

Utilities Section Newsletter

League of Nebraska Municipalities

February 2023

Nebraska Supreme Court reaffirms, expands municipalities' authority to hold landlords responsible for tenant utility bills

By Lash Chaffin,
Utilities Section Director

The Nebraska Supreme Court recently ruled a second time that a municipal utility can hold a landlord responsible for unpaid utility bills by a tenant. In November, the Supreme Court ruled in *REO Enterprises vs Village of Dorchester (REO II)* that a Village of Dorchester ordinance requiring that landlords guarantee utility bills for their tenants was valid. The Court originally ruled the ordinance constitutional in 2020 and this case was a follow-up to that original case.

The original case was covered extensively in the August 2020 *Utilities Section Newsletter*. The case addressed a Dorchester ordinance that read as follows:

Section 3-002: Consumer's Application; Service Deposit:

A. Every person or persons desiring utility services must make application therefor to the Village Clerk, who shall require the applicant to make a service deposit and tap fees for water and sewer service in such amounts as set by resolution by the Village Board and placed on file at the Village office. . . . Utility services shall not be supplied to any house or private service pipe except upon the order of the utilities superin-

tendent.

B. Before a tenant's utility application will be accepted, the landlord shall be required to sign an owner's consent form and agree to pay all unpaid utility charges for his or her property.

The Court made it clear that in certain situations, residential tenants could be treated differently than residential owners. The Court outlined a 3-part test that they would apply when reviewing municipal ordinances:

- There is a plausible policy reason for the classification;
- The legislative facts on which the classification is based may rationally have been considered to be true by the governmental decision-maker; and
- That the relationship of the classification to its goal is not so attenuated as to render the distinction arbitrary or irrational.

The Court relied heavily on the testimony of the Village Clerk who explained that "[i]n the past, [Dorchester] spent substantial resources in trying to locate former residential tenant utilities customers that . . . left town with unpaid utility account obligations" and

"collections agencies would be used to collect these unpaid utilities accounts [and] charge 50% of the amount collected." She also described that there was an unpaid utility bill on REO's property in the previous tenant's name and that the location of the previous tenant was unknown.

After the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Village of Dorchester, some of the facts were sent back to the District Court that then ruled in favor of the Village. REO Enterprises appealed that decision making a couple additional arguments that were not made in the original case. Thus, the Supreme Court now ruled again in REO II. In REO II, the landlord made four additional arguments:

- The Dorchester ordinance violated the special legislation clause of the Nebraska Constitution.
- The Dorchester ordinance violated the Equal Opportunity Credit Act.
- The Dorchester ordinance was poor public policy.
- The original court decision was a plain error.

The Supreme Court first addressed the issue of special legislation. The Nebraska Constitution prohibits "local or special laws." In other words, a law can not 1) create an arbitrary and unreasonable method of classification, or

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UTILITIES SECTION

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Nebraska Supreme Court reaffirms, expands municipalities' authority to hold landlords responsible for tenant utility bills

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2) create a permanently closed class. The Court again relied on the testimony of the Village Clerk and ruled that the ordinance was not arbitrary and thus was not special legislation.

The Supreme Court then addressed the Equal Opportunity Credit Act which prohibits creditors from discriminating against applicants for credit. REO made the argument that applying for utility service is essentially applying for credit and that the village is making a determination of creditworthiness. The court ruled that this law did not apply because REO was not an "applicant" to the village for utility service. REO was a guarantor and thus was not protected by

the Equal Opportunity Credit Act because the law protected applicants.

The Supreme Court then ruled on the issue of bad public policy. The Court ruled that there was no doctrine that would allow a court to overturn a municipal ordinance on public policy grounds.

The Supreme Court then ruled that there was no plain error in the original decision or the decision of the District Court.

Once again, the Nebraska Supreme Court ruled that a municipal utility has the authority to hold a landlord responsible for unpaid tenant utility bills as long as there is a plausible reason to hold the landlord responsible and there are facts related to the need to hold the landlord responsible.

Milestone celebration recognition

Is your municipality or utility celebrating a historic milestone? We are encouraging members to provide any information on milestones being celebrated such as 75 years of operating the electric system. About 1942, private electric systems were phased out in Nebraska and several municipalities took over the systems in the 1940s.

When was your water, wastewater, electric, power generation system established? When were facilities built, improvements made, etc.

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Nebraska utilities history – Battle Creek

The Utilities Section Newsletter will continue to feature histories of both utilities and associate members. Any historical data and/or photos of your utilities, a specific facility, or articles already written are welcome, along with permission to print. If you have questions, contact Rob at 402-476-2829 or rob@lonm.org.

By Rob Pierce, Utilities Field Rep./Training Coordinator

Battle Creek, located in Madison County, had settlers in the area by 1865 and a settlement started along a creek called “Battle Creek.” The settlement was about five miles north of the present townsite by 1867. Hale’s Trading Post was in operation by 1868 and the next few years, settlers from Virginia arrived, locating two miles south and one mile west. The county census was 1,133 by 1870 and on July 27, 1870, a post office was established and the population was 284. The settlement was named after a creek which received its name from an event that apparently never occurred. In 1859, General John M. Thayer sent a small army from Omaha to pursue a band of Native Americans due to stolen settler property. However, Chief Peta-le-sharu surrendered and the nearby creek, “Battle Creek,” was named for a battle that never was fought. In the summer of 1871, the first

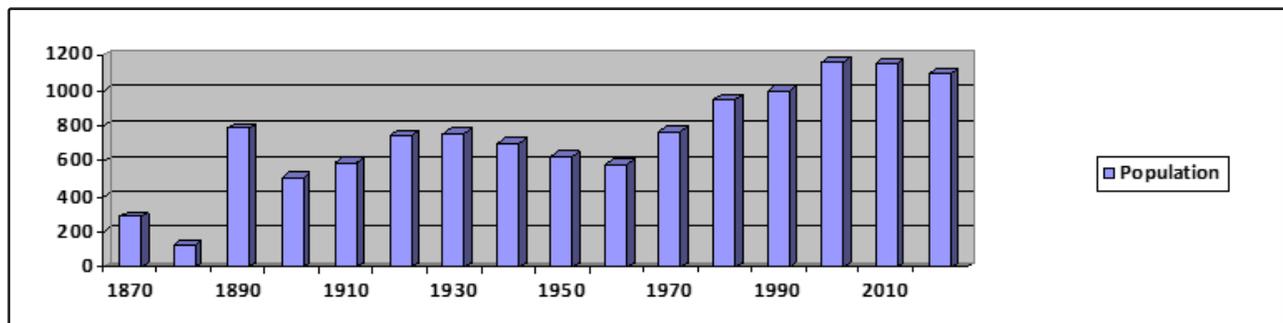
school sessions were taught at the Battle Creek School District. A brick St. John’s Lutheran School was built in 1872. *Madison County was created Jan. 26, 1856, by the Territorial Legislature with boundaries redefined and the first election conducted in 1873.* A townsite was laid out by J.D. Hoover for the Pioneer Townsite Company (F.J. Hale, John F. Tiedgen, Mr. Hogrefe and P.J. Neil). Twenty-five blocks were surveyed and platted by 1873 and on Feb. 21, 1873, Battle Creek was incorporated as a village (one source has 1884 as town laid out). The first buildings were erected in the townsite by 1874 which included three stores and a hotel. Stage lines were established by 1874 from Norfolk and Madison to Wisner, O’Neill, Niobrara and Columbus. In 1975, Battle Creek lost the election with Norfolk and Madison for the county seat. Madison was made the county seat Oct. 12, 1875. By 1876, railroad planning was underway and the area was becoming a route to the gold fields of South Dakota during



Battle Creek water tank. 2000 photo.

the 1876-78 “Gold Rush.” Another survey and plat was filed in 1878 and by 1879, Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad reached Norfolk. A three-story (26 ft. x 36 ft.) flour mill with two run of stone was operating in Battle Creek located one-quarter mile to the north by 1879.

