

New hires

Utility hits
record Gopher
State locates

Twin Cities
InfoWater Users
meet at SPRWS

*Our mission is to provide reliable,
quality water and services
at a reasonable cost.*

Page 2

The Pipeline Express

Vol. 19, No. 13

June 22, 2018

Managers' Corner

By Dave Wagner

Design - build process to be used for first time at plant

Saint Paul Regional Water is in the midst of one of its largest projects in decades: an upgrade for the McCarrons plant with design work starting in 2018 and completion anticipated for 2022.

The proposed project will result in significant improvements to the plant with replacement of the existing clarifiers and the addition of new solids contact clarifiers (the plant process basins that treat water ahead of the filters). It also involves the addition of ozone in the treatment process, which will improve water quality, provide stronger disinfection capability and improve the aesthetic properties of the water.

This large project will involve a design and procurement method not used previously by SPRWS: design-build. Design-build involves the use of a single entity to design and construct a project and follows a more collaborative approach than standard methods of construction. By having a contractor involved early in the process, we would expect to see improved constructability with a reduction of change orders and improved project management with having a single contracted entity rather than dealing with discrepancies between the designer and contractor.

As mentioned, this method of procurement has not been used by the utility previously. In fact, SPRWS needed to get special legislative approval to use design-build for our project.

Currently, design-build is only allowed by MN/DOT on large transportation projects, the

Build continued on page 2

SPRWS at Water Fest June 2



Jeremy Erickson, water quality specialist, talks to a visitor to the SPRWS display at Water Fest on June 2 at Phalen Park pavilion. The display was on lead in drinking water, and Adam Worm, water utility tech., was on hand to look up service line materials.

SPRWS Habitat home build day set for July 9

A message from Steve Schneider, SPRWS Habitat coordinator

This is the time each year that the city of Saint Paul works with our friends at Travelers and Securian to build a house for a family in Saint Paul. I have been the SPRWS coordinator for Habitat for quite a few years and have worked with many of you and other Saint Paul employees for this worthwhile event. Thanks to all of you that have volunteered in the past.

I like to think of Habitat for Humanity as a hand up to people and not a hand out. Each family needs to put hundreds of hours of sweat equity into their new homes and are required to take classes on basic home maintenance. In addition, the homes are not given to the families but rather are purchased with a low interest rate. This is a great way to give back to Saint Paul. This year, the work site is at 806 Thomas Avenue. This will be a newly constructed home.

Home continued on page 2

Design-build process to be used at plant

[Build continued from page 1](#)

Metropolitan Council or on a case-by-case basis with special legislative approval.

Where do we go from here? Over the next year we will be

New electricians began work June 9



Jon Falardeaux



Richard Keeney

Two new electricians transferred to the utility from other city departments as of June 9.

Jon Falardeaux came to water from parks and recreation. Richard Keeney came from public works.

They replace Steve Brown and Ben Lee, who both took other city positions as of June 8.

Please welcome our new electricians.

Gopher State locate requests hit record number

Last month, the utility had a record number of Gopher State One Call locate requests.

There were 6,812 locate requests for the month of May alone.

This surpassed the previous record month by nearly 1,000 locates. We can expect a busy summer construction season!

Thanks to Dave Strobel, Bill McAllister and Seneca Kruse, water utility techs., for their diligent work in fulfilling these requests.

hiring a consultant to perform preliminary design work on the project. We will be also be performing a study on the use of ozone and begin drafting a request for proposal to hire a design-build firm.

SPRWS Habitat home build day set

[Home continued from page 1](#)

This year we're again partnering with the Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) and Human Resources. It's an all-day commitment and, as in the past, it's a vacation or comp time day.

If you'd like to volunteer please follow the registration directions at the end of this article and also let me know so I have an idea of who I will be working with at the event this year. I look forward to working with some of you on this worthwhile venture on July 9!

The day begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m.

Clarification

Kevin Romero was noted in the last issue of the Pipeline as being promoted to a new position.

Kevin has been working out of title as a supply system supervisor I since May 29.

Breakfast, drinks and lunch will be provided for all volunteers!

Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes and weather appropriate, comfortable clothes that can get dirty. Bring a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, work gloves and any snacks, etc. you might want.

To register with Habitat, go to <https://tinyurl.com/habitatSPRWS>

Follow the online instructions to either sign up for a new account or sign into your existing account.

Then find the date for water resources. Follow the additional instructions.

First InfoWater Users Group at utility



The Twin Cities InfoWater Users Group held their inaugural meeting at SPRWS on June 12. Guest speakers and staff from other utilities joined together to learn more about the InfoWater modeling software in the Jim Haugen room.

