



FROM THE NORTH DAKOTA STATE WATER COMMISSION

# Water Supply Projects Receive **SUBSTANTIAL FUNDING**

The North Dakota State Water Commission met on October 7, 2013, and approved funding for a number of water supply projects throughout the state. These projects ranged from rural water expansions, to water storage, municipal intakes, and water treatment plant improvements.

## ***Water Supply Project Cost-Share Grants***

A total of 19 project requests totaling \$32.5 million were funded with cost-share grants through the State Water Supply Program. This is a substantial investment in the

state water supply system. Project sponsors that received grants are included below:

- Barnes Rural Water District
- Cass Rural Water District
- Central Plains Water District
- City of Grafton
- City of Grand Forks
- City of Mandan
- City of Park River
- City of Surrey
- City of Washburn
- Grand Forks-Traill Water District

- Langdon Rural Water District
- Missouri West Water System
- North Valley Water District
- Tri County Water District
- Walsh Rural Water District

Some of the project sponsors were approved for multiple projects.

## **Federal Municipal, Rural and Industrial (MR&I) Water Supply**

The Commission also approved two projects using federal Municipal, Rural and Industrial (MR&I) Water Supply Program

funds. The South Central Regional Water District was approved for a 75% cost-share grant of up to \$700,000 to add rural uses to the Emmons County rural service area. This project includes adding 35 miles of 4" to 1.5" pipeline for 101 rural users.

Additionally, the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) was approved for a grant of up to \$510,000 to assist in building the 1-million gallon Dunn-Center water storage tank. This tank will allow water for the communities of Dunn, Center, Halliday, Dodge, and Golden Valley to receive water from the Zap water treatment plant, and thus eliminate the demand of water from the Dickinson water treatment plant.

### Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP)

In another order of business, the Water Commission approved a SWPP contract that consists of furnishing and installing approximately 250 miles of 8" to 1.5" PVC gasketed joint pipe, 330 new users, road crossings, and connections to existing pipelines in Oliver County.

The contract was awarded to Eatherly Constructors, Inc. of Leawood, KS for the bid amount of \$8.4 million.

### Mission and Funding

The North Dakota State Water Commission's budget is funded entirely through the state's Resources Trust Fund. The Resources Trust Fund is financed through the state's oil extraction tax revenues. Oil production has

greatly aided the state's ability to make these investments in water supply infrastructure. The funding provided for these projects align with the Commission's mission to improve the quality of life and strengthen the economy of North Dakota by managing the water resources of the state for the benefit of its people. These projects will also benefit the future welfare and prosperity of North Dakota.



# NOTICE



The North Dakota State Water Commission has recently modified its cost-share policy. The modified policy is available for review and download on the Commission's website at: <http://www.swc.state.nd.us>.

Comments on the Draft Cost-Share Policy can be mailed to: State Water Commission, 900 East Boulevard Ave., Bismarck, ND 58505, or sent via email to [pheess@nd.gov](mailto:pheess@nd.gov).

If you have any questions regarding the draft policy, please contact Michelle Klose at 328-4959 or [maklose@nd.gov](mailto:maklose@nd.gov), or Bruce Engelhardt at 328-4958 or [bengelhardt@nd.gov](mailto:bengelhardt@nd.gov).

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# Longtime Water Commissioner *Retires*



**Commissioner Olin is presented with a plaque commemorating his 20 years of service to the Water Commission, and a lifetime of service to the people of North Dakota.**

On October 1, Water Commissioner Jack Olin retired from the North Dakota State Water Commission after 20 years of distinguished service to the state. Jack started in March of 1993, and was directly involved in addressing to some of the most serious and pressing water resource challenges ever to face North Dakota.

“Jack has been working tirelessly for his twenty years on the Commission to ensure that southwest North Dakota has access to good quality water through the Southwest Pipeline Project. In a part of the state, where the problem has almost always been too little water, not too much, Jack’s work has provided water for the people that so desperately needed it. His dedication and hard work were integral to the state’s success in dealing with the many other obstacles we have faced as well. Red River, Devils Lake, and Minot flooding, oil development in the west, challenges to the state’s right to waters of

the Missouri River—through it all, Jack has been serving the people of North Dakota with distinction and great dedication.” said Todd Sando, North Dakota State Engineer and Chief Engineer and Secretary to the Water Commission.

Commissioner Olin grew up in Almont, North Dakota. He farmed before serving in the U.S. Army in the 1950’s. He attended college at Bismarck Junior College, and then went to work for the Soo Line Railroad, until he started the Dickinson Ready Mix Company, which he ran for many years. Jack served two sessions in the North Dakota House and Senate, seven years on the North Dakota Higher Education Board, and also served on the Board of Directors of Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota, the Stark County Water Board, the North Dakota Water Users Association, and as vice-chairman of the State Water Commission.

During his time as a Water Commissioner, Jack served with three Governors, and received recognition in the water field, including being awarded the rank of Commodore in the North Dakota Mythical Navy, and the North Dakota Water Wheel Award.

When Jack started in 1993, the Water Commission had a biennial project budget of \$9.8 million, and in the 2013-2015 biennium, the project budget of the Commission was \$818 million. In 1993, the state was grappling with rural and regional water development projects such as the Southwest Pipeline Project, and drought mitigation efforts. In the years that followed, flooding impacts and flood mitigation became some of the most complicated and expensive issues to ever face the state. Today, flood mitigation, water supply, and the conflict over access to the state’s waters are all matters requiring the Commission’s attention.

Through his long years of service, Jack Olin demonstrated his strong commitment to serving the people of North Dakota, and his contributions will be missed.



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