The Omaha, Niobrara & Black
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Nebraska utilities history – Battle Creek

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Hills Railroad reached Norfolk in 1880 and by 1882, the St. Paul & Sioux City Railroad was completed in the county which triggered population growth. Battle Creek's population was 123 in 1880 and increased to about 200 by 1882. Some of the businesses by 1882 included two general stores, two blacksmith shops, a hardware store, a grocery, drug store, two ag implements, a grist mill, a harness shop, shoe shop and a wagon and carriage shop. A new school was

built in 1882, a bank was founded (1883) and by 1885, the Sioux City & Pacific Railroad main line ran through Battle Creek (1885 map). The weekly *Battle Creek Enterprise* newspaper was founded in 1887 and the population by 1890 was 352.

A lumberyard, an ag implement dealer, a general store, a livery, a millinery, a blacksmith, Battle Creek Hotel, a restaurant, a roller mill, a meat market, a saloon, a telegraph station, a harness shop, Farmers and Drover State

Bank, Battle Creek Valley Bank, a general store, a creamery and the weekly *Battle Creek Enterprise* newspaper were some of the businesses operating by 1890-91. The village had two large private waterworks which were said to be operating by 1890 with one built for \$2,500 and the other for \$1,000.

The population increased to 506 by 1900 and in 1902, residents petitioned the village board to hold an election to issue \$3,700 in

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Nebraska utilities history – Battle Creek

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water bonds; the election failed. A two-story frame railroad depot facility was operating in 1907. The population was 597 in 1910 and on Jan. 10, 1911, voters approved a \$10,000 bond issue for a municipal water system to include a 25,000-gallon metal tank and building. An engineer was hired for \$250 to draw up plans and Inter Mountain Bridge and Construction Company of Tecumseh bid \$9,927 to build the tank and a pipeline down Main Street (the tank actually held 13,000 gallons of water, the balance with compressed air). The initial minimum water charge was \$5 annually. There were extra fees of \$2.50 for a bathtub, \$1.50 for a water closet, \$1.50 for a lavatory, \$3 for a kitchen sink, \$3 for outside tap and \$2 for laundry. Hotels were charged \$5 per five rooms. The Battle Creek Electric Light & Power Company was operating in 1912 and a city hall was built in 1913. The municipal water system consisted of four wells, had a reservoir capacity of 18,000 gallons, one pump/engine with a capacity of 230,400 gallons per day (gpd), 17 fire hydrants, seven valves,

12 meters with rates of \$0.25 per 1,000 gallons. The fire department had 30 volunteer firefighters, one hook/ladder truck, four hose carts with 900 ft. cotton/rubber lined and an alarm bell/whistle. In 1916, the Continental Gas & Electric Corp. acquired the Battle Creek Electric Light & Power Company. On Nov. 17, 1916, an application was filed by Nebraska Gas & Electric Company of Omaha for authorization to construct a transmission line between Norfolk and Meadow Grove then to Battle Creek. By 1918, electric current was supplied to Battle Creek from a hydro-electric power plant located on the Elkhorn River.

In 1920, the population was 743 and in 1922, electric current was provided by the Nebraska Gas & Electric Company. In 1938, the Elkhorn Rural Public Power District began serving area farmers with electricity. In 1930, the population increased to 755, but then decreased to 702 by 1940. On April 27, 1945, the village purchased the electric system from Consumers Public Power District.

The population was 630 in 1950, the village-owned sewer system was maintained from a one mill

tax levy in 1956.

A water works project was underway (1956) and rates were \$3 per quarter. By 1958, the water rates were 1,800 cubic feet at \$3 minimum, next 3,000 cuft at \$5, next 7,000 cuft at \$8 and all over at \$0.20 per 1,000 gallons. The electrical system in 1958 consisted of 20 miles of lines, 349 meters in service owned by the village and the electric current was supplied by Consumers Public Power District. The meter deposit was \$5, street lighting was \$2,205.19 and the cost of water pumping was \$880.38. The fire department had 23-25 volunteer firefighters and a swimming pool project was underway.

By 1960, the population was 587, the municipal sewer system was maintained from a 0.04 mill tax levy, the water plant had eight meters in service, a minimum rate of \$3 and the cost of pumping water was \$1,600.20. The electrical system consisted of 26 miles of lines, 348 meters owned by the village and supplied by Consumers Public Power District with the cost of street lighting at \$1,920.66. By 1962, the water

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Nebraska utilities history – Battle Creek

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system had 12 meters with rates of \$0.16 per 1,000 gallons. The cost of pumping water was \$1,734.60 per year. An elementary school was built in 1962 and the natural gas system was supplied by Western Power and Gas Company. In 1963, the village received the first Nebraska Community Improvement Grand Award. Sewer disposal projects were underway from 1962-1969 and an addition was made to the school in 1968. The population increased to 768 by 1970, and the electrical system owned by the Battle Creek Municipal Light & Power was supplied by Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD).

The population increased to 948 by 1980 and the city became a city of the second class. The Lied Public Library was remodeled in 1984 and the \$1.5 million "Community Pride Care Center" was opened/dedicated April 5, 1987.

The natural gas system was operated/supplied by Minnegasco in 1985. The water system installed a new (31 ft. x 38 ft.) 212,000-gallon glass-lined tank in 1986, replacing the old horizontal tank for \$179,000). The project also included replacement of 12 blocks of water piping. By 1994, the population was 997 and the natural gas system was operated/supplied by Natural Gas, Peoples Natural Gas Company. In 1999, the city was operating an activated sludge oxidation ditch sanitary sewer system with an anaerobic digester sludge treatment. The plan had a daily capacity of 144,000, average daily flow of 120,000 and a historic peak discharge at 200,000 gallons.

From 1990 to 2000, the popu-

lation increased from 997 to 1,158 and plans were made for a new library in 2003. Projects in 2003 included an update to the wastewater treatment facility and the electric distribution system was being changed from a delta system to a wye system (2003-2004). The wastewater treatment facility was an activated sludge oxidation ditch designed for 0.157 million gallons per day (mgd). In 2005, the municipal water system consisted of three wells with a pumping capacity of 600 gallons per minute (gpm), a 212,000-gallon storage tank, 68 fire hydrants and an average daily demand of 400,000 gallons. The historic peak demand was one million gallons. A private company provided collection service for hauling solid waste to a landfill in Jackson. The city maintained several blocks of paved streets, and 60 acres of parks (two) along with a swimming pool, tennis courts and soccer field. Aquila operated the natural gas system in 2005 and by 2009, it was operated by Black Hills Energy.

