

# Central Iowa Water Association

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# **2015 Annual Report**

# "We flow that extra mile!"



## President's Message By: Ron Dunsbergen

# Sustainable Utility Management

In 2016, there will be at least two new Board Members elected to the CIWA Board

of Directors. After the new Board is determined at our March 21, 2016 Annual Meeting of the Members, we will schedule and conduct a strategic planning session with two goals in mind: to help the new Board Members become familiar with CIWA policy and staff, and also to evaluate key areas of system management to prepare for the challenges that await us in the future. Some of these challenges include:

- Aging infrastructure
- Customer satisfaction and confidence in services
- Increasing labor and material costs
- Revenue and rate setting
- Hiring and keeping reliable and competent staff
- Succession planning
- Keeping knowledgeable and engaged Board Members

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has prepared a guide for rural water systems to use in the assessment of system management and operations. They list ten important areas of sustainably managed utilities that need to be explored in a strategic planning exercise as follows:

- Product Quality
- Customer Satisfaction
- Employee and Leadership Development
- Operational Optimization
- Financial Viability
- Infrastructure Stability
- Operational Resiliency
- Community Sustainability & Economic Development
- Water Resource Adequacy
- Stakeholder Understanding & Support

We will use our strategic planning sessions as a framework for a new strategic plan which will address our most pressing challenges and deliver increasingly higher quality, efficient, and cost-effective services to our member-customers.

## Is My Water Safe?

You may occasionally hear news stories of unsafe drinking water from across the country, so we wanted to take this opportunity to explain what CIWA does to make your drinking water safe.

In 1974 the U.S. Congress passed the Safe Drinking Water Act which was the first national regulation of drinking water under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The law has had two significant amendments in 1986 and 1996 with regulation today covering over 100 contaminants.

CIWA complies with the federal Safe Water Drinking Act and uses a consistent multi-barrier approach to make sure we provide the highest quality to you.

Barrier 1 – Source Water: We look for the best quality source water to supply our system, whether we purchase it from respected partners or produce the high-quality water at our Waverly treatment plant.

Barrier 2 – Treatment: The water is treated to remove contaminants and disinfected to provide protection from microbial contaminants that might enter the system through broken pipes or cross connections.

Barrier 3 – Infrastructure Maintenance: CIWA maintains and replaces pipes, pumps and storage facilities as needed to preserve the high quality water we deliver to you. Sometimes this work can lead to temporary discoloration or cloudiness as water flows are disrupted. We understand this is a nuisance but we monitor to confirm that the water is safe.

Barrier 4 – Monitoring: CIWA tests your drinking water more than 3,500 times per year for potential contaminants, including bacteria, lead and nitrate, to confirm that the water we are providing to you meets or exceeds all state and federal standards for quality. A summary of each year's water quality report is provided in our annual Consumer Confidence Report, which is posted at http://www.ciawa.com/reports.

Barrier 5 – Customer Notification: Sometimes there are system failures or shutdowns scheduled for maintenance. When we are aware of a situation that might compromise the quality of your water, we use a number of forms of communication to alert you such as a personal phone call, knock on your door, door hangers, or SwiftReach communications. It is important to keep your contact information up-to-date.

#### **PAYMENT REMINDER**

When remitting payments via check or money order, please make sure to use only blue or black ink as our bank will no longer accept checks written in colored ink. Any payments received in colored ink will be returned to the customer and payment will need to be resubmitted.

# CEO/Engineer's Report

By: Jim LaPlant

Water is in the news a lot lately, such as the ground water depletion of the Ogallala aquifer in the western high plains states and the severe drought that has intensified in California and the west. While water system catastrophes like the Flint, Michigan case are rare, they point to the importance of safe, reliable, affordable water service in our lives, and the need to invest in necessary infrastructure to ensure quality water for our member-customers.

CIWA takes its role in providing safe water very seriously and works closely with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to make certain your rural water meets all state and federal drinking water standards. Remember, CIWA water at your tap is guaranteed safe and only costs around a penny per gallon, compared to \$1.09 for 20 ounces of bottled water! Fill it up at the tap!

