

## Rural water praised for resolving issues

*By LeAnn Eckroth, Senior Staff Writer*

Advanced Engineering of Bismarck and Williams Rural Water recently received a special water award for resolving its water loss problems

Both were presented with a plaque from American Council of Engineering Companies in recognition of the Excellence in Williams Rural Water Pump House Redesign

"The pump houses were having some pipe problems and pipes were leaking. There was some water loss" said Deon Stockert of Advanced Engineering. So we went in and rehabilitated all the pump houses."

"The electric equipment was getting sprayed with water. They were losing a lot of water," he said. "We rehabilitated everything."

Remedying the problem involved modifications on eight pump houses throughout Williams County. "The benefit of this was that Williams was obviously losing water.

By fixing all these problems and making these improvements, water loss dropped dramatically.

"The staff of Williams Rural Water did a great job of finding the water loss," Stockert said. "Now, their water loss is in check with everyone across the United States.

Williams Rural Water services 1,060 customers around the county. It is one of the oldest rural water systems in the state. Its original pump houses date back to the 1970s and 1980s.

"The pump houses were completed about a year ago. They were getting quite old and needed to be rehabilitated," Stockert said.

Through new design features such as replacing PVC piping with steel piping, thrust restraint systems and a new coating system, Advanced Engineering was able to solve the problem in a timely and economical manner before additional breaks occurred, according to a report. Through the efforts of the organization and Advanced Engineering, water loss was reduced by 41 percent.