Today, Battle Creek has a population of 1,094, has been incorporated since 1873 (150 years) and a League of Nebraska Municipalities and Utilities Section member.

References: Nebraska Directory of Municipal Officials, 1962-65, 1968-75, 1977-87, 1990-95, 1997-2022; Nebraska Municipal Review Magazine, 1925, 1931, 1928, 1960, 1964, 1968-73, 1982, 1986; Perkey's Nebraska Place Names, 1995; Nebraska Place Names, 1925, 1960; Water Resources of Nebraska, December 1936; Train Time in Nebraska The Post Card Era, 2005; Lincoln Journal Star Newspaper,

2008; Genuine Norfolk Area Visitors Guide Madison County, Madison County Convention/Visitors Bureau Discover Northeast Nebraska, Official Visitor Guide, 2007; Nebraska Traveler Magazine, 2003; Nebraska's Forest Service Newsletter, April 2002; Public Power Magazine, January-Vol. 51, Number 1, February 1993; Aquastore, Permaglas, and Wastewater Treatment Tank Handout, 2004; Nebraska Our Towns... North Northeast, 1990; Maps Tell A Story, 1991; NEDED website, 2005; Battle Creek website, 2019-2023; Wikipedia website, 2018-2019; Andrea's History of the State of Nebraska, 1882; Johnson's History of Nebraska, 1880; Nebraska Blue Book, 1918, 1928, 1942, 1946, 1978; Who's Who in Nebraska, 1940; History & Biography: History of the Elkhorn Valley, Nebraska, 1892; Annual Report of Nebraska State Railway Commission, Vol. 11, 1918; Madison County Nebraska Historic Building Survey, UNL August 2001; Moody's Manual of Railroads and Corp. Securities, Part 2, 1921; Eleventh Annual Report of the Nebraska State Railway Commissioner, 1918; 15th Annual Report of Nebraska State Railway Commission to the Governor, Issue 15, 1922; Poor's and Moody's Manual of Railroads and Corp. Securities, Public Utility Section, Vol. 1, 1921; History of Battle Creek Madison County, Nebraska, Browns Directory of American Gas Companies and Gas Engineering Appliances Catalogue, 1922; Utilities Section solid waste survey, 2015; and The Insurance Yearbook 1915-16 Fire and Marine 43rd Annual Issue, 1915.

SAFETY/HEALTH CORNER

Safe heart health

*Reprinted from February 2016
Utilities Section Newsletter.*

*By Rob Pierce, Utilities Field
Rep./Training Coordinator*

According to the American Heart Association, heart attacks are the leading cause of death in the United States. Symptoms of a heart attack may be pain that spreads to the shoulders, neck or arms, chest discomfort accompanied by lightheadedness, fainting, sweating, nausea or shortness of breath. More than 1.5 million Americans suffer a heart attack every year and almost half a million die.

Our hearts are the pumps of life and we should not take them for granted. As we get older, we should put more emphasis on health and wellness. In the utility business, we talk of asset management and we often put our main asset, “us,” on the back burner as far as priorities go. Why? We often get busy with work-related assets such as buildings, equipment, material, vehicles and preventative measures are taken to ensure they last and are functioning properly. We should make sure number one is included in the asset management.

We need to make certain we get an adequate amount of sleep to fully charge our body. A good place to start is trying to get seven hours of sleep. I personally like to wake up without the stressful blare of an alarm.

A consistent, healthy diet is a plus. Avoid eating fats (especially saturated fats), eat fewer refined

foods and limit sodium. Eat more fruits and vegetables and consume less fruit juices. Minimize the consumption of sugary sodas, excessive coffee and alcohol. Controlling some of our habits such as smoking and drinking and managing hypertension and stress can be helpful.

Everyone should have an activity or hobby that helps to relieve stress. Monitor your body’s health components or essential assets such as cholesterol, blood

pressure and weight and have regular medical visits. When monitoring, don’t forget your body mass index (BMI) as obesity and unhealthy weight gain can lead to health complications such as diabetes.

Exercise by staying active while pushing your limits, but not too far. As one health specialist stated, “sit less and sweat more.” A good exercise program might be at least 30 minutes per day for five days a week (150 minutes per week).

Silicosis exposure safety

*By Rob Pierce, Utilities Field
Rep./Training Coordinator*

Silicosis is a disabling, non-reversible (sometimes fatal) lung disease that more than one million workers are exposed to and more than 250 people die from each year. It is the second most common mineral in the earth’s crust. Breathing in microscopic particles can result in the particles adhering to the lung walls reducing the lungs’ ability to extract oxygen.

There basically are three types of silicosis: 1) chronic silicosis, 2) accelerated silicosis and 3)

acute silicosis. People who work in dusty environments which may include construction, mining, stone cutting, laying railroad tracks and agriculture or perform tasks such as sand blasting, rock drilling, paint/rust removal from buildings/bridges and sanding sheetrock can be exposed.

Dust control measures to minimize or prevent exposure may include the installation/maintenance of engineering controls, procedure changes and the proper wearing of personal protective equipment (PPE). Awareness includes training, worksite monitoring and medical surveillance.

Remember to recognize your employees’ anniversary milestones. The Utilities Section provides certificates for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 and 65.

You can request them by contacting the League office by email brendah@lonm.org, fax 402-476-7052 or call 402-476-2829.

Nebraska utilities history – Kenesaw

The Utilities Section Newsletter will continue to feature histories of both utilities and associate members. Any historical data and/or photos of your utilities, a specific facility, or articles already written are welcome, along with permission to print. If you have questions, contact Rob at 402-476-2829 or robp@lonm.org.

By Rob Pierce, Utilities Field Rep./Training Coordinator

Kenesaw, located in Adams County, had settlers in the area by 1871-72 with land purchased by the Burlington Railroad and a townsite located by June 9, 1871. In June 1872, the town-site was surveyed/platted by Anselmo B. Smith for Charles F. Morse of the South Platte Land Company. The railroad had extended to the area, School District #3 was established and a post office opened Dec. 5, 1872. The community was named in honor of the Battle of Kenesaw Mountain in the American Civil War. The first school was a two-story frame building built in 1872-73 for \$4,000. The town site was flooded in 1873 and a general store was built in August. On June 8, 1876, the *Kenesaw Times* newspaper was established and a blacksmith shop and a grocery/hardware store were built by 1878. Early water was hauled from Lowell until a well was dug later.

