

## **East Central Regional Water District**

# 2022 Annual Report



The Annual Meeting of the Membership will be held on March 28, 2023 at 7:30 PM at the Thompson Community Center.

## President's Message



2022 saw the continuation of several expansion/improvement projects for the East Central Regional Water District. As the year was drawing to a close, we were putting the finishing touches on a new line to the City of Hatton, getting the last items together for the City of Grandin project which we hope to connect in early summer 2023, continued to oversee the Water Treatment Plant expansion and finished

the hookup to the City of Climax (our first MN member). The connection to Climax has drawn interest from other Minnesota cities to their south. We have also been working with the City of Galesburg to help them with a new water infrastructure project. As you can see from these projects, the theme is "more water" and regionalization. Our members continue to demand more water & our system is being built up to support these demands. In April, the ND Rural Water Association asked all state rural water systems to provide an estimate of what it would cost to replace their infrastructure. With the help from AE2S, it was estimated it would cost over \$160 Million to replace the infrastructure at East Central today!

With the increase in interest rates, we have been taking advantage of the higher interest rate environment to re-invest some of our reserves in higher-yielding FDIC insured CD's that will provide more future income to the district.

We met again in 2022 with the cities of Hillsboro & Mayville to work on the termination of the Joint Powers Agreement that was created in 2011. This has not been easy to solve however as all parties want to maintain some form of control & ensure they do not go backwards. We will continue working on a format that all parties can agree to.

Our lawsuit against the City of Grand Forks has been a significant part of our focus this past year. It was an Agenda item for 10 of the 12 East Central monthly board meetings in 2022. A mediation meeting was held in March of 2022 between East Central & the City of Grand Forks. Both sides presented their positions to see if we could arrive at a resolution but the mediation ended without an agreement. Depositions have now started on both sides & we are moving toward an anticipated court date in 2024. As we have stated previously, the City of Grand Forks continues to expand

southward into our service territory. This is the fastest growing residential segment in our district & serves as a significant growth opportunity for East Central. We must not only look out for our system's current customers but also protect our right to serve the potential new customers who move into our territory. This lawsuit will continue to demand a great deal of our time & focus in 2023.

Other important things of note for the year 2022:

- The water treatment plant expansion is progressing nicely. This project originally started with a price tag of over \$9 Million but we have added onto the project & there have been price increases & supply delays that have now pushed the total cost of the project over \$13 Million. The State Water Commission has agreed to supply a grant covering at least 75% of the project.
- Our financials for the year show that we had over \$4.6 Million in metered water sales. Our net income for 2022 finished at a negative \$1,336,880. It was difficult to stay on budget last year with inflation running at over 7% & many of our input costs seeing significant increases. Due to the timing of some budgeted reimbursement from the City of Climax project, our net income would have looked much better at year-end.
- The Spring of 2022 was especially challenging for our employees as the weather was very uncooperative. We had some very difficult reconnects for customers in several different areas of the system. I would like to commend our staff for the persistence & effort that was demonstrated during that difficult time.

Our water district employs eight very experienced, dedicated employees. Their years of service are as follows: Neil (51), Mike (35), Shari (26), Chad (7), Justin (4), Dustin (4), Shane (1), Tressa (0.3). Thank you for all you do!

The quality of our water system is a direct reflection of all your efforts.

Lastly, I would like to recognize our board of directors (Jason, Jeremy, Jim, Michael, Mike, Travis). The commitment to our district is very much on display throughout the year and you continue to look for constant improvement. It is a pleasure serving with you.

Thank you. Kory Sondreal

#### **Agenda for the Annual Meeting**

- 1. Call the Meeting to Order
- 2. Notice of Annual Meeting & Proof of Quorum
- 3. Introduction of Board Members
- 4. Introduction of Election Committee
- 5. Election of Directors
- 6. Reading of the Minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting

- 7. Secretary / Treasurer's Report
- 8. President's Report
- 9. System Manager's Report
- 10. Results of Election
- 11. Motion to destroy ballots
- 12. Old Business
- 13. New Business
- 14. Adjournment

## **East Central Water District Board Annual Meeting**

#### March 22, 2022 in Thompson

Attendance:

Kory Sondreal - President Present
Michael Anderson - Vice President Present
Jason Lovas - Secretary/Treasurer Present
Mike Elliott Present
Jim Schmaltz Present
Travis Hegg Present
Jeremy Cunningham Present

Also present were Geoff Slick with AE2S Engineering, Manager Neil Breidenbach. Shelly Anderson, Justin Breidenbach, Chad Gratton, Shane Mooney, Mike Thompson, Dustin Lindahl, and approximately 48 voting members.

