg, or in their vehicles tuned-in to the live broadcast on 105.7FM.

Introductions of the staff included: Robin Dykstra, Manager; Claire Hotze, Office Operations; Dan Schwarz, and Andrew Krege, Operators. Introductions of the Board of Directors included: Otto Hagedorn, Joe Burns, Mike Perkinson, Larry Healy, and Dan Fink. Chris Hofer and Roger Lamp attended in their vehicles. Mary Pat Mullen (KMWF), and Larry Nelson, (Frieberg, Nelson & Ask) were also present. A quorum was present.

Secretary/Treasurer, Otto Hagedorn, read the Proof of Mailing Notice. Copies of the Minutes of Last Year's Meeting were included in the Annual Newsletter, with additional copies available on the tables. Rex Pommier made a motion to approve the Minutes and Wendell Miller seconded the motion. The 2019 Minutes were approved.

Mary Pat Mullen, Auditor, presented an explanation of the Comparative Audit Report for 2019-2018. Handouts reflecting assets, liabilities, cash flows, revenues and expenses, and a comparison of 2019-2018 change in net assets were reviewed. A motion was made by Rex Pommier and seconded by Wendell Miller to approve the Audit Report. Approved.

Larry Nelson, Attorney, conducted the election process. A petition for District I was handed in by Mike Perkinson. A motion to cast a unanimous vote was made by Rex Pommier and seconded by Wendell Miller. A petition for District II was handed in by Dan Fink. A motion to cast a unanimous vote was made by Rex Pommier and seconded by Wendell Miller. Motion passed. A petition for At Large was handed in by Roger Lamp. A motion to cast a unanimous vote was made by Rex Pommier and seconded by Wendell Miller. Motion passed.

A Proposed Resolution for Amendment to the By-Laws, as proposed in the 2020 Annual Newsletter was presented by attorney Larry Nelson. A motion was made from the floor by Don Hoffman and seconded by Ken Lundquist. Larry Nelson called for a vote on the amendment to the By-Laws as written on the ballot. Ballots were tallied by the counting team of Joe Burns, Mike Perkinson, and Larry Nelson. The vote was 28-Yes, 1-No. Motion passed.

A Proposed Resolution for Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation, as proposed in the 2020 Annual Newsletter was presented by attorney Larry Nelson. A motion was made from the floor by Bob Messner and seconded by Rex Pommier. Larry Nelson called for a vote on the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation as written on the ballot. Ballots were tallied by the counting team of Joe Burns, Mike Perkinson, and Larry Nelson. The vote was 29-Yes, 0-No. Motion passed.

Joe Burns called for Old Business. There was none. He then called for New Business. There was none. President Joe Burns and Robin Dykstra took time to honor the memory of past president Merlyn Smeenck. The System presented a wall clock to the Smeenck family.

A motion was made by Rex Pommier and seconded by Twila Perkinson to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm.

## FROM YOUR MANAGER - Robin Dykstra



As I sit down to write this manager report for 2021, I really don't know where to start. This past year all of us, in some way, have been negatively affected by Covid-19. Who would have thought that 12 months later it is still affecting our lives. I can't wait to get back to the old normal. The normal we all took for granted.

In 2020 we moved our office from Harrisburg to a location near the Tea exit off of I-29. The address is 27066 Henry Pl. Sioux Falls, SD. We sold our building in Harrisburg. We are still trying to sell the reservoir site on Cliff Ave. We are looking into the idea of demolishing the tanks at the reservoir site, hauling the concrete away, and refilling the area with dirt to make it more appealing for a potential buyer. We have not used this site for water storage since 2012.

I told you in the 2020 annual newsletter of the 2019 Mainline Improvement Project. We hired Metro Construction to install about ½ mile of 16 inch mainline and 3 ½ miles of 12 inch diameter water mainline. These mainlines allow redundancy that improve our ability to deliver water to the new elementary school south of 272<sup>nd</sup> St. on Louise Ave. It gives us multiple ways to serve the area thereby reducing the chance of an outage if a mainline is taken out of service for maintenance or repairs.

We expect continued growth west of Harrisburg to the new elementary school for years to come. The city of Harrisburg hired H&W Contracting to construct a sewer collection pipeline to the new school. The availability of both water and sewer will be quite inviting for future development.

The staff as well as the board of directors are continuing to look to the future to prepare this water system for future water demands. To prepare for this growth and the demands it will bring, LCRWS will need to have an adequate supply of water and water mainlines sufficient in size to accommodate demands. Because of the foresight of Dennis Larson, the previous manager, and the board of directors, we are members of the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System. In 1989/90 the board of directors of LCRWS committed to become 1 of 20 members of L&C. As a member we have access to 1,541,000 gallons of water per day.

Your present board of directors and I need to make sure this water system has sufficient water going well into the future. L&C is in the planning stage of expanding the treatment plant from 45 to 60 million gallons per day. As of January 2021, the plan is to have the treatment plant expansion completed in 10 to 15 years. This could change if members want it earlier or later than that. All 20 Lewis and Clark members, including LCRWS, are committing to participate in this expansion plan. By participating, LCRWS would have access to an additional 896,000 gallons of water per day. L&C is continuing to work with their engineers to come up with final cost estimates for the expansion project.

The employees had a busy year this past year. The city of Tea is planning to widen, grade, and install utilities on 271<sup>st</sup> St. west of I-29. We are needing to relocate our water lines to prepare for this project. Some places we had easements and other locations we were not so prepared. We have most of the relocations complete and hope to have the remaining ones done this spring. Our field personnel, because of the mild winter, were able to continue installing new services and water mains until February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. This is the latest we have ever been able to dig.

Last year I started with thanking our employees. This year I am ending with my thanks to all of our employees. Office staff Claire Hotze and field staff Dan Schwarz, Andrew Krege and Logan Brown.



In May of 2020, Lincoln County Rural Water System moved from Harrisburg to a Sioux Falls address. We no longer have a PO Box. Please make sure your payments and correspondences are addressed to our current location: 27066 Henry Pl., Sioux Falls SD 57108. Bill pay checks and business checks need to be updated by May of 2021, as mail forwarding will end and your checks will be returned. If you wish to sign up for ACH autopay, please call our office at 605-767-2966.

*Our mission is to sell and deliver high quality water to our members with great service at a fair price.*



**NON-WATERING  
HOURS  
NOON TO 5:00PM**

Lincoln County Rural Water System, Inc is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).