In 2015, CIWA continued to target upgrades and expansion of services in existing service territories. The following are highlights of the past year:

- We now serve safe, quality water to 14,412 farms, rural residences, and small communities through over 4,537 miles of pipe.
- 280 new services were installed in existing service areas.
- The City of Janesville was added to the CIWA system.
- The North Overlook Sewer was completed near Lake Red Rock
- Water meters were installed in the Barrington Lakes area of Dubuque County.

The retirement of Gordon Enyart and Janice Jontz from the CIWA Board of Directors represents over 63 years of experience and service that will be deeply missed. I appreciated their can-do spirit and willingness to work late into the night on many occasions to frame the member policies that guide our services, determine the fate of a new project proposal, or perhaps resolve problems such as a member-customer complaint. I am proud to have worked with Gordon and Janice over the years and wish them the best in their retirement.

# City of Janesville



The City of Janesville connected to CIWA in December 2014, upon experiencing issues with their existing Jordan aquifer well.

The city had actually connected with CIWA on an emergency basis in 2004, making the new full-service supply very easy to coordinate when it was needed. The CIWA supply comes from

its state-of-the-art, 3-million gallon-per-day reverse osmosis treatment plant near Waverly. The city evaluated CIWA water quality and compared costs to upgrade existing city facilities before selecting CIWA. Further water distribution improvements planned by the city include its expansion and improvement of a new water main on Barrick Road from the city water tower east to Wildcat Way.

The new connection is providing the city with softened water and additional water capacity that will enhance economic development and eliminate the need for the city to operate and maintain wells and a treatment plant along with the associated regulatory burdens.

## **Dubuque County**

Central Iowa Water Association is moving forward with plans to build a new water treatment plant in Dubuque County that will serve CIWA's Vernon and Barrington Lakes systems and surrounding rural areas. In the last few months, we have worked diligently to complete the treatment plant design, purchase major treatment equipment, respond to county permitting issues, install new meters and complete service work on the Barrington Lakes distribution system.

Designs for well modifications and site grading specifications have been completed, and the treatment plant design is in its final stages. CIWA received bids and selected a vendor to supply a \$175,000 nanofiltration treatment package, which will provide softened water to Dubuque County customers.

#### ATTENTION WASTEWATER CUSTOMERS

Recently, CIWA has had to replace the lift station pumps in several of our sewered communities. The pumps are being clogged by items that are not meant to be introduced into the wastewater system via toilets, garbage disposals or other household drains. Some of these are listed below for your reference. The cost to replace a pump is approximately \$10,000. In an effort to keep your wastewater rates low, it is in your best interest to make sure these or similar items are not put down the drains.

#### \*\*No cooking oil or grease used in deep fat frying or for other cooking purposes.

Glass Diapers, socks, rags, or paper towels Plastic objects (toys, utensils, syringes, etc.)

Metal Seafood / Egg Shells Feminine hygiene products or flushable wipes

Goldfish stone Coffee Grounds/Tea Bags Lubricating oil and/or grease

Kitty litter Explosive/Flammable material Gasoline (or any petroleum based products)
Strong chemicals (solvents, paints, turpentine, nail polish or remover) Prescription or over the counter medications

#### **NOTE:** Sump pumps or house footing tile should NOT be hooked to house sewer drains.

\*\*Grease sticks to the insides of sewer pipes (both on your property and in the streets). Over time, the grease can build up and block the entire pipe. Note that home garbage disposals do not keep grease out of the plumbing system. These units only shred solid material into smaller pieces and do not prevent grease from going down the drain. Commercial additives, including detergents that claim to dissolve grease may pass grease down the line and cause problems in other areas.

## In Appreciation of Dedicated Service

As they have resigned their positions from the CIWA Board, we would like to recognize and thank Gordon Enyart and Janice Jontz for their many years of dedicated service to the Association.