Noting a quorum, President Kory called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M.

Pledge of allegiance

Notice of Annual meeting-Jason read notice of Annual meeting and proof of quorum.

Special guests- Kory recognized the following special guests that were present; Tammy Norgard, attorney for the district; Jon Eaton, manager of Agassiz rural water district; and Geoff Slick of AE2S, engineer for the district. Kory also gave introductions of all the current board members.

Election Committee- Kory thanked the Election Committee and read the names of those who were on the ballot for board member positions.

Annual meeting minutes from Apr 27, 2021- Jason read the minutes from the previous annual meeting. Eric Strand moved to accept the minutes as presented, seconded, discussion, motion passed.

Financial/Treasurer's report- Jason read over the financial/treasurer's report. Motion to approve financial report as presented made by Donny, seconded, discussion, motion passed.

President's report- Kory complimented our proactive staff regarding their aggressive stance on repairing leaking water lines, thus water loss continues to decrease. Kory also noted our work in hooking up and supplying water to smaller permitter cities whom have financial difficulties in supplying their own water supply. Kory touched on our working relationship with the State Water Commission (SWC) and that our district spearheading the hookups to smaller communities. Kory also motioned the district plans to extend service into Minnesota, regionalizing water distribution as much as possible. The plans of an expansion project of the district's water treatment plant, necessary to supply adequate pressure to our growing system. Most of these projects are expensive and are heavily dependent on SWC grants to help fund expansions, and further upgrades. Kory discussed Neil's proactive work with the state to keep grants coming to our district. Kory thanked the staff and how hard they continue to work, noting 130 years of combined employee experience.

Manager's report- Neil thanked the staff for the good work that they have put in for the past year. Neil showed a map showing our district boundaries and Agassiz's. Neil reported how well it has worked to regionalize with smaller towns and the Agassiz district. Neil reported the line upsizing to Hatton to help them secure their water needs. Neil reported that the State has numerously contacted our district to help these smaller communities with their water needs, it's becoming

apparent that it's the cheapest alternative. Neil reported the switch of going from PVC to Poly water lines, mainly because of the resin shortage and how expensive and virtually unavailable PVC pipe has become. Neil reported that WTP expansion will add 800 gpm capacity to the plant. Grand Forks-Traill was the first rural water system in the state, now there are 29 rural districts, with nearly 300,000 residents served throughout the state. Neil discussed the water/minimum water rate increase, and showed graphs on what the district costs would be if we didn't raise rates, and what it "costs" the system if we don't keep increasing water sales and members served. If we don't continue to grow, water rates will drastically increase for our customers in the future. Neil showed a water loss chart, showing water loss continues to decrease, currently down to 11%. Neil highlighted a spreadsheet showing the rates of the districts throughout the state. Neil again reminded customers that RO water is the most expensive water to provide, but is also the best quality. Neil highlighted the graphs printed in the booklet. Neil stressed how difficult and inefficient it is for small communities to serve their citizens for water service, and the state is proactive in allowing our district to regionalization. Jon Eaton stood up and discussed benefits regarding buying water from ECRWD. Agassiz is so far happy with the arrangements and feels it is more efficient than upgrading smaller plants. Jon stressed how important it is to maintain slow steady increases in water rates. Discussed how Agassiz rates went up 45% to try and catch up with their aged infrastructure system.

Door prizes.

Kory went back and discussed out current lawsuit with the city of Grand Forks. Kory reviewed our discussions with the city and how to solve our territory conflict. Kory, with the support of the board, feels that its worth fighting for our district, and discussed 1926B law. Kory explained that we brought the lawsuit forward to protect our district's territory, noting that it's a step necessary to protect the district for the future. We feel that we have lost \$9M of revenue due to GF's expansion. The board doesn't like to go through it, but feel's its necessary to protect our district's future. Justin showed some maps to the public that displays our lost territory.

Results of election. Kory read the results of the election. Jim=368; Bobby John=104; Jason=440; Jon Gregoire=2; Mike Elliot=3; Ben Basol=2; Jeremy Aasen=1; Dean Gadbarry=1; Dee Decimus=1: Results of election; Jason and Jim are reelected to the board.

