

ROCKY BOY'S / NORTH CENTRAL MONTANA REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM PROJECT NEWS

Third Quarter 2009

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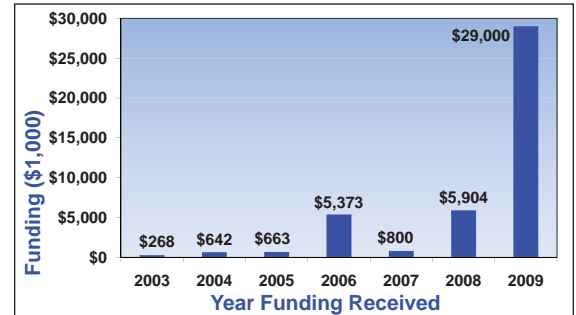
by AE2S

The Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System (NCRMWS) Project is in full swing with major progress on the project planned this summer, fall, and into 2010. Chippewa Cree Construction Corporation (CCCC) crews were right back to work as soon as the weather permitted, working diligently on several aspects of the project. Crews from Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc. (AE2S), Kadrmass, Lee, and Jackson (KL&J), and Black and Veatch Corporation (BV) were also busy with pipeline routing, surveying, and structural designs for various portions of the project.

Funding Boost

The project received a major boost in funding after President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) on February 17, 2009. The Rocky Boy's/NCRMWS Project team worked extremely hard to secure funding for the project, including a trip to Washington, D.C on March 3rd to speak with elected officials and federal agencies about the project. Tim Rosette (Public Works Director, Chippewa Cree Tribe and CCCC Board Member) reported that "the project was well received in Washington, D.C." The entire team was ecstatic upon receiving the news that the Rocky Boy's/NCRMWS project was awarded \$20 million dollars under ARRA.

In addition to the \$20 million of ARRA dollars, the project received \$2 million dollars in state funding. Another \$7 million dollars was awarded to the project from the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill. The Omnibus Appropriations bill was signed by President Obama on March 11th of this year.



Excitement over such an increase in funding was soon met with the stress of spending ARRA funding within the time constraints required by the Bureau of Reclamation. A restriction placed on the funding stated that the money must be spent by September of 2011 to aid the suffering national economy. If the funding dollars are not spent by the deadline, the funds will be turned over for redistribution. The project team is working energetically to complete as much of the project as possible with the allocated funding dollars.

The entire project team would like to extend a special thanks to the Montana Delegation (Senator Max Baucus, Senator Jon Tester, and Representative Denny Rehberg), Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer, Senator Byron Dorgan (Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee for Energy and Water), and Senator Kent Conrad (Chair, Budget Committee). North Central Montana Regional Water Authority Chair, Dan Keil, recognized, "because of all of their continued hard work, the Rocky Boy's/NCRMWS Project received more funding this year than any previous year--nearly 5 times as much funding as 2008!"

Looking Ahead

The project team is dedicated to keeping the "funding ball rolling" and will continue to work for the Rocky Boy's/NCRMWS Project.

The future looks bright! With continued funding at both the federal and state levels, the Rocky Boy's/NCRMWS Project will soon be bringing a clean, reliable water supply to the residents of north central Montana.



Senator Max Baucus, Pat Harmon (South Chester CWD), Annmarie Robinson (NCRMWA), Steve Burian (AE2S), Tony Belcourt (CCCC), Dan Keil (NCRMWA), Senator Jon Tester

Spotlight on Councilman Bruce Sunchild



On February 24, 2009, Bruce Sunchild, lifelong resident of the Rocky Boy's Reservation,

was elected to serve his fourth term on the Chippewa Cree Tribal Council. During an interview on June 29, 2009, Councilman Sunchild discussed the Rocky Boy's/NCMRWS Project with AE2S' Project Manager.

Councilman Sunchild is helping lead the Chippewa Cree Tribe (along with the other councilmen) into a future with adequate water for the Rocky Boy's Reservation and north central Montana. He realizes the importance of the Rocky Boy's/NCMRWS Project to the Chippewa Cree Tribe.