#### **Gordon Enyart**

CIWA Board Member Gordon Enyart will retire from the CIWA Board in March 2016 after 39 years of service to the Association. Gordon was a member of the original rural water steering committee in Jasper County and has been involved in every major policy

decision that has created the framework of CIWA operations. Gordon played an important role in the application for and approval of Farmers Home Administration funds for the construction of the original Jasper County Water Association project in 1978-1980. Gordon served as Board President from 1980 to 1988, Board Treasurer from 1997-1999, and has been active in numerous other civic and farm-related organizations over the years.



#### Janice Jontz

Janice Jontz recently retired from the CIWA Board after 25 years of service to the Association. Janice joined the Board in June 1991, and most recently served as the Treasurer from 2006 to 2016. Janice served on the Board during several years of

significant CIWA system growth and development, and helped guide the acquisition of project funding and expansion of CIWA services. Janice has also played an active role in the community as a member of Oakridge Homemakers, former member of the Jasper County Zoning Commission, and Board Member of Wittemberg Church.

## Save time and money with CIWA

Member-customers who receive monthly water and/or wastewater bills from CIWA are able to enroll in ACH/direct withdrawal. Member-customers can select to have payment withdrawn on the 10th or the 30th of each month. Paper bills are still sent around the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month letting the member-customer know the amount to be withdrawn. ACH/direct withdrawal has many advantages, such as:

- No more late fees
- No checks to write
- Eliminate lost or stolen check inconveniences
- No stamps or money order fees
- Going on vacation? No worries, bill will be paid

If you are interested in signing up for ACH/direct withdrawal, please contact our office to have an enrollment form sent to you or print the form from our web-site by clicking the 'Customer Information/Payments' tab and clicking the link below the first paragraph.

## **Water Project Updates**

### Northern Bremer County/Frederika

CIWA was successful in completing water service to Bremer Station and adjacent areas in 2014. Funding for the Frederika area of the Northwest Bremer County project remains a priority. Residents in and around Frederika have been struggling with poor water quality for many years.

In November 2015, the franchise agreement election was held and passed by the majority of Frederika residents, approving CIWA infrastructure and water service in the community. CIWA will now apply for USDA-Rural Development funding for the \$1,237,000 project.

## Hardin/Hamilton Phase II/Buckeye

Member-customer sign-up has been completed, however problems with water tower and booster station site acquisition have delayed the start of construction. The project is now moving forward with construction expected to start in 2016.

The project includes a new water tower near Radcliffe, a new water booster pump station southeast of Garden City, 14 miles of transmission main, and a water distribution system to be constructed in Buckeye.

The new water tower will greatly improve the water storage and pressure demands of existing Hardin/Hamilton and NW Marshall County member-customers, in addition to serving the residents of Buckeye.

# **Wastewater Project Updates**

#### Green Mountain

The funding for the project was not awarded in 2015, therefore project application materials will be updated and submitted to USDA-Rural Development. Marshall County officials are assisting in this effort. In anticipation of project funding, CIWA staff will continue to work with Green Mountain residents in preparation for this project. Preliminary engineering reports have been completed, and once funding is secured, construction of the collection system and lagoon will begin.

## Attica/Pershing

CIWA withdrew from the Attica/Pershing Wastewater Project in December 2014 after three years in a joint effort with Marion County to bring this project to fruition. The project would have served 663 rural Marion County residents with wastewater services and eliminated a significant health hazard.

CIWA is still considering alternative ways of partnering with Marion County to move forward with this project.

# Central Iowa Water Association System Facts

**CORPORATION** - Jasper County Water Association was organized in 1977 as a corporation not-for-profit under the provisions of Iowa Code Chapter 504. Due to expanding service areas across many county boundaries, the Association changed its corporate name to Central Iowa Water Association in 1988. In 2000, due to the addition of rural sewer services, the Association changed its name to Iowa Regional Utilities Association (doing business as Central Iowa Water Association). The Association is member-owned and headed by a nine-member Board of Directors.

**TOTAL MILES OF PIPELINE** - 4,537 miles in the ground, with sizes from 2" - 20" in diameter, 1" and 1 ½" service lines.