Motion to destroy ballots made by Kyle, seconded, discussion, motion passed.

Old business- None

New business- None

Questions from the public.

New smart meter hookups remaining.

Water supply questions. Neil reported our reservoirs dropped about 7 feet last year due to increased demand and drought conditions, but have since recovered some due to last falls rainfall. Neil also explained how we assume water rights from the smaller towns as we regionalize with them.

Lawyer fees were questioned and explained.

Door prizes.

Motion to adjourn, made by Mike Elliot, meeting adjourned at 8:43 P.M.

## East Central Regional Water District Budget for 2022

OPERATING EXPENSES:	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
Employee Wages	\$ 763,455.00	\$ 796,726.18
Directors Salaries	14,200.00	19,750.00
Assoc. & Employee W/H & FICA		
	210,285.00	237,013.20
Retirement Fund (Profit Sharing)	50,615.00	52,169.33
Medical, Dental, Vision, & Life Insurance	147,135.00	161,999.62
Transportation Expense - Pickup Gas & Mileage	49,980.00	63,845.70
Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	41,005.00	27,276.45
Power Purchaes for Pumping - Electricity & Propane	286,705.00	283,392.12
Electricity - TRW Branch	15,915.00	8,603.40
Supplies Expense - WTP	75,050.00	58,520.95
Shop Supplies	23,515.00	13,701.41
Chemicals	175,280.00	133,874.56
Water Testing NDSHD (Lab Expense)	8,840.00	8,016.60
Telephone & Internet	28,355.00	18,763.80
Computer & Technology (Office)	15,205.00	19,449.05
Computer & Technology (WTP)	10,200.00	
Advertising & Public Relations	3,635.00	7,419.58
Mode & Entertainment		10,643.39
Meals & Entertainment	1,530.00	2,240.20
Postage	19,500.00	18,197.53
Lease Expense (Office Equipment)	2,315.00	2,142.41
Bank Service Charges & Credit Card Fees	1,945.00	1,869.62
Office Supplies	3,710.00	4,187.52
Office Propane & Misc. Expense	10,100.00	15,370.52
ND Employ., Workforce Safety & Insurance	10,825.00	4,013.23
State Sales Tax	1,705.00	1,687.55
General Liab.,Auto, Fire, D&O Bonding	1,700.00	
Director's Face & Macting Funders	37,800.00	44,251.00
Director's Fees & Meeting Expense	14,115.00	21,485.96
Newsletters, CCR, & Annual Meeting Reports	9,820.00	12,954.62
Printing & Publications	6,865.00	5,497.71
Operator's Expense	12,180.00	10,929.69
Property Taxes	3,815.00	3,998.13
Due's Subscriptions, Permits	15,800.00	23,733.21
Attorney Fees	192,000.00	239,150.49
Engineering Fees	100,140.00	155,782.59
Auditing Fees	19,080.00	22,000.00
Meters & PRVs, Valves	85,160.00	
Dissal Casalina & Equipment DAM		44,098.30
Diesel, Gasoline & Equipment R&M	41,340.00	87,055.25
Yearly Debt Service Payments (GFTW)	782,735.00	395,621.33
Yearly Debt Service Payments (TRW)	125,000.00	125,000.00
Mayville Debt Service - Loan #2	10,500.00	10,500.00
Loan Interest Expense	165,236.00	133,113.60
Loan Admin Fees	79,720.00	27,513.67
SCADA System	-	-
Reservoir R & M	60,335.00	150,647.33
Water System Maintenance	12,265.00	11,672.92
Water Line Repair & Maintenance	635,600.00	240,766.60
Well Site Maintenance	133,815.00	69,017.10
Construction Cost - Climax Project	100,010.00	1,711,376.07
Office Drainage Project & Concrete	3,775.00	1,711,370.07
New Pickups		40.704.00
New Equipment	111,500.00	42,794.00
	102,875.00	309,740.00
Land Purchase		-
Membrane R & M	115,780.00	-
Rural Sewer System	-	-
Office Addition / Remodel	35,285.00	7,154.70
Water Purchase (treated) Mayville	96,180.00	91,392.00
Water Purchase (treated) Hillsboro	151,415.00	179,607.86
Joint Powers - Electricity	71,325.00	75,825.75
Joint Powers - Engineering Fees	1,750.00	70,020.70
Joint Powes - Engineering Fees Joint Powes - Well Site / Reservoir Maintenance		0 404 40
	22,204.00	3,131.19
Joint Powers - Well Site Lease	10,300.00	10,300.00
Joint Powers - Construction	-	-
Joint Powers - Misc. Expense	-	-
Joint Powers - Professional Services	-	-
Total Expenses:	\$ 5,226,515.00	\$ 6,236,984.99
OPERATING INCOME:		,,
nterest & Dividends	\$ 20,500.00	\$ 15,861.84
Miscellaneous	4,100.00	
illstands		6,527.10
	21,500.00	18,907.18
Parts & Labor	3,200.00	28,805.03
Metered Water	4,900,000.00	4,609,870.85
Bulk Raw Water - Hillsboro	98,000.00	107,493.87
Bulk Raw Water - Mayville	50,415.00	59,378.45
Memberships	40,000.00	22,500.00
Construction Cost	88,800.00	30,760.00
Bureau of Reclamation Grant - Meters	33,300.00	33,700.00
	A F 000 F4F 00	\$ 4,900,104.32
Total Operating Income:		
Total Operating Income:  Net Income /(Loss)	\$ 5,226,515.00	\$ (1,336,880.67)