By 1880, the population was about 100, the community had a school, a hotel and several businesses, including service by the Burlington Missouri Railroad. In 1883, a petition to incorporate was refused by the county due to not enough signatures, but in the summer of 1884, Kenesaw was incorporated as a village. About 1883, the Bank of Kenesaw was established and by 1884, a grain elevator and a two-story railroad depot were built. Other businesses included a Metropolitan Hotel, *Kenesaw Times* newspaper, Kenesaw Exchange Bank, grain dealers, a lumberyard, a drug store, general stores, a hardware store, implement dealers, a livery, a furniture store, a restaurant, a grocery store, a meat market, a millinery, a blacksmith, a laundry, and a billiard hall. In March 1885, the T.E. Farrell Addition was platted and Kenesaw had two flourmills – the Kenesaw elevator sold Primrose flour and the other Meadow Gold flour. The Cottage

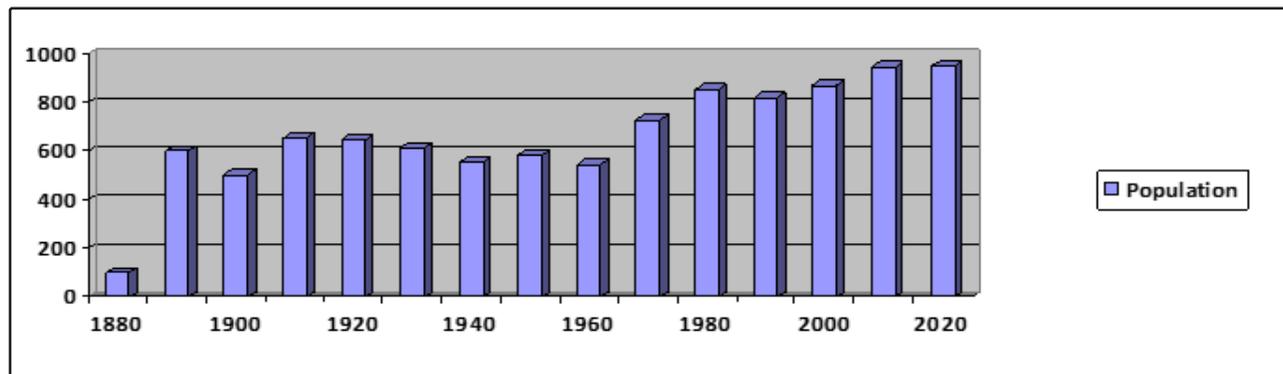


Kenesaw water tower. File photo.

Hotel was built on North Depot Street in 1887 and a north wing was added to the school because attendance increased from 68 in 1882 to 157 by 1887.

The population increased to 600 by 1890 and the school was organized as a high school district. In 1891, the B & M Railroad connected the depot and stockyards

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Nebraska utilities history – Kenesaw

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to the Kenesaw waterworks (one of the wells). The population by 1900 was 504, the water system had two wells with one located in the middle of Smith Avenue. The first brick building was built at the corner of Smith Avenue and North Railroad. Telephone lines were installed and the Kenesaw Telephone Company was established in 1904. The school added an 11th grade in 1902 and a fire destroyed several businesses in 1907. In October 1909, two additions were surveyed and platted (Cook's "Second" addition and Thompson Addition).

In 1910, the population was 657, a 12th grade was added at the school and on July 15, 1910, bonds of \$4,500 for an electric light plant were voted on (89 for and 58 against) and built for \$8,000. The first vote for \$20,000 water bonds appeared to pass by 108 to 42, but due to a technicality, was declared void. On Feb. 28, 1911, there was a second vote (123 for and 42 against) for \$18,500 bonds to build a waterworks plant. In June, a vote was taken for a new school which was carried by a large majority in the second vote in November. A fire destroyed five businesses south of the railroad tracks and one on the north side of the tracks in July. Later in 1911, both a municipal waterworks and municipal light plant were in operation. The Kenesaw Opera House was built and opened in 1910 but was destroyed by fire in 1912. Bids for construction of the new school were let in March and construction soon began. About 1912, two-and-one-half

miles of three, four, and six-inch water mains were laid. By 1913, a new two-story brick school was dedicated which replaced the two-story frame school. The Kenesaw power plant in 1915 had a 75 horsepower (HP) gas engine, a generator rating of 50 kilovolt amps (kVA) and a lighting rate of \$0.15 per kilowatt hour (kWh). Commercial electric rates in 1916 ranged from \$0.06-\$0.15 per kWh and residential from \$0.08-\$0.20 with a minimum of \$1 per month. Once again, a fire destroyed many businesses in 1916. The water system had about 125 customers with rates of \$0.15 per 1,000 gallons with a minimum fee of \$2 per quarter. Telephone rates in 1916 were \$1.25 with free service to Juniata, Prosser, Heartwell and Holstein.

In 1920, the census population was 646 (one source noted 800), the streets were graded level with gravel added and the fire department had 30 volunteer firefighters along with two hand hose carts with 500 ft. of two-and-one-half inch hose. A frame public hall building was located on lot 8 on Perkins Avenue and the power plant used coal fuel for the 100 HP steam engine. The plant also consisted of a 75 HP engine, two 50 KVA generators and two Cook pumps (capacity 60 gallon per minute). The waterworks had two, five-inch diameter wells 130 ft. deep, 25 fire hydrants along with a 35,000-gallon elevated steel water storage tank. Average water consumption in winter was 35,000 gallons and 70,000 gallons in the summer. The municipal water system in 1925 had water rates of \$1 per month and in 1928, a one-

story railroad depot was built to replace the one built in 1884.

By 1930, the population was 614, natural gas was in use (1932) and the Kenesaw Exchange Bank merged with the Kenesaw State Bank and opened April 1, 1934. A water system improvement project was started in 1934 and by 1936, the waterworks had a brick building with a boiler room, coal storage, a generator room along with a 35,000-gallon steel water storage tower. A volunteer fire department was operating in the 1930s and in 1936, a WPA project included a new auditorium. In December 1936, WPA projects included regrading, graveling various streets and a park improvement in February 1937. A sewer system was promoted and in 1936, a WPA project began installing a sanitary sewer system and disposal plant in June 1939. The Kenesaw Public Library, located in the auditorium building, was started as a WPA project and opened in 1939.

In 1940, the population was 551, natural gas was furnished by the Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Company (1942) and in the late 1940s, streets were graded and graveled. By the 1950s, rural schools were consolidated, the population in 1950 was 584 (1950) and street paving projects were underway by 1955-58. The municipal sewer system and disposal plant were maintained from a tax levy of \$300 in 1958 along with a sewer charge of \$2 per quarter. The electric system with 225 meters in service was supplied by Consumers Public Power District and streetlighting

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Nebraska utilities history – Kenesaw

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cost \$120.80 per month (1956) and \$121.80 in 1958. The municipal water plant had a rate of \$4 per quarter in 1956 and by 1958, the cost of current for pumping water was approximately \$80.

The population in 1960 was 546, a new (K-12) school was opened in 1961, the old school building was razed and the cost of current for pumping water was \$75 per month. The water system had a rate of \$4.25 per quarter in 1962 and the cost of current for pumping water was \$80.67 per month. The electrical system was owned by Consumers Public Power District and in 1962, the cost of street lighting was \$135.64 per month. A sewer improvement project was underway in 1962 and 40 blocks of streets were resurfaced. The sewer system was maintained from a charge of \$10 per month. A new well was installed in 1965 and 60 new mercury vapor streetlights were installed (total now 110). The Telephone Company was sold to Lincoln Telephone & Telegraph Company in 1966 and by 1970, the population was 728. The electrical system was owned by the village and operated by Nebraska Public Power District. A swimming pool was built in 1971 and the population increased from 730 in 1972 to 854 in 1980. The natural gas system was operated by KN Energy Inc. by 1982. A wastewater treatment facility in 1986 was installed which consisted of a facultative stored for land application lagoon system designed for 0.072 million gallons per day (mgd) discharged to surface water. The population increased from 818 in 1990 to 873

in 2000 and the water system had a spheroid-shaped water storage facility. The natural gas system in 2003 was operated/supplied by Kinder Morgan Inc., then Source-Gas by 2008. By 2010, the population was 947 and a water project in 2015-2016 included meter installation.

