

## Annual Meeting Letter (by the President)

Good evening and welcome to the annual meeting of Roosevelt Water Association. My name is John Olsen and I am the President of our water association.

First of all, I hope everyone received the notice for our annual meeting and was able to take a look at the included pamphlet on cross-connection. A cross connection is generally anytime our water system is connected to non-potable storage or used where contamination may exist. These could be hot tubs, sprinkler systems, swimming pools, drip irrigation systems etc. It is important to be able to identify and prevent cross connections as it is a requirement of the State Dept. of Health that we, the Association, have a record of all the potential cross-connections to our water system. Please make sure that you take the survey at the association's website ([www.Rooseveltwater.com](http://www.Rooseveltwater.com)) or contact our water manager, Janelle for a copy. Janelle also recently passed the state exam for cross-connection certification and can certainly answer any questions that you may have about this. Her certification also helps to save us money in that we do not have to pay an outside source for any cross-connection consultation or review.

There have been a few personnel changes in the management of our association that I want to briefly touch on. First, I wish to thank John Claybrook for his 20 years as a trustee starting in 1995. In keeping with John's overall life plans, John resigned as a trustee this past year and Marilyn Gauthier has volunteered to fill in for him until that trustee position comes up for election in 2017.

We have also continued to involve Sam Nichols more in the management of our water association. Sam has been doing a great job and we are now employing him full time and glad to have him fully on board.

We have also been busy working with our new engineering firm RH2 this past year, and have developed some better, more prudent plans for our new water storage tank which Janelle will discuss in more detail during her yearly report.

Regarding finances, the checks, balances and oversight protocols that we put into place several years ago have been working well and we are in a good financial position which Mike Carlson will discuss during his annual Treasurers' report. I can tell you though; we have secured a loan with the Department of Health through the "Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program" which is administered through the Department of Commerce. Our loan is in the amount of 3.5 million dollars at a nice favorable interest rate of 1.5%. This loan will pay for our new booster pump station, an approximate 1 million gallon water storage tank, some new and upgraded piping and also the updating of many of our pressure reducing valves. These improvements will put us in compliance with the needed water system regulations and position us for the additional service connections we expect within the next 10 years or more. We hope to have all of this completed by 2018 or sooner. Overall in 2015, we came in under our budget.

While our water system started in 1965 and certainly needs upgrading in a few areas, the system is quite sound and our water loss is still well below the state accepted levels of 15%. For 2015, our loss rate was at 8.3%. We get water loss from line breaks, fire department use and flushing hydrants and lines. Janelle and Sam work hard to stay on top of any leaks no matter how small they are. Any time you see water bubbling up from the ground or notice your water pressure suddenly seems low, please call. Also, if you see anyone taking water from one of our hydrants, please call. Often, they have permission, but many times they don't. Firms such as hydro seeding companies are required to pay for the water they use. Better to call than to assume that they have permission.

**Closing:**

In closing, I would like to personally thank all the Trustees for their efforts this past year. Even though this year was relatively quiet when compared to those several years ago, it is still a commitment to the community that we all make. Further, I would like to thank Janelle and Sam for really helping to improve our association over the past several years. We are now operating in a best of class manner with transparency, fiduciary responsibility and are well postured for the future with some of the lowest water rates in the area.

Certainly, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact myself, the manager or any board member.

Thank you. John Olsen