### **Letter from Dean Elfman**

Mayor Dean Elfman Larimore City Hall 119 Booth Ave P.O. Box 766 Larimore, ND 58251 701-343-2181 (TDD 1-800-366-6888)

#### To whom it may concern:

A high-quality, abundant water supply is important to the residents of Larimore, North Dakota, where I am the Mayor. That is why the Larimore City Council decided to connect to the East Central Regional Water District in September 2019.

Previously, our water supply was treated at Larimore's municipal water treatment plant that was built in the 1990s. Although the plant was relatively new by infrastructure standards, the price of treatment chemicals, as well as the operations and maintenance costs, were greater than the revenue the City brought in from distributing the water. Thanks to the decision to hook up to East Central Regional Water District, the City of Larimore has eliminated those costs from our bottom line. We're now bringing in revenue based on the cost of manufacturing water instead of losing money.

In addition, our connection to East Central Regional Water has allowed the City of Larimore to avoid the ongoing workforce shortage of licensed water treatment plant operators. When our plant was still in operation, we had four to six operators turnover in a short period. In a town of 1,200 people, it is difficult to find qualified operators to manage such a critically important community resource.

Our residents now have a dependable supply of soft water that is easier on their appliances and plumbing fixtures. Larimore has nothing but good things to say about our experience hooking up to a regional water supplier. East Central Regional Water District has taken a burden off the City of Larimore. It has truly been a great deal for our town, from the cost savings to the high-quality water.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about Larimore's experience with East Central Regional Water District.

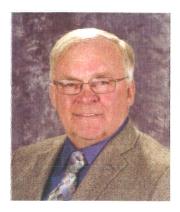
Sincerely, Dean Elfman, Mayor of Larimore 701-343-2181 dean.elfman.lars@gmail.com





City of Larimore is an equal opportunity provider

## **Update from the Manager**



Greetings, All:

We had a good, but busy 2022! ECRWD strives to provide a dependable product of high quality water, and this year I couldn't be prouder of the effort put forth by our staff to continue doing so without disruption. As our service area and population continue to grow so does our

need to improve and upsize our infrastructure.

ECRWD is continuing to seek funding to replace and renew existing pipelines, many of which are 54 years old. Replacement of these pipelines will increase efficiency and reliability of services and has to be completed as the pipelines have met and exceeded their useful life. While no one wants to pay for more water rates, ECRWD has to continue to renew our system so we always ensure when you turn on the faucet water will be available.

With our service area ever expanding and increased usage from cattle and agricultural industries the need to expand our water treatment capabilities is more important now than ever. In 2022, we secured a whopping 90% grant from ND State Water Commission and ND State Revolving Fund to complete a 800 gpm expansion at our water treatment plant (wtp) near Larimore. This is a huge step forward for ECRWD and expansions like this would be nearly impossible without help from the state and federal government. If you get the opportunity thank a legislator or state water commission member for the continued support of rural water.