Today, Kenesaw has a population of 919, has been incorporated since 1884 and a Utilities Section member. The village maintains several blocks of streets, a park, a swimming pool and a water and wastewater system. The electric system is supplied by Southern Public Power District and the natural gas system is operated by Black Hills Energy Inc.

Resources: Nebraska Directory of Municipal Officials, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964-75, 1987, 1990-94, 1996-2019; Nebraska Municipal Review Magazine, 1925, 1946; Nebraska Our Towns...South Central, 1988 Pages of History Nebraska High Schools, Past & Present, 1854-

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February: Monthly Celebration Acknowledgments

American Heart Month (February) – www.heart.org
National Burn Awareness Week (Feb. 5-11) – www.ameriburn.org

Other events recognized in February include: Library Lovers Month, National Time Management Month, National Engineers Week (Feb. 19-25), Presidents' Day and School

Bus Driver Appreciation Day (Feb.22).

If you access this website – www.calendarr.com/united-states/observances-2023/ there is a celebration or event listed for every day of the year.

Two events that stood out were Jan. 2 – National Hang-over Day and Feb. 1 – National Get Up Day!

Nebraska utilities history – Winside

The Utilities Section Newsletter will continue to feature histories of both utilities and associate members. Any historical data and/or photos of your utilities, a specific facility, or articles already written are welcome, along with permission to print. If you have questions, contact Rob at 402-476-2829 or robp@lonm.org.

By Rob Pierce, Utilities Field Rep./Training Coordinator

Winside, located in Wayne County, had settlers coming to the area about 1877. In 1881, an established settlement called Northside was located three miles west of the current town. A Northside post office was established in 1882 on the farm of Eugene L. Jones. In 1882, the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroad was building to the area. In 1883, a Lyceum was organized. By 1885, due to some issues with either the landowner or the town-site company, the railroad moved its section house and siding to a new site. On July 10, a plat of eight blocks were noted with original site businesses relocating to the newly platted site. McDerby's store and Day's Blacksmith shop were two businesses that moved. In 1886, the post office was housed in McDerby General Store. In June, Rochester lamps were purchased for the town hall, formerly the Mettlen building. On June 14, a plat was registered, lots were sold and the name Winside was selected. On

Feb. 1, 1887, gasoline streetlamps were placed at the edge of sidewalks and spread throughout the community. By December, the post office was operating in the front part of the general store and in 1888, the McClusky-Neeham building was completed. In 1889, the Grace Methodist Church was built and a park was donated by J.T. Bressler. On April 27, 1889, a fire destroyed three stores (McDerby's store, Miller & Cherry's Drug Store and Matthews Furniture Store). The water system was privately owned in 1889 and operated by McCluskey and Needham. After the fire, a reservoir (40 ft. diameter and 5-6 ft. deep) circled with a fence was constructed behind the Methodist Church along with five fire hydrants installed around town.

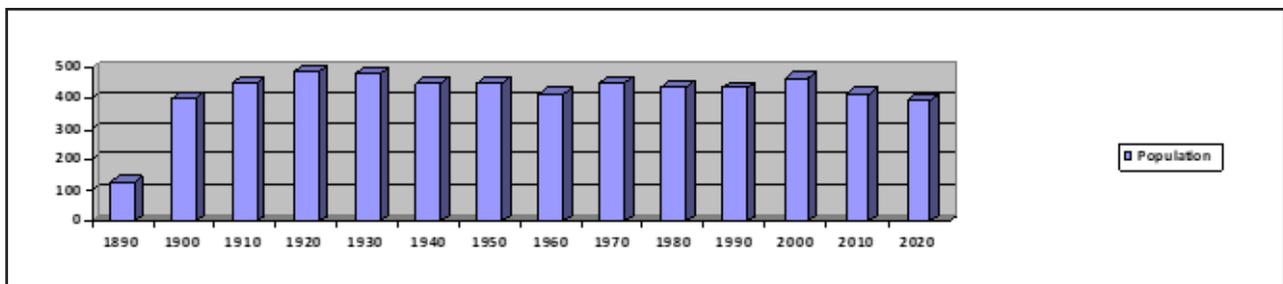
By 1890, the population was 130 with over 20 businesses operating which included a brickyard, a large mill, two grocery stores and two banks. On Sept. 6, 1890, a petition to incorporate was filed with the county. In September 1890, an objection was filed against incorporation by John T. Bressler and William Wright, owners of land



Winside water tower base. File photo.

inside the proposed incorporation. In April 1890, the community was listed as having a population of 130 but by Oct. 7, 1890, the population was 200 with some speculating that railroaders were used in the count to vote. The objection was amended later that month and on Oct. 7, 1890, Winside was incorporated as a village. By 1891, an ordinance specified boardwalk size as in residential, one-inch material laid on 2 x 6 stringers, and on Main Street, seven feet wide on 2 x 6 stringers. About 1890-92, the first school, a two-story frame structure with a bell tower, was built (\$3,000) and a roller mill was built in 1891. An addition was made to the school and

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Nebraska utilities history – Winside

Continued from page 11
in December 1892, the Merchants State Bank was established. Land was located in 1892 for a Pleasant View Cemetery and accepted by the cemetery board Feb. 24, 1893. The village managed the cemetery until 1910 when the cemetery association took over. In 1892, a petition to enlarge and probably purchase the private water system was introduced. On April 1, 1892, a special election was held to vote for \$4,000 in bonds to purchase the old water system and make it

larger, but the vote was defeated. The 1893-94 water system was paid off and consisted of five hydrants, storage tank (capacity 1,800 barrels) with an elevation of about 75 feet above the business part of town. The hydrants were located on the Mettlen corner, Carter corner and two on the present highway one block north and probably one block west of the Carter Store. In 1893, the school added the 7th and 8th grades and by 1894, the Opera House was constructed on the west end

of Main Street. By February 1897, gasoline streetlamps were purchased and installed. In the spring of 1898, a brickyard was started on the east side of town and by May 5, 1898, the Nebraska Telephone Company was given a franchise.

By 1900, the population was 400 and on Jan. 18, 1902, the Winside roller mill was destroyed by fire. Another discussion was held proposing either a new water system or improvement of the existing

Continued on page 13



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Nebraska utilities history – Winside

Continued from page 12
system. In the summer of 1902, the Women's Club started a traveling library in 1903. On Feb. 12, 1903, a franchise was approved for the installation of automatic telephones and the brickyard business closed. In October 1905, a new brick school building was built for \$12,000. On June 23, 1905, a vote was carried (53-11) in favor of a \$10,000 bond issue for installing a modern water system similar to other towns and divided into 20 bonds of \$500 each. There was some difficulty selling the bonds but in 1907, the businessmen decided to purchase the bonds so the water system could be installed and do away with the old system and individual wells. On July 2, 1907, a contract was let to Eisentraut, Colby and Pottenger Company of Sioux City with nearly the entire system completed before the cold weather. The municipal system was completed in the spring of 1908. On Dec. 20, 1907, a meeting was held to organize a fire company and Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 was created with 17 firefighters. Before 1907, numerous fires were dealt with by bucket brigades. On May 17, 1909, a city meeting was held to install a natural gas lighting and heating system. A vote on June 11, resulted in 33 for and 6 against the \$4,000 in bonds at 5.5 percent to install a system. Initially, 25 patrons signed up and soon found it too expensive for heating and cooling. Later, prices increased and mains began to leak as meters required \$0.25 deposits.