**ELEVATED WATER TOWERS** - 27 towers which are located near Prairie City (200,000 gallons), Baxter (200,000 gallons), Laurel (200,000 gallons), Sully (300,000 gallons), State Center (150,000 and 300,000 gallons), Marshalltown (100,000 gallons), Gladbrook (150,000 gallons), McCallsburg (400,000 gallons), Collins (500,000 gallons), Wellsburg (2,000,000 gallons), Colo (300,000 gallons), Lincoln (300,000 gallons), Otley (500,000 gallons), Marshall County Jail (300,000 gallons), Newton (2,000,000 and two 500,000 gallons), LeGrand (300,000 gallons), Aurora (300,000 gallons), Waverly (1,000,000 gallons), Greeley (300,000 gallons), Quasqueton (300,000 gallons), Rowley (300,000 gallons), Oakland Acres (300,000 gallons), Dubuque/Vernon (300,000 gallons) and Dike (300,000 gallons) with a total storage capacity of 12,300,000 gallons.

WATER SUPPLY CAPACITY - 90 million gallons per month provided by CIWA Waverly Treatment Plant. Also, 90 million gallons per month provided by the City of Newton, 90 million gallons per month available from the City of Marshalltown, 3 million gallons per month available from the City of Pella, and 7.5 million gallons per month available from the City of Nevada. Current average demand is approximately 130 million gallons per month.

**HIGH SERVICE PUMPING** - Water purchased from the City of Newton is stored in an 86,000 gallon reinforced concrete surface reservoir under the high service pumping station and pumped by three 500 gpm pumps to elevated towers. There are also twenty-six booster pump stations capable of pumping a total of 16,520 gpm.

**TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST** - Including the main office, pump stations, towers, water lines, etc. was approximately \$190,736,000. To finance the construction, CIWA received numerous USDA-RD/CoBank loans and \$24,902,462 in RD/CDBG grants. Customer contributions accounted for \$22,307,183 with interest and other income providing the balance of funds.

**TOTAL METERS IN SERVICE** - 14,412 including larger meters which monitor water served to city customers.

CITY INDIVIDUAL CUSTOMER METERS (39) - Attica, Aurora, Austinville, Bangor, Clyde, Dillon, Dunbar, Dundee, Farrar, Ferguson, Fernald, Galesburg, Garden City, Green Mountain, Greeley, Haverhill, Iowa Center, Kesley, Killduff, Lamoille, Lincoln, Littleton, Marietta, Metz, Morrison, Newburg, Oakland Acres, Otley, Park Hills, Pershing, Quarry, Quasqueton, Reasnor, St. Anthony, Valeria, Van Cleve, Vandalia, Voorhies, and Whitten.

CITY BULK PURCHASE METERS (23) - Beaman, Clemons, Collins, Colo, Conrad, Dike, Garwin, Gilman, Grundy Center, Holland, Janesville, Laurel, LeGrand, Liscomb, Lynnville, McCallsburg, Melbourne, Mingo, Monroe, Rhodes, Sully, Wellsburg and Zearing. EMERGENCY CONNECTIONS (16) - Communities of Albion, Baxter, Cambridge, Eldora, Gladbrook, Hazleton, Lamont, Maxwell, New Hartford, Prairie City, Reinbeck, Roland, State Center, Stout, and Union. An interconnection was also established with Poweshiek Water Association.

WASTEWATER SERVICES - Provided to Whitten (1998), Hunter's Ridge near Pella (1999), The Harvester (2000), Pine Lake near Eldora (2001), Rustic Ridges near Grinnell (2001), IDOT-Grinnell rest area (2001), IDNR-Rock Creek State Park (2001), Lakeview Heights, Diehl's Acres and Homesites Subdivisions near Rock Creek (2003-2004), Colo Business Park (2003), Haverhill (2003), Lincoln (2004), Pollard Development near Grinnell (2004), St. Anthony (2005), Morrison (2006), Grundy County Industrial Park (2006), Oakland Acres (2007), Park Hills (2009), I-35 Dows Interchange (2009), Stout, Camp Wallashuck (2011), North Overlook Lake Red Rock (2015).