When asked about the impact the project would have on future generations, Councilman Sunchild said, "This water will expand businesses and create

jobs. This water will also help fix social problems that developed from group housing and allow us to expand housing on the reservation." He also stated that the additional water infrastructure would help "beautify our housing areas" and "allow us to remove our current water restrictions."

No stranger to the project, Councilman Sunchild knows of the past and future obstacles that the project has and must overcome and Bruce is working

for progress. "The challenge has been to obtain the 10,000 acre-feet of water rights and get the core project components constructed," Sunchild said.

As the project moves forward, Councilman Sunchild stressed the importance of funding and keeping the Montana Delegation informed about the progress of the project. "They need to know where we are at so they can continue to assist with funding and identifying future funds."

Chippewa Cree Construction Corporation/ Core System Update

With the award of \$20 million dollars in funding from the ARRA, the project team has been busily working to spend the allocated funds by the September 2011 deadline. The project engineering team is working on the Box Elder Pipeline, Intake Superstructure, and Core Pipeline plans. Construction of some of these projects is already underway.

The Rocky Boy's Box Elder Pipeline is a fast track project. Pipe and materials arrived in June 2009. The project consists of approximately 12 miles of 12-inch diameter PVC piping on the Rocky Boy's Reservation. This pipeline represents the first official on-reservation portion of the project. Arrow Construction, Weasel Boy Construction, and Burns Construction are assisting Chippewa Cree Construction Corporation (CCCC) with pipe installation.

A total of \$13 million of ARRA funds have been allocated for the Core System Pipeline. Kadrmas, Lee, and Jackson surveyors collected topographic information for the final design. AE2S design engineers have been meeting with Bureau of Reclamation engineers and

were 60 percent complete with the design in August 2009. Surveying, boundary maps, site/civil design, and final plans/specifications will soon be completed. Core System Pipeline transient analyses and cathodic protection design (for the steel pipe) are occurring as well.

A total of \$7 million dollars has been allocated for the Core System Intake at Tiber Dam. Design work is underway, and CCCC began construction on Phase 1A in July 2009. Engineers are working on the architectural, structural, mechanical, and electrical aspects of the Intake Superstructure and wrapped up Phase 2 plans in August.

More and more progress is being made daily on the Core System portion of the Rocky Boy's/NCMRWS Project, and all parties involved in the projects are working hard to bring key aspects of the project into the construction phase.



AE2S Hires Engineering Intern



AE2S hired Tim Rosette, Jr. as an Engineering Intern in its Great Falls, MT office.

Tim earned his Pre-Engineering Certificate from Stone Child College. Over the past four years, Tim has worked as an equipment operator and surveyor on various infrastructure projects on the Rocky Boy's Reservation. As an Engineering Intern, Tim is providing

survey services for the Core System Transmission Pipeline of the Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System Project and assistance with resident project representative (RPR) services for the Box Elder Pipeline Project. These projects are key components of the \$350 million dollar regional water system that will serve the Rocky Boy's Reservation.

Tim plans to continue his work toward an engineering degree at Montana State University – Northern in Havre, MT.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System Coordinating Committee Meeting
9:30 am
September 15
October 20
November 17

North Central Montana Regional Water Authority Executive Committee Meeting
1:30 pm
September 15
October 20
November 17

Featured User: Riverview Colony

Riverview Colony serves a population of approximately 119 people with a groundwater supply under the direct influence of surface water. A single well, which lacks sufficient capacity and redundancy, is used to serve Riverview Colony. Until recently, the capacity of the well was augmented by water collected in a collector well fed by the Marias

River and treated using river-bank filtration. This process was considered inadequate for both treatment and disinfection from a regulatory perspective, and there is concern that the well may need to be classified as surface water due to contamination.