In 1910, the population increased to 450 and in March, the Nebraska Telephone Company bought out

the Clark Automatic Company. On June 18, the cemetery association took over operation of the cemetery. In February 1911, the Women's Club met with the city to see if they would pass an ordinance creating a free public library. Ordinance No. 80 was passed and a library board was appointed. The fire bell was moved from the Merchants Bank to the City Hall building (1910) and by March 1913, the fire department had donations of \$250 and two ladders for the fire department. The gas used in the generating plant cost about \$0.33 as each patron had a meter requiring quarters to run them in 1911-12. On Jan. 9, 1912, the Winside Electric Light & Power Company was formed with Henry Brune and Gus Wendt. In October, the electric lights were first turned on as W.H. Brune & Company bought an electric plant from the Western Electric Company. The plant operated using a 7-kilowatt generator (kW) generator that had 700 candle power storage batteries and could light 250 lights. The first electric lights turned on in Winside were in the Fleer Brothers' new store which was later Oberle's Market. In December 1913, the power plant was sold to Herb Lound, H.G. Smith and John Lueck. The power plant was changed to 110 direct current (DC) eliminating the batteries. On April 15, 1915, a petition to put electric lights on Main Street prompted the plant to begin operating from 8:30-11:30 a.m. By May 13, the light company was using a 25 horsepower (HP) Fairbanks-Morse engine and 15 kW generator. The Winside Electric Light & Power Company in 1915 was operat-

ing the electric system until the village passed bonds of \$7,500 to purchase the plant in 1916. On Jan. 26, 1917, the light plant was purchased by the village from Lound, Smith and Leucks for \$6,260 and a contract was let for wiring the town for \$1,652. Electric rates were \$0.16 kW, and 17 streetlights were installed. One interesting note in 1919, the electric customers were asked to limit electric use from 8-11 p.m. Apparently the amusement company in town needed sufficient lighting of which the light plant was unable to meet the demand.

By 1920, the population was 488, a discussion was held in 1921 to construct a swimming pool and on Aug. 12, 1921 a meeting to approve plans of a proposed sewer system was held. The sewer system was installed for \$17,232.79. An addition was erected on the south end of the power plant and a new engine and generator were installed with the initial startup Oct. 1, 1921. Lighting service was extended from 17-18 hours per day and by Dec. 1, 1924, service was provided 24 hours a day so refrigeration could be used by residents. On March 13, 1925, contracts were let for \$12,678.70 to construct storm sewers along with (\$2.19 per square yard) or \$25,063.55 for the Main Street paving. In 1927, paving projects on streets throughout the village and on July 14, the fire department purchased a Model T Ford fire truck. The village on Aug. 13, 1928, approved the purchase of another Fairbanks-Morse engine (120 Hp) and 75-kilowatt

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Nebraska utilities history – Winside

Continued from page 13

DC generator with a direct drive to be installed at the power plant.

On July 8, 1930, the library moved to the first floor of the south end of the town hall building. In March 1931, a second fire truck was acquired along with \$500 allotted for equipment. The power plant in 1936 had a capacity of 275 kW using internal combustion power generation. On July 16, 1936, the village was using about 42,000 gallons of water because of the drought. On June 10, 1938, a petition was filed for a Work Progress Administration (WPA) project to use WPA labor to construct an auditorium. An election was held June 10 and it was passed by 66 percent as three lots were purchased for \$750 (included former Opera House site). A concrete (block) city auditorium was in built 1939-40 for \$50,000.

The population by 1940 was 451 and in January, new dial phones were installed. The fire department had about 17 volunteer firefighters in 1941 and a fire pumper truck was purchased. The Federal Governments Civilian Conservation Camps (CCC) was closed in the fall of 1941. In 1942, a discussion was held concerning changing the power plant from DC to AC, but costs held that topic up. The REA and the Nebraska Power Co. offered to provide electric power, but they were turned down.

The population decreased slightly from 454 in 1950 to 416 in 1960. The village auditorium was maintained by a one mill levy and \$850 was received from rental. The municipal water plant

had 175 meters in service with a meter deposit of \$2.50 and a fire hydrant rental charge of about \$250. In 1960, the power plant had a diesel engine capacity of 410 kW with 195 meters in the distribution system. The cost of street lighting was \$1,429.99 per year and the cost of pumping water was \$520 per year. The sewer use fee, started in May 1961, was a minimum of \$3 and then based on a six-month average. By 1962, the fire department had 25 volunteer firefighters and in 1964, purchased a 1964 International 1,500-gallon pumper truck. In 1965, a sewer grant for a wastewater treatment facility was approved and by September 1966, a wastewater treatment facility was completed. In 1965, the municipal electric generation plant ceased to furnish power as the current was furnished by the Wayne County Public Power. In the late 1960s, the power generators were sold with the building occupied as a city hall. On Nov. 22, 1966, the railroad service was discontinued and by 1967, the depot was torn down.

The population in 1970 was 453 and in 1974, the municipal electric system was served by Wayne Public Power and supplied by the Bureau of Reclamation. Storm sewers were improved in 1975 and in 1977, an International Rural Tanker truck was purchased. By 1980, the population was 439 and the water project was completed which included a new well. In 1982, the municipal electrical system was supplied by the Western Area Power Association (WAPA) and the natural gas system was operated/supplied

by Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Company. By 1987, the gas system was operated/supplied by KN Energy Inc.

By 2000, the population was 468 and the village received \$250,000 to replace the elevated water storage tank with a new 140 ft., 100,000-gallon tank, install an iron and manganese removal water treatment facility and new well along with looping all dead-end distribution lines. The new well and tower were in service by 2002 and the water treatment plant was started Sept. 12, 2003. In 2002-2003, a new Lied Library was built.

A \$130,400 grant to renovate the city auditorium was received in 2006 for adding handicap access, air conditioning and energy efficient windows. In 2006, natural gas service was operated/supplied by Kinder Morgan and in 2008, it was operated by SourceGas. Solid waste collection was provided by a private collection company.

The population decreased in 2010 to 416, sewer rates were a flat rate fee of \$5 per month and water rates were a basic rate of \$15 for residential and commercial. Fees included a \$50 deposit, tapping fee of \$275 and a reconnect fee of \$25. In 2015, the natural gas service was provided by Black Hills Energy. By 2017, the water system had two wells serving some 20 commercial and 220 residential customers. Today, Winside has a population of 379, has been incorporated for 132 years and is a League of Nebraska Municipalities and Utilities Section member.

*References: Nebraska Directory
Continued on page 15*

Nebraska utilities history – Winside

Continued from page 14 of Municipal Officials, 1960-75, 1977-87, 1990-2021; Perkey's Nebraska Place Names, 1995; Nebraska Place-Names, 1925, 1960; Water Resources of Nebraska, December 1936; Train Time in Nebraska The Post Card

Era, 2005; The History of Winside, 1942; Winside, Nebraska 1890-1990, 1990; Nebraska Our Towns...North Northeast, 1990; NEDED Website, 2005; Pages of History, Nebraska High Schools, Past & Present, Private & Public, 1854-1994, 1994; The Crete

Democrat Newspaper, 1891-92; Wayne County Nebraska Historical Buildings Survey, 2000; Who's Who in Nebraska, Wayne County, 1940; Nebraska Blue Book, 1928, 1942, 1946; 1978 and the Commercial West, Vol. XXV, January 3, 1914.