As ECRWD continues to be a regional leader across ND, we continued to step up in 2022 to help the communities in our district that receive water service from us. Communities such as Hatton and Grandin understand to continue to be viable, communities need to have affordable and stable water rates. We are currently wrapping up a project with Hatton and Grandin, which installed large diameter pipelines from our pump stations to the communities that would provide them with large volumes of flow during peak times, which would allow them to decommission there water towers, reducing Constance costly maintenance and repair.

While the Community of Galesburg does not have a water tower, they do however have pipelines within the city limits that are starting to fail and deteriorate. Galesburg approached ECRWD to figure out if there was a way to work together to help the community of Galesburg. ECRWD with their can do attitude stepped in to help. The solution, change Galesburg

from a bulk community (ECRWD would sell the community water and they would in turn pump into the residents in town through their distribution system), into an individual member (every member in town would become a water member of ECRWD), ECRWD would secure grant dollars to replace their infrastructure which would all be turned over to ECRWD and ECRWD would continue to own and operate the infrastructure. A win-win for all.

Since we are on the topic of helping communities, another exciting addition to ECRWD was the addition of the City of Climax to the ECRWD system. Our neighbors to the east, in Minnesota, were struggling with arsenic and other contaminants in their drinking water. In similar fashion, Climax asked for help and ECRWD delivered. We worked with USDA-RD and Polk County to find a creative solution to providing not only Climax water, but also the potential to have adequate water to service additional rural farmsteads and communities in MN, all while being able to decommission some old ECRWD owned pipelines. To make this work, ECRWD had to find a way to cut costs, so instead of hiring contractors to do all the work, ECRWD took on the digging, over the summer, our staff was busy digging a pipeline from Reservoir 1 to the City of Climax. In early December the pipeline reached Climax and the new water source allowed Climax to officially shut their arsenic contaminated water source off.

ECRWD understands the importance of keeping rates stable, the continued expansion will help diversify our service area allowing more rate stabilization for all our existing and future customers. Often times the diversity also allows us to decommission old pipelines and hook-up to new pipelines along the way.

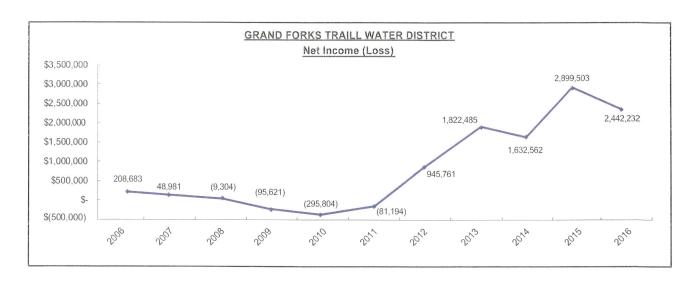
While there does not seem to be an end in sight, the summer of 2023 is already stacking up to be a busy time for ECRWD. As always, I would like to thank Mike, Shari, Tressa, Chad, Justin, Dustin, and Shane for the great work they do every day. We wouldn't be able to function without such an excellent staff.

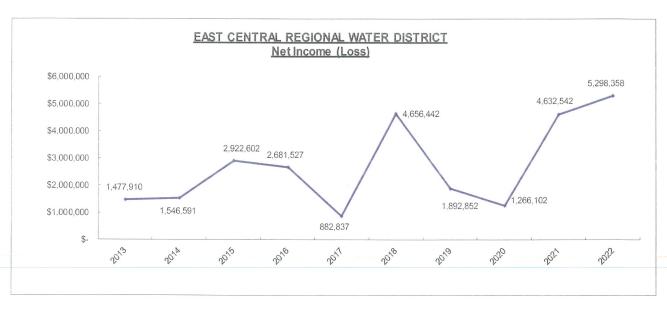
As we draw to a close, I would also like to thank ECRWD's board of directors for continuing to help provide us with all the tools we need to get the job done! I would also like to thank all the landowners, farmers, renters, and customers for all the support you provide as a community to help your fellow neighbors. I hope everyone has a successful and prosperous 2023.