To rectify its water quality and quantity challenges, Riverview

Colony has elected to participate in the Rocky Boy's/NCMRWS project. It is currently anticipated that the Riverview Colony will be served by the North Central Montana Regional Water Authority (NCMRWA) in the near future as part of the Tiber Service Area segment of the Non-Core System.

North Central Montana Regional Water Authority / Non-Core System Update

The project team has been hard at work over the past few months. With increased funding dollars, the team has been able to proceed with several aspects of the project. At the end of May, the team received approval to proceed with bidding the North Havre Segment of the project. Approval was also received to proceed with the design of the Tiber Service Area, which is planned for construction in 2010.

The bid opening for the North Havre Segment, which is the first phase of construction for the Non-Core System, was conducted on Tuesday, June 23rd. The construction activity consists of the installation of approximately 24 miles of pipeline ranging in size from 8 inches to 4 inches in diameter, a pumping facility with a 70 gallon per minute capacity capable of boosting the pressure from 20 pounds per square inch

(psi) to 200 psi, and connections to the Havre and North Havre County Water District (CWD) water treatment facilities. A total of eight bids were received for the project. Overall, representatives of NCMRWA were very pleased with the results of the bid opening.



Spotlight on Dan Keil



Dan Keil has been actively involved in rural water since 1972. He is the Chairman of the

NCMRWA and has been since its inception in 2001. Mr. Keil has spent years working diligently on the Rocky Boy's/NCMRWS Project to improve the lives of the residents of north central Montana.

Such a large scale project is bound to have its obstacles, and during a recent interview, Mr. Keil identified working on the Tri-Partite Cooperative Agreement as one of the significant challenges the project has faced to date. The Tri-Partite Cooperative Agreement is an agreement between the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and

the NCMRWA that addresses the operation, maintenance, and replacement of the Core System components of the Rocky Boy's Project. All three entities had to work together to craft an agreement that benefited all parties and the residents of north central Montana. Thankfully, an agreement was reached and the Tri-Partite Cooperative Agreement was signed in December of 2005.

When asked about the biggest accomplishment made by NCMRWA during the past year, Mr. Keil responded "starting service to North Havre CWD and getting the construction going to solve the community's compliance issues." The compliance issues are so severe within the North Havre CWD that an interim water service solution had to be implemented. Construction of the interim water service to North Havre CWD from the City of

Havre is planned to commence in August 2009 and should wrap up by January 2010. Eventually, a final solution to North Havre CWD's water problems will be attained through the Rocky Boy's/NCMRWS Project.

Mr. Keil was a member of the team that traveled to Washington, D.C. on March 3, 2009, to speak with the Congressional Delegation regarding funding for the project. Mr. Keil is hopeful that the trip to Washington D.C. and on-going communications will lead to another year of solid funding in 2010. He stressed, "the water supply challenges of north central Montana are very significant and continued project progress is necessary to meet the challenges while avoiding undesirable interim expenditures on water system infrastructure by individual systems."

Individual Service Connections



All construction projects face difficult dilemmas, and the Rocky Boy's/NCMRWS Project is no exception. The goal of the project is to bring clean, reliable

water to as many residents in north central Montana as possible. Realistically, the project cannot directly serve all the residents with water needs, but

deciding where the water can be piped and distributed.

The Executive Committee used its best judgment when deter-

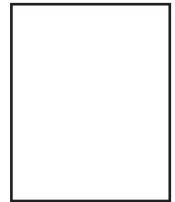
mining the preliminary route of the Non-Core System pipeline. Many tough issues have to be faced before final connections can be determined. Member entities have the first rights to the water and have secured their water allocation.

The Core System portion of the project has been able to make definitive decisions regarding connection policies. The NCMRA intends to finalize its connection policy as soon as possible for the Non-Core portion of the project.

Until then, the Executive Committee is working towards interim solutions to bring water to those member entities who are in desperate need of an immediate solution to water quality and quantity needs and is striving to develop a long-term solution to address individual residents' water needs.

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