



Regional Dimensions

Region 4 Planning and Development Council
885 Broad Street, Suite 100
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July 2010

No.35



Annual Dinner Meeting

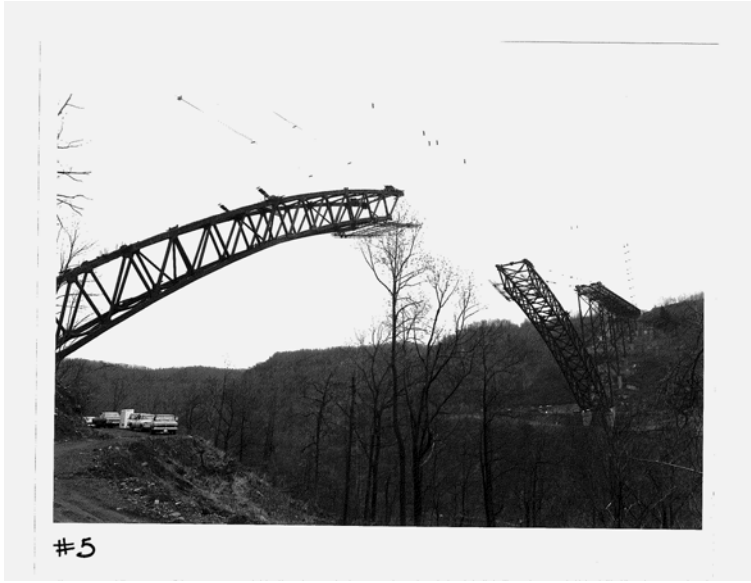


Region 4 Planning and Development Council's Annual Dinner Meeting was held Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at the Summersville Lake Picnic Area in Summersville, West Virginia and was catered by Blue Grass BBQ. A good time was had by all.

Blast from the Past

The New River Gorge Bridge spans a chasm, two sandstone cliffs separated by half a mile of air. Connecting them is an engineering marvel, one of the largest arch bridges in the world. The bridge is more than just a way to cross the gorge; it's an icon, a hallmark, a symbol of the pride and ingenuity of The Mountain State of West Virginia.

- FAYETTE COUNTY
 - Ansted
 - Fayetteville
 - Gauley Bridge
 - Meadow Bridge
 - Montgomery
 - Mt. Hope
 - Oak Hill
 - Pax
 - Smithers
 - Thurmond
- GREENBRIER COUNTY
 - Alderson
 - Lewisburg
 - Quinwood
 - Rainelle
 - Renick
 - Ronceverte
 - Rupert
 - White Sulphur Springs
- NICHOLAS COUNTY
 - Richwood
 - Summersville
- POCAHONTAS COUNTY
 - Durbin
 - Hillsboro
 - Marlinton
- WEBSTER COUNTY
 - Camden-on-Gauley
 - Cowen
 - Webster Springs



#5

PROJECT UPDATE

The **Fayette County Commission** was awarded \$1,500,000.00 to extend water service to approximately 89 households along Stringtown Road within the New Haven Public Service District. This area is another component of the Fayette County Regional Water Project that is designed to serve the Plateau area of Fayette County. The Stringtown Road has very poor quality water. The water is high in iron content and often has a bad odor making it hard to use even for laundry. The project will consist of approximately 23,455 LF of 8" waterline, 5,845 LF of 6" waterline, 5,325 LF of 2" waterline, a 104,100 gallon water storage tank, valves, hydrants, service lines, meter settings and all appurtenances. First bid advertisement was May 5, 2009. The pre-bid conference was held on May 21, 2009 and the bid opening June 2, 2009. On Contract 16A the lowest bid was submitted by Bruce Allen Pipeline, Inc. from Harrisville, WV. On Contract 16B the lowest bid was submitted by Welding, Inc. of Charleston, West Virginia. Construction started September 2009. Contract 16A is 89% complete and contract 16B is 90% complete.

The **Town of Meadow Bridge** was awarded \$200,000.00 design grant to construct a new 30,000 gallon aerated sludge holding tank and equipment improvements at the existing wastewater treatment plant. The equipment improvements include modifications to the sludge return, mechanical screening and UV disinfection system, aerator rehabilitation and the purchase of a liquid sludge hauling truck. The project also includes improvements to the 6 lift stations and safety equipment for inflow and infiltration investigation/rehabilitation. The upgrade will increase their sludge holding capacity as well as provide sludge aeration to prevent odors. The implementation meeting was held March 26, 2009. Preliminary discussions and meetings have been held. Design has begun and is approximately 80% complete. The PSC has requested the town explore the possibility of using a portion of the SCBG to replace certain pump stations. The Town is anxiously waiting commitment of remaining funds. The legal and accounting services are being procured.