Nebraska Breaktime Trivia "Just For Fun"

- Q-1.** How many Nebraska counties were named for U.S. Presidents?
- Q-2.** How many Nebraska incorporated village/cities were named for U.S. Presidents?
- Q-3.** Which U.S. Presidents' faces are highlighted on Mount Rushmore in South Dakota?
- Q-4.** This fire hall was located in what city in Nebraska?



Answers on page 17.

Presidents' Day

Originally named a holiday by Congress in 1879 as George Washington's Birthday on Feb. 22, it was changed in 1968 to what now is known as "Presidents' Day." Following the 1968 passage of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, Congress changed the date to occur on the third Monday of February. Many states broadened the acknowledgement and was understood as a celebration of the birthdays and lives of all U.S. Presidents. Presidents' Day has



Mount Rushmore

become the commonly accepted name, but apparently was never formally changed at the federal level, so the official name is still "Washington's Birthday."

The U.S. Census lists Presidential places as the number of counties, minor civil divisions and towns exactly matching the last names of Presidents: Washington-94, Lincoln-72, Jackson-67, Jefferson-62, Clinton-55, Madison-54, Monroe-53, Grant-40, and two Adams and two Harrisons-34.



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2023 Solid Waste Screening Workshops scheduled

Solid Waste Screening Workshops are scheduled for the first half of 2023. Two workshops will be held in Hastings on April 20 and April 27 at the HU Building (3505 Yost Avenue).

These workshops will cover solid waste hazard identification screening, hazard communication

(GHS update), a safety discussion with an emphasis on asbestos and a regulatory/industry update. Scheduling for the 2023 fall and 2024 spring workshops already is underway so if your facility would like to host a Solid Waste Screening Workshop at your facility, contact Rob at the League office.

Note: Information on transfer stations can be found on the EPA website at www.epa.gov which includes a guidebook titled, "Waste Transfer Stations: A Manual for Decision Makers."

Work Zone Workshops scheduled

Work Zone Safety Workshops are scheduled for 2023-2024: Wayne (Aug. 17), Grand Island (Sept. 21), South Sioux City (Oct. 18), Blair (Nov. 7) and Kearney (Jan. 23, 2024).

These workshops will cover setup, temporary traffic control,

control devices, site evaluations, flagging, chemical handling (GHS) and regulatory updates.

Water and wastewater operators in attendance will receive five hours toward their respective water and wastewater licenses.

Water Operator Training Workshops rescheduled

The Water Operator Training Workshops scheduled for Jan. 18 in Blair and Jan. 19 in Columbus have been rescheduled. The Blair workshop will be March 27 at the Library and the Columbus workshop will be March 30 at the Fire Hall. Registration forms are available on our website or on request.

Operators attending these workshops will receive water and wastewater credits toward license renewal.

Writing an article for the Utilities Section Newsletter

Are you interested in writing an article for the *Utilities Section Newsletter*? We are interested in articles on the past, present, and future of your municipal utilities.

Articles can be written on a specific department or an overview of the history of the entire utilities department. Items of interest may be information on the first well in your community, number of services, service fees, the equipment used, and also the employees that worked in the various utilities departments. Photos would enhance the articles and will be returned unless otherwise instructed.

When writing an article, just answer the simple who, what, when, where, why and how questions. Some examples are:

- *When did the utility begin offering service?*
- *Who were the employees?*
- *Why was the utility/department started?*
- *Where is the facility, office, warehouse or utility located?*
- *What service does the utility offer to the public?*
- *How does the utility or department operate?*

These are just some of the questions to be answered in order to write an article highlighting your utility's past, present and future.

Credit hours reminder

For those who attended the 2023 Snowball Conference and/or the 2023 Utilities/Public Works Section Annual Conference, your water and wastewater hours are posted on the League of Nebraska Municipalities website at <https://www.lonm.org/utilities/water-and-wastewater-credit-hours.html>.

Crow Line: A line of positive communication that all can share

Incorporation Anniversary Recognition: 130 years – Bruning (1893-village); and 150 years – **Battle Creek** (1873-village). Congratulations!

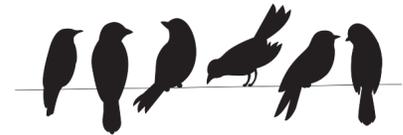
Utilities Section members and associate members are bolded.

Congratulations to the City of **Blue Hill** for being recognized as a Leadership Certified Community (LCC) by the Department of Economic Development (DED). Blue Hill is one of 31 Nebraska communities to qualify for the LCC program. *Reference: Ne-*

braska Municipal Review, January 2023

Congratulations to the City of **Lincoln** for winning the on-line city flag competition (November 2022). Eighty city flags across the nation from Maine to Southern California were in the contest, including Ashland and Milford from the Great Plains Division. Voters from all over the world chose the eventual winner – Lincoln. Their flags likely can be viewed on each city’s respective website.

Do you, your department or



facility have something to crow about – new hires, promotions, awards, certifications, anniversaries/milestones, accomplishments, grants/funding or projects? Let us help you celebrate events and accomplishments! Please send information to any of the League/Utilities staff.

Safety Awards reminder

The AWWA and the NWEA have safety applications to recognize water and wastewater departments/facilities for their safety program for 2022. The 2023 application forms can be found on their respective websites (AWWA and NWEA) via a link through the League website at www.lonm.org.

For a wastewater application, contact safety chairman Jeremy Walker at jwalker@olsson.com and for water (AWWA) applications, contact Rob Pierce at robp@lonm.org.

Recipients will be recognized at the Annual Conference banquet held in November at the Younes Convention Center in Kearney. If you wish to recognize your facility for its safety program and activities, be sure to complete an application.

North American Snow Conference

The 2023 North American Snow Conference will be held April 16-19, 2023, in Omaha at the CHI

Future Snowball Conferences

The dates for future “Snowball” Wastewater Conferences have been scheduled and contracts signed with the Kearney Holiday Inn.

- Jan. 24-25, 2024
- Jan. 22-23, 2025

Health Convention Center, 455 N. 10th Street. More information can be found at www.snow.apwa.net.

“Just For Fun” Answers

A-1. Twelve (Adams, Arthur, Fillmore, Garfield, Grant, Hayes, Jefferson, Lincoln, Madison, Pierce, Polk and Washington). Johnson County was not named after President Johnson.

A-2. Nine (Arthur, Chester, Grant, Harrison, Lincoln, Madison, Pierce, Polk and Ulysses). A couple were named after the county which was named in honor of the U.S. Presidents. Ad-

ams, Clinton, Franklin and Taylor were not named after U.S. Presidents.

A-3. George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln.

A-4. Loup City.