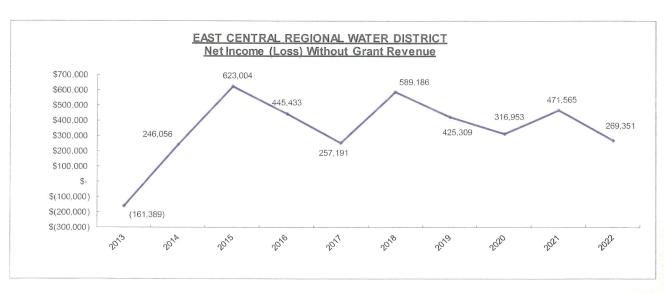
Sincerely,

Neil Breidenbach, Manager East Central Regional Water District 1401 7th Ave NE Thompson, ND 58278 (701) 599-2963

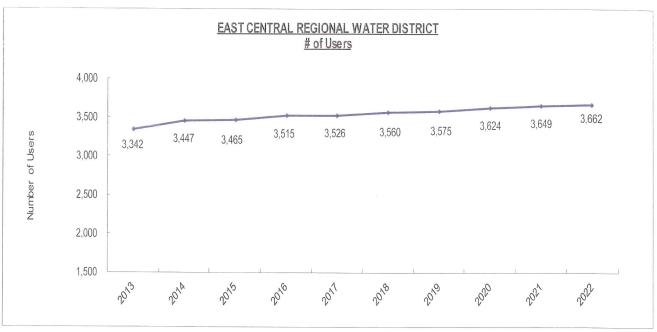
### **Financials**

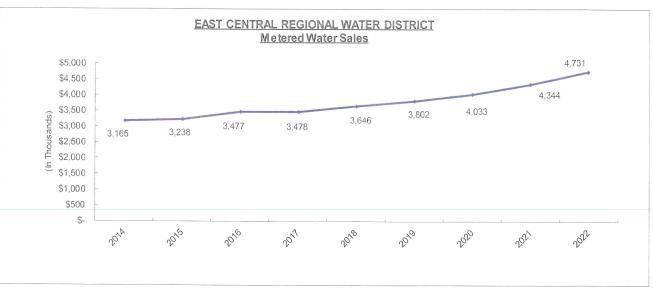


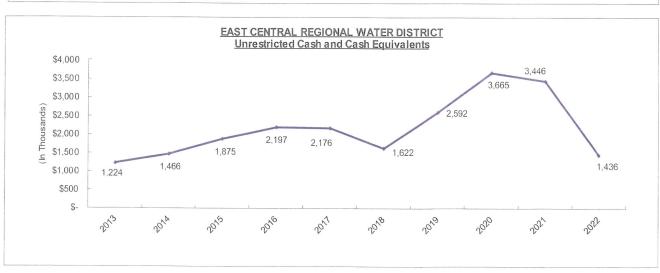




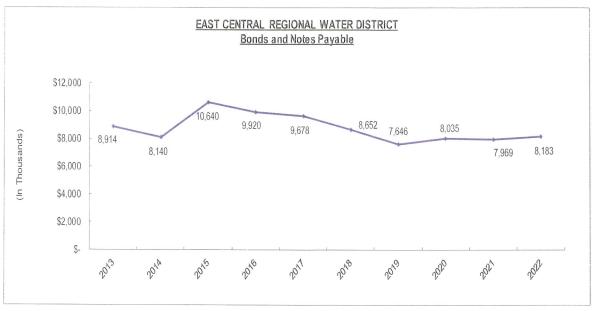
### **Financials**

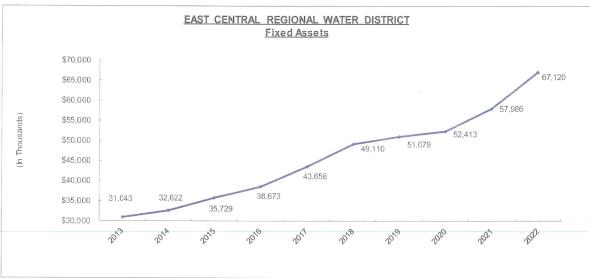


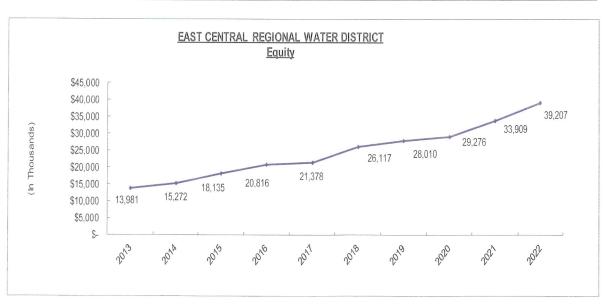




### **Financials**







### **Members Responsibility**

- 1. Any member may not build any structures, sidewalks, or roads within 15' of a curbstop or gate valve. If this is done, it becomes the member's responsibility for any repair that may occur now or in the future.
- 2. Trees, shrubs, fences, or LP tanks may not be placed within 15' of any waterline or water appurtenance such as a curbstop, gate valve, or manhole. If this occurs, the removal and cost shall be borne by the member responsible. The District shall not pay for or replace any of the above if they were placed or planted after installation of the water appurtenance.
- 3. If you do not have a remote read meter and smart point installed, it is the Members responsibility to submit monthly meter readings. There is a \$25 No Meter Reading Fee applied to your account each month that we do not receive a current reading. Please provide us with all of the digits on your meter, including any zeros or decimal point. You can include the meter reading on your billing stub with your payment or enter it online at ecrwd.com (under the Customer Service Tab).

- 4. NSF check charges are \$25. Cash or money orders are required to pay a NSF check. A new check issued will not be accepted!
- 5. Members are not allowed to operate their own curbstop. Only District employees may do this.
- 6. Whenever an error is discovered in a customers billing, whether as a result of an inaccurate water meter or for any other reason resulting in an overcharge or undercharge for water usage, the billing shall be corrected for the period of time the error existed and that can be reasonably determined. The member is responsible to submit actual monthly meter readings, from the water meter not the remote, if you have one.
- 7. Any member that removes their water meter to avoid usage payment or does not install their meter properly (or at all) shall be subject to a \$1,000 penalty and/or disconnect from the water system by the Board of Directors.

REMEMBER: If you ever have any questions or concerns regarding your water system or its employees, please don't hesitate to contact any of your Board of Directors.

#### **Policies**

- 1. Membership Fee shall be \$1,000.
- 2. All water shut offs should be done with at least two employees. Employees will not be going to the residence door to collect. The member must pay the bill, including service charges, in full at the **office** before service is restored.
- 3. Water meters are not to be installed under mobile homes. Meters may be installed in modular homes with concrete crawl spaces as long as they are heated, readily accessible, and there is acceptable lighting and space to work on the water meter assembly. The meter assembly must be mounted off the floor.