CONSTRUCTION DATES - Construction began on the original Jasper County System in April 1980 and was completed in December 1981. Major expansions to the system have occurred each year, beginning with Marshall-Story Counties (1983-1985), Northeast Marshall System (1986-1987), Northeast Polk County (1987-1988), Northwest Tama County (1989-1990), Story County (1991-1994), Grundy County (1994-1997), Southwest Black Hawk County (1997-1998), Northern Grundy County (1998-2001), Northwest Black Hawk County (2000-2002), Hamilton and Hardin Counties (1999-2002), Southern Butler County (2001-2004), Southeast Butler County, Newton to Marshalltown transmission main, and Garden City (2005), Bremer, Black Hawk, Buchanan County projects, cities of Aurora and Dundee (2007-2008). Delaware County projects and cities of Greeley and Quasqueton, I-35 Dows Interchange (2009), City of Rowley (2010) Stout sewer, Vernon Water Company and Camp Wallashuck sewer (2011), City of Littleton (2013) Bremer Station (2014), and North Overlook Sewer (2015).



"Reach Thousands in Seconds"

## Planned or Emergency Notification System Update

Central Iowa Water Association has contracted with Swiftreach Networks for the use of Swift911. The Swift911 system provides CIWA with the ability to quickly deliver voice, text or e-mail messages to our member-customers about planned or unplanned water outages and other important information.

We encourage you to log on to our website — <a href="https://www.ciawa.com">www.ciawa.com</a> - and register with Swiftreach — Swift 911 if you would like to receive notifications in the future or update your information. Please note: This will only be used for CIWA notification purposes.

Those without internet access may call CIWA's office during regular office hours to provide their information. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions regarding the SwiftReach system.

Central Iowa Water Association
This Institution is an
Equal Opportunity Employer
and Provider

#### **Board of Directors**

Ron Dunsbergen, President Dan Brandt, Vice President Delwin Van Zante, Secretary Virtus Brockman, Treasurer Gordon Enyart, Director Don Struthers, Director Gene Wiemers, Director Curt Mackie, Director Doug Enyart, Director

James R. LaPlant, P.E. CEO/Engineer

Frank Smith Attorney

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Waverly Treatment Plant 1224 230th Street Waverly, IA 50677



# Central Iowa Water Association Annual Meeting Notice

### Dear Member:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Central Iowa Water Association on Monday, March 21, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. This meeting will be held at the Iowa Valley Continuing Education Conference Center on the Marshalltown Community College Campus at 3702 South Center Street, Marshalltown. Please park in the southwest lot (driveway entrance adjacent to the baseball diamonds) and use Entrance #9.

If you cannot attend, please exercise your right to vote by signing the enclosed proxy card and returning it to the Association no later than Friday, March 18, 2016. Should you wish your tenant or another person to vote on your behalf, you must visit the Association office at 1351 Iowa Speedway Drive, Newton at least five (5) days prior to the Annual Meeting and execute a General Proxy form.

This year's Annual Meeting will include a report on the Association's 2015 business activities. The audited financial statements, which are comprised of the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2015, and the related statements of activities and cash flows, will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Please join us for the Annual Meeting, entertainment provided by the Marshalltown Saxophone Ouartet and refreshments.

In case of inclement weather, please tune in to KCOB (FM 98.5), KFJB (AM 1230), KOEL (FM 98.5 & AM 950), or KCRR (FM 97.7) radio for rescheduling information.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend the 2016 Annual Meeting of your Association on March 21st.

Delwin G. Van Zante, Secretary February 25, 2016

#### Nominees For Board of Directors—2016

The nominating committee has selected three nominees for the Board of Directors of Central Iowa Water Association with a term of three years each.