Classifieds

The City of North Platte is Hiring! Due to growth and retirements, the City of North Platte is currently looking to fill the following job positions:

- Assistant Concessions/Rides Manager
- Sanitation Driver-Loader
- Part-time Parks Maintenance I

Please refer to the City of North Platte's website for the job descriptions of each job position listed at: <https://www.ci.north-platte.ne.us/>. A job application is on the City of North Platte's website or you may get an application at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall. Please submit completed job applications by email to: info@ci.north-platte.ne.us. Mail to: City of North Platte, Attn: City Clerk's Office, 211 West 3rd Street, North Platte, NE 69101.

Apprentice Lineman. City of Benkelman is accepting applications for the position of Apprentice Lineman in the Electric Department. This position's responsibilities include, but aren't limited to: Construction and maintenance of overhead and underground electric distribution systems, operate a high lift bucket truck, digger derrick, and other equipment, assists other City operations, and perform other duties as required, available for 24-hour emergency calls. Requirements include high school graduation, ability to obtain a CDL license issued by the State of NE within 1 year of hire. Excellent benefits package is included. Employment is contingent upon successful completion of a post-offer physical and drug test. The

City of Benkelman is an EOE. Applications can be picked up at the City of Benkelman Office located at 126 7th Ave E, Benkelman, NE 69021 or by calling 308-423-2540. The City of Benkelman is an EOE.

For Sale. The City of Friend has over 600 radio read electric meters for sale. Senus

brand. \$10 each. Contact John R. Schwab, City Clerk/Treasurer, 235 Maple Street, Friend, NE 68359; phone: 402-947-2711.



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Register Now!

For the 2nd Nebraska Advanced Nuclear Forum May 23-24, 2023 at the Embassy Suites in Lincoln, NE. A special pre-conference reception will be held the evening of May 22 for all participants.

The Nebraska Advanced Nuclear Forum brought to you by the Advanced Nuclear Coalition will provide an opportunity for members of the public and the energy industry to learn more about the advancements in nuclear generation. Industry representatives will discuss a variety of topics including; small modular nuclear, next generation nuclear, and micro nuclear generation, fuel management, economic development, nuclear regulation, financing and community education/advocacy.

As many utilities strive to reduce or eliminate carbon emissions, nuclear energy is poised to provide the foundation for a carbon free energy future to meet the needs of a rapidly growing demand for electricity by consumers.

**Register at: <https://advancednuclearcoalition.org/forum>
Early Bird Registration before February 15th, 2023**



2023 Training calendar

Visit our website at www.lonm.org
for a complete list of workshops and conferences.

March

March 27Water Operator Training WorkshopLibrary, Blair
March 30Water Operator Training WorkshopFire Hall, Columbus

April

April 11Water Operator Training WorkshopCommunity Center, Sargent
April 13Water Operator Training WorkshopMidPlains Community College, Valentine
April 20Solid Waste Screening WorkshopHU Building, Hastings
April 27Solid Waste Screening WorkshopHU Building, Hastings

May

May 16-18.....Electric Rubber Gloving SchoolNortheast Community College, Norfolk
May 24-25.....Electric Underground School.....Northeast Community College, Norfolk

August

Aug. 15.....Backflow WorkshopThe Venue, Beatrice
Aug. 16.....Backflow WorkshopFire Hall, Wayne
Aug. 17.....Work Zone Safety Training WorkshopFire Hall, Wayne
Aug. 22.....Backflow WorkshopMidPlains Community College, Ogallala
Aug. 23.....Backflow WorkshopTBA, Grand Island
Aug. 29-31Electric Rubber Gloving SchoolWheatbelt Training Field, Sidney

September

Sept. 21Work Zone Safety Training WorkshopUtilities Services Building, Grand Island
Sept. 27-29League Annual Conference.....Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln

October

Oct. 18.....Work Zone Safety Training WorkshopFire Hall, South Sioux City

November

Nov. 7.....Work Zone Safety Training WorkshopLibrary, Blair

Utilities Section Webinars

(Credit hours for water 1-4, 6 and wastewater available where listed)

Safety Committees by speakers Rob Pierce and Lash Chaffin, LNM, topics will cover requirements, liabilities, financial benefits, unions, etc.

(Approved for 1 hour grades 1-4 and 1 hour wastewater)

Members \$0 (free), non-members \$35

Safety Session Series (If you purchase all five sessions as a bundle, the cost for members is \$140 and for non-members is \$180.)

Implementing an Effective Safety Meeting by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM, topics cover requirements, topics selection, how and when to present, safety focus along with building a safety culture.

(Approved for 1.0 hour grades 1-4 and 1.0 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Safety: Lockout/Tagout Programs (Practices and Procedures) by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM

(Approved for 1.0 hour grades 1-4 and 1.0 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Safety: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM

(Approved for 1.0 hour grades 1-4 and 1.0 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Safety: General Roundtable Discussion (safety programs, injury/near miss issues and hot topics) by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM

(Approved for 1.0 hour grades 1-4 and 1.0 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Safety: Slips, Trips & Falls by Speaker Rob Pierce, LNM

(Approved for 1.0 hour grades 1-4 and 1.0 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Water/Wastewater Sessions

Asset Management by speaker Shelly Rekte, DHHS, covers a general overview on asset management and associated record keeping options

(Approved for 1.0 hour grades 1-4 and 1.0 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Pump Application, Operations & Maintenance by speaker Brad Harris, Layne Christensen

(Approved for 1.0 hour grades 1-4 and 1.0 hour wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Well Rehabilitation and Relining by speaker Brad Harris, Layne Christensen

(Approved for 1.5 hours grades 1-4 and 1.5 hours wastewater)

Members \$35, non-members \$45

Continued on page 23

Utilities Section Webinars

Continued from page 22

Steps and Guidelines to Drilling a New Water Well by speaker Brad Harris, Layne Christensen
(Approved for 1.5 hours grades 1-4 and 1.5 hours wastewater)
Members \$35, non-members \$45

Water Storage Tank: Operation/Maintenance by speaker Jake Dugger, Maguire Iron
(Approved for 1.5 hours grades 1-4 and 1.5 hours wastewater)
Members \$35, non-members \$45

Backflow Sessions (If you purchase all four sessions as a bundle, the cost for members is \$60 and for non-members is \$100.)

Cross Connection Control Programs: Past & Present by speaker Mike Wentink, DHHS
(Approved for 1.0 hour grades 1-4, 1.0 hour grade 6 and 1.0 hour wastewater)
Members \$35, non-members \$45

Cross Connection/Backflow Safety: Confined Space by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM, topics covering a variety of confined space issues.
(Approved for 1.5 hours grades 1-4, 1.5 hours grade 6 and 1.5 hours wastewater)
Members \$35, non-members \$45

Basic Requirements of a Cross Connection Control Program by speaker Rich Koenig, DHHS. Rich covers requirements, regulations, in a summary overview.
(Approved for 1.0-hour grades 1-4, 1.0 hour grade 6, and 1.0 hour wastewater)
Members \$35, non-members \$45

Public Education concerning a Cross Connection Control Program by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM covers options for educations, communication options, monitoring, feedback etc.
(Approved for 1.5 hours grades 1-4, 1.5 hours grade 6, and 1.5 hours wastewater)
Members \$35, non-members \$45

Landfill/Transfer Station Session

Hazardous Waste Identification and Random Load Inspections by speaker Rob Pierce, LNM
Members \$35, non-members \$45