



MEMORANDUM

To: Nederland Board of Trustees
From: Jason Morrison
Date: July 9, 2014
Re: Staff Report -- Public Works

Collections, Distribution, and Water Treatment Plant

It has been a challenging few months for the utilities department. Snow storms, near flood conditions, over capacity flows at the waste water plant, and treating unusually turbid water at the water plant has kept us on our toes. Utilities staff attended a jar testing class to improve our techniques at assessing water quality and chemical dosing. Preparations for the final phase of the raw water intake have begun, and permitting for the water plant bathroom and lab remodel has been completed. These are just some of the ongoing projects that are keeping us busy.

Most importantly, Utilities coordinator Nicole Bratsos was recognized recently as Employee of the Year for her commitment to the town. Jake Simon, Utilities assistant, has moved to California, where his wife has accepted a job with CBS.

Raw Water Intake Structure

A late season snow storm and then heavy rains made work nearly impossible on the creek, nonetheless, we have made preparations for installing the final piece of the project to improve the raw water intake at Middle Boulder Creek (*right*). Once flows subside work will continue.



Distribution

This month, Utilities staff spent time repairing valve cans that were damaged or filled in by snow plowing and grading.

Water Plant

The water plant has kept us busy, with spring run-off. The composition of the water has changed, demanding more time and testing. The new skills we learned at the jar testing work shop we attended have helped tremendously with chemical dosing. The increased flows and constant changes in the creek cause staff to monitor conditions and make adjustments continually. We also received a demonstration from the proprietors of Clearlogix on the effectiveness of their product to remove impurities from the water. The permit for the bathroom and lab upgrades has been secured, and construction should start moving forward next month. Permitting for the Clearlogix treatment addition has begun, which generally takes a couple of months to secure.



Waste Water

The remaining pond is scheduled to be pumped of sludge in two weeks. This will eliminate the problems with odor we have been having. This was scheduled to be done last September but had to be postponed due to flooding. We have been pumping enzymes into the pond to control odor but, until it is finished being pumped, odor could still be an issue.

The I&I project contractor has been installing “Top Hats” in residential sewer taps in some of the areas that have recently been lined. This will help to reduce inflow and infiltration issues at sewer taps that are leaking in the problem areas. This will complete the project that was necessitated by last fall’s flooding.

Streets and Drainage

Things in this area have been rather slow. Streets crew member Rob Vigil was reassigned to parks and building maintenance. This opened up a position in streets, which has been filled with local resident Benjamin Kelley, who will start on July 14. The work on the performance space also kept everyone busy.

With this complete we will start working on all the projects planned for the summer, just a little later than planned. The performance space project is complete and proved to be a larger task than anyone could have foreseen. See *Performance Space report* from Mark Weritz.

The Visitors Center parking lot, First Street, and School Road have all been re-stripped. The VC lot had two additional ADA-compliant spaces added and the existing handicap spot has been brought to ADA compliance.

Parks

Chipeta Park has been getting a lot of use so far this year, and it looks like that will continue through the summer.

Farewell, Weritz

The end of August will see the end of special projects manager Mark Weritz's time with us. A



grant that could have funded his position for another 18 months was not awarded to us. It is my opinion that this will be a great loss for all of the Town departments. Mark is an excellent engineer who understands the difficulty of Nederland's drainage issues, something that is extremely important to everyone in Town.

With over 30 years of experience in his field, Mark has the knowledge and an eye for detail that could make a big difference in development as the Town continues to grow. Mark can be stubborn and refuses to compromise on his principals, a trait I

admire. I would like to thank Mark for all of his service to the Town of Nederland. He will be missed, and his departure will leave a void that will take a long time to be filled.