- 4. NSF Check Charges are \$25.

- 5. Cisterns, pressure pumps, and flow restrictors that were allowed in areas that are at capacity will be only accepted by management and board review on a case by case basis.
- 6. If water service has been disconnected to a property and the account has been inactive for 2 or more years, a \$1,000 Membership Fee must be paid to restore water service. If needed, the member will be supplied with a new water meter assembly and curbstop assembly, which would be installed by the member or his/her contractor. The current monthly minimum will apply along with the current rate per 1,000 gallons.

### **Drain Tiling**

In the past few years, there has been a lot of drain tiling on farmland throughout the District service area. Normally, the only notice we receive of a planned tiling project is when we received a one-call notice just ahead of the installer.

As much advance notice as possible FROM THE LAND OWNER would be greatly appreciated. We will gladly work with the landowner to insure an adequate distance from existing rural water pipeline is maintained, not only for the protection and maintenance of the rural water pipe, but also the landowner's investment in his drain tile.

A big concern of the District, which has a lot of the 1970's glued PVC pipe more prone to leakage, is that drain tile close to the pipe is likely to capture any pipe leakage. Leaks would then not surface, making it difficult to maintain.

#### YOUR COOPERATION WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!

#### **Office Notes**

- Please visit our website at ecrwd.com for important notices and information regarding your water system. You can also enter your meter readings through our website.
- Please call the office and update your contact information (phone number & email address)
- When reading your water meter, please enter all digits from left to right.
- Please notify the office if you are moving, selling, or with a change of address.
- We are accepting ACH payments. Please call the office at 701-599-2963 to get signed up.
- If you would like to have your monthly water bill emailed to you, please call the office with your email address.
- We accepts debit or credit cards. A 3.5% surcharge will be added to the amount of your payment. Please visit our web site for a link to pay with a credit or debit card.

### **Sprinkling Systems Allowed**

The District is allowing sprinkling systems to be hooked up in certain areas where infrastructure is adequate. Sprinkling systems will be allowed on a first come first serve basis. If you are interested, or would like further information, please contact the office at 701.599.2963

#### **Fees for Service**

Water shut off / collections - \$100 Installing a Ball Valve - \$50



- 1. Raw water line leak washed all the dirt out.
- 2. Raw water leak being fixed.
- 3. Glued joint pipe pulled apart.
- 4. Leak down a tight alley in Buxton.





