

A Water and Sewer Department Update For The Citizens of Polson

To help all our ratepayers understand how their fees are spent, below is our list of the water and sewer department accomplishments since 2002:

1. To improve fire flows we installed a new high-pressure water main from 11th Ave. East on 5th Street to 10th Ave. E. over to the industrial area between 7th Ave. E. and 10th Ave E.. We also added two hydrants.
2. We completed the West Shore river crossing bringing water to town from the west side; solving the water demand problem for downtown. (Thanks to the City Council and then-Mayor Ingram, the Tribal offices involved, Bob Fulton, James Raymond, our office staff, and the Water and Sewer Department staff).
3. The Sacajawea storm line has been a problem for many years. We fixed it and are working on changing the camber of the road so the better part of the run off goes through the grass area instead of down the boat ramp, thus reducing lake pollution.
4. Highway 35 speaks for itself. We added two future crossings at \$18,000 each, a savings of \$22,000 versus the original estimate. We did the temporary hookups for water ourselves and relocated the sewer ourselves. A lot of proposed dewatering did not happen. 770 feet of extra pipe was laid due to deeper road cuts.
5. We installed a storm line servicing S & K Marina, Pizza Hut, Polson Bay Grocery, Hotspot, and Ace Hardware.
6. We will replace the Hillcrest water reservoirs with the approval of our 2006 grant. We will also improve fire protection for the high school. The TSEP Grant and DNRC total \$850,000 (thank you Senator John Bruggerman and A&M engineering)
7. The distribution work and the Skyline booster pump are all in process.

8. Meters (new radio read system)—are being installed to improve our efficiency and accuracy. We have installed almost 1000 meters, approximately one-half of the total
9. Wells 2 & 3 got a total electrical rebuild at a price of \$29,000. A generator was installed for emergency backup. New flow meters have been installed as well as new chemical pumps.
10. The sewer line running down ½ block to the Catholic Church has been replaced and repaired. This has been a problem we have been fighting for 20 years.
11. A major storm drain problem, again three blocks from 11th Ave. E. to 10th Ave E., has been resolved. This has been a problem for over 20 years.
12. We installed a new six-inch water main and hydrant down 13th Ave. E. to 7th Ave. E. We changed to a modern material from the old galvanized line inside a wood main.
13. We rebuilt the Lakeview Village Lift station. Two new flyte pumps were installed plus a whole new control system. Savings on overtime calls alone paid for the work.
14. We installed two new compressor motors and controls on the Boettcher Park lift station.
15. The Golf Course Lift Station project was completed.
16. We installed a 2nd filter at the west shore water treatment facility. This was done in house at a savings of about \$30,000.
17. We extended the sewer to Skyline Lane through the Lund Subdivision while the subdivision was in construction.
18. We are, to date, actively working on Rung Lane and the project is very close to being completed.
19. The Riverside Park Lift Station improvement is in progress; new controls completed. The new Ducharme lift station and force main will ease the burden for the Riverside lift station.
20. We installed new chemical pumps for Wells 4 & 5.
21. We have had hydraulic modeling done by TDH—a lot of information is now done in-house, creating significant savings.
22. Our engineering firm, Entranco, has updated our sewer facility plan.
23. Our engineering firm, HKM, completed the Hellroaring study.

24. Our engineering firm, A & M, completed a water study for future projects.
25. We installed new controls in the West Side Sewer Lift Station. This is a 25 years old piece of infrastructure and parts are wearing out.
26. We continue to improve the efficiency of our new lagoon system These are creating cost savings for the community
27. We have completed a water and sewer mapping and filing system. This will prove to be an important benefit for many years to come, especially in view of the next item.
28. Our Homeland Security system for our water system was started six years ago and had to be in place three years ago. It is now in place and provides help toward obtaining grants. We are ahead of compliance on our sewer system.
29. For the last year we have been working on the Ducharme Park Lift Station. It is an upgrade with a force main all the way to the lagoon. This will take more than a third the flow off the Riverside Park lift station, extending its useful life. This project includes a back up emergency generator.
30. The Entranco Storm Study noted 15 connections from the storm system to sewer system we should separate. We have fixed four (4) so far.
31. Water and Sewer extension to Rolfson Addition and Rung Lane are now completed.
32. The water and sewer staff continues to address small problems every day to insure they are corrected and our system performs. We want to thank the ratepayers for their understanding and continued support.