**Ron Dunsbergen, Sully -** Ron and his wife, Julie, reside in Sully. They have five children: Dan is manager of the Grinnell Branch of Key Coop; Scott is employed by Sangel in Colorado; Tim is owner of American Distributors of Iowa in Sully; Nathan is employed by Central College; and Courtney works as an administrative assistant at Pella Corp. Ron has served on the Central Iowa Water Association board since 1980. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, reading, traveling with his wife, and spending time with their grandchildren.



**Donald Struthers, Collins -** Don and his wife, Sharon, live on a farm northeast of Collins. They are the parents of three children: David, Danny, and Debra and have eight grandchildren and one step-grandchild. All three children help in the family farm operation and are Central Iowa Water Association customers. Don has retired from the day-to-day operations of Struthers Farm, Inc. leaving them to David and Danny. They farm approximately 1,000 acres of corn and raise approximately 300 sows. Don previously served as a vice-chairman and treasurer of the Story County Water Association. Don is a member of the Farm Bureau and is currently serving on the Board for the Story County Pork Producers Association.



**Kevin Kelly Nessa, Zearing** – Kevin and his wife, Janie, live on an acreage three miles east of Zearing. Kevin is a graduate of NESCO High School and Iowa State University. They own and operate NESSA, Inc. (Sprayers, Precision Ag, Seed and Grain Handling and Fertilizer Application Equipment) and the family farm with their three children, Luke, Garret and Kelly. This is NESSA, Inc.'s 35th Anniversary. Kevin has previously served on the Prairieland Cooperative's (IAS) Board of Directors. The Nessa's are members of Bethany Lutheran Church in McCallsburg, and Kevin has served on the Board of Trustees and Luther League youth leader.

## **Board Member Vacancy Nominee**

Long-time board member Janice Jontz resigned her seat on the Board of Directors. Her departure from the Board left a vacancy with one year remaining of her three year term.

The Board of Directors' nominating committee has actively sought an individual to complete Mrs. Jontz's term. The committee has nominated Douglas Enyart, Monroe, for this position.



**Douglas J. Enyart, Monroe -** Doug and his wife, Kathy, live northwest of Monroe. They have two children: Scott, who teaches fourth grade in Newton and Andrea who is employed at Pella Corporation as a HR Business Partner Manager. Doug graduated from Monroe High School and attended Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls. He served six years in the Air National Guard and farmed with his father, Gordon, full time for twenty-five years on a diversified livestock and row crop farm. Doug previously worked as a Farm Bureau Insurance Agent in Jasper County and then worked with easement acquisitions for CIWA. Doug has been employed with Pella Corporation for the past eleven years as a Scheduler in the Distribution Value Add Department. He enjoys part-time farming, assisting Kathy with her dance team activities and in his spare time he enjoys fishing, woodworking, traveling and spending time with his children and grandchildren.

#### **Annual Meeting Entertainment**



## MARSHALLTOWN SAXOPHONE OUARTET



The Marshalltown Saxophone Quartet has been together for the past four years, playing and entertaining at parties, retirements, graduations, and festivities. This ensemble plays a plethora of genres such as: ragtime, jazz, pop, classical, sacred and French literature. Members include: Megan Assenmacher-Umthun playing soprano and alto saxophone; Jody Brintnall playing alto saxophone; Meghan Schumacker playing tenor saxophone; and Ron Ohrt playing baritone saxophone.

#### Annual Meeting Door Prize Drawing

To be eligible for the Annual Meeting door prize drawing, please bring the enclosed blue card to the Annual Meeting. You could win a \$25.00 credit on your water and/or wastewater bill or another door prize donated by several of Central Iowa Water Association's business partners. We would like to thank the following business partners for their door prize contributions for the Annual Meeting:

Vermeer Sales and Service Two Rivers Co-op Municipal Supply Bauer Built Tire Key Cooperative Titan Machinery Scott's Supply Napa Auto Parts Barney's Wrecker Sadler Power Train

If you are unable to attend, please return the blue card by mail with your proxy to be eligible for the \$25 credit drawings. You will be notified by mail if you are a winner.