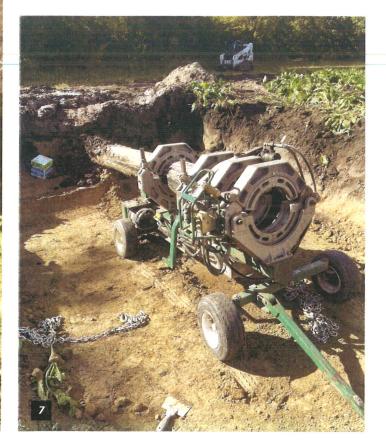


East Central Regional Water District 2022 Applied September



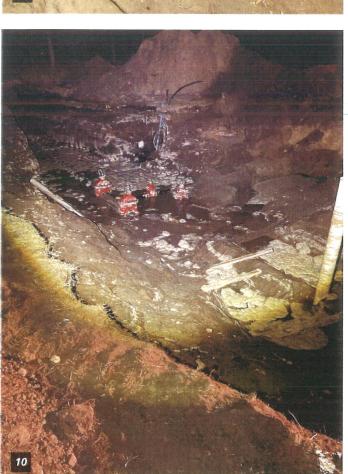


- 5. Generators being moved at the water plant to make room for addition.
- 6. Contractor directional bored through our watermain.... "perfectly". Don't worry, we fixed it.
- 7. Fusing pipe on the Climax water main project.



East Central Regional Water District 2022 Annual Report







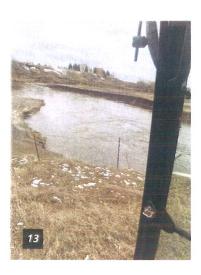
- 8. Wash out this spring exposed our water main.
- 9. New raw water well ready to be back filled.
- 10. Leak by the Hillsboro water plant while new main to Grandin was being installed.
- 11. The field we dug through the day before was already being fertilized.



Fast Central Regional Water District 2000, Applied San Contral



- 12. Tie-in to the City of Climax.
- 13. Middle Branch Goose River southeast of Golden Lake washed out a waterline.
- 14. Banks of the river slide in and pull our pipes apart.
- 15. Here is a look at the flooding that pulled our pipe apart.







East Central Regional Water District Box 287 Thompson, ND 58278 PRSRT MRKT U.S. Postage PAID Thompson, ND 58278 Permit No. 1

## Your CURBSTOP... Do you know where it is at?

ach customer has a curbstop or shut off valve. This valve comes to the surface of the ground and is used to shut the water off in case of an emergency such as a break in the customer's house. Each customer should know where their cubstop is and have it marked. You are responsible if the curbstop is hit, damaged, or has been pulled out.

The Dirstrict will come out and try to locate your curbstop upon request at no charge. We will do our best to locate the curbstop using a metal detector and shovels. If it comes down to us needing to use our excavator to dig, the member will be billed accordingly. If your cubstop gets hit, is crooked, or damaged, call the office. This valve will not operate if it is damaged. The members are NOT ALLOWED to operate their curbstop. You are subject to a penalty imposed by the

Board of Directors if you operate your own curbstop.

It is very important that the member does not build any sidewalks, house footings, or buildings close to their curbstop. The curbstop is a high maintenance item and will sooner or later have to be dug up for repair. The District repairs the curbstop if a leak occurs on the incoming side. If the leak occurs on the members side, the member is responsible for the repair. If building structures, sidewalks, etc. have been placed within 30 feet of a curbstop, it makes maintenance on the curbstop difficult or impossible. The member may be required to do the maintenance at his/her cost. Any construction of service leads done after 1973 should have their curbstop no closer than 50 feet from the house or point of metering.

#### **Emergency Calling Only**

On weekends and holidays the office recorder gives you the cell phone numbers of the employees. If you have to contact someone right away call their cell phone number. You may leave a message on the manager's recorder as instructed or dial the cell phone numbers until you get a response. Someone will return your call. Please remember that when emergency numbers are called the District must pay employees OVERTIME. If the call is not an emergency, or is the member's responsibility, the member will be billed.

#### **Emergency Service Only**

Office (Thompson) ...... 701-599-2963

#### Cell Numbers

Neil, Manager	.218-791-1918	Justin	218-791-1916
Mike	.218-791-1917	Dustin	218-791-0285
Chad	.218-791-7469	Shane	218-791-1915