The **City of Oak Hill** was awarded \$250,000 from Small Cities for Phase II of their Storm Sewer System Improvements Project. In an ongoing effort to alleviate the hardships that the flooding of Arbuckle Creek and its tributaries has caused the City and its residents, the City decided to undertake a Phase II of Storm Sewer System Improvements Project. The project will be constructed in the Arbuckle Creek area between Lee Street and Minden Road along with a storm sewer collection system in the Virginia Street Water Shed area. Phase I replaced twelve culverts sized to carry a 50 year storm event and has noticeably reduced the flooding intensity in the area as well as improved the quality of life. The City is trying to utilize their funds as efficiently as possible. The project has been divided into 2 contracts – culvert contract and a flood bench contract. The City opened bids on the culverts May 2008 with the low bidder being Chojnacki Construction, Inc. of Hamlin, WV. Construction on the culvert is complete. The flood bench project received bids in February 2010 under budget. Jimmy A. Dunn was the lower bidder. Work began April 12, 2010

and is complete. The city has experienced several significant rain events since the project completion. The city hall officials as well as the residents have noticed the reduce water damage from these extreme weather events. The City and their Engineer's have developed additional work to utilize the remaining funds most effectively. Change Orders with Jimmy A. Dunn are being negotiated and the proposed work will be completed this Fall.

On October 29, 2003, Governor Wise awarded the **City of Mount Hope** a \$1.5 million Small Cities Block Grant to complete the funding package to extend the City's wastewater treatment system to Kilsyth/Price Hill and to upgrade their plant. The HUD funds will be used in conjunction with a US Army Corps of Engineers grant, a West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) Stream Restoration grant and a WVDEP State Revolving Fund Loan. The project is of a great need in terms of health and welfare of the Kilsyth/Price Hill residents along with the environmental impact of the New River and the white water rafting industry. Bids were opened on May 31, 2007 with a significant bid overrun. After all deductive alternatives were reduced there were insufficient project funds available. The City of Mt. Hope recognized that by agreeing to increase their sewer rates by 25 cents, the digester as well as the bid overrun could be funded. The loan closing was held on November 27, 2007. Construction started immediately and is complete. The City is continuing to complete a 504 self evaluation, transition plan and an Inflow and Infiltration Study to utilize the remaining project funding. If any funds are available to make minor corrections, the identified items will be corrected and then the project can be closed-out.

The **Danese Public Service District**, an entity of the Fayette County Commission, has for many years sought funding to extend public water service to 410 residential customers and 15 businesses in the Clifftop, Raven's Eye, Western Shelton Road, Hilton Village, Corliss, Russelville, Loops Road, Big Bend, and Beelick Knob communities. In April, 2007 the Danese PSD received a commitment of funding from the US Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Services in the form of a \$1,370,000 grant and a \$1,351,000 low interest loan. In May, 2007 the PSD received a recommendation of funding from WV Governor Joe Manchin for an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant in the amount of \$1,500,000. Also in May, the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Abandoned Mine Lands committed \$5,256,820 from their FY 2009 funding cycle to the project. The PSD now has funds committed to proceed with the project. The first bid advertisement was published June 26, 2009. The pre-bid conference is scheduled for July 15, 2009 and bid opening July 28, 2009. Notice to proceed was issued October 12, 2009 and the five contract project was deemed under construction. The percentage of construction complete is 17.20% on contract #1, 4.82% on Contract #2, 76.88% on Contract #3, Contract #4 100% and Contract #5 67.99% for an overall project completion of 30.04%

The **City of Montgomery** was awarded \$200,000 from Small Cities to make significant improvements to their sanitary wastewater treatment facility and collection systems to come into compliance with their NPDES Discharge Permit. An additional \$1,300,000 was awarded from SCBG on February 10, 2006 and the USDA Letter of Conditions was signed on February 9, 2006 for \$1,309,290. The treatment facility

components include clarifier improvements, wastewater system improvements, chlorination system replacement, sludge mixer replacement, sulphonator system and building improvements, sludge building improvements and chlorine building improvements. The collection system improvements consist of a combination of separation of storm system from sanitary system collection lines, collector replacements, storm sewer improvements, "combined sewer overflow" modifications and a pump station improvement. The collection system improvements will remove "inflow and infiltration" and improve operation to comply with the discharge permit. With the approval of the proposed rates and Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, the project will be ready for construction bids. Advertisement for bids was April 20, 2009. The pre-bid conference was held May 21, 2009 and bid opening June 18, 2009. Pre-construction conference held September 30, 2009. Construction began fall, 2009. Construction is mostly complete. Contract number one is approximately 85% complete, contract number two and number three are mostly complete and ready for a substantial completion inspection. A final quantities adjusting change order will be completed. The city is developing and prioritizing a list of items to utilize the remaining funds. The project is anticipated to be completed and closed out soon.

The **Fayette County Commission** was awarded \$1,500,000 of SCBG assistance that will allow the **Page-Kincaid Public Service District** to construct sewer collection and treatment facilities to serve the Wriston and Ingram Branch areas of Fayette County. This project will serve 222 new customers. Page-Kincaid PSD has received a Letter of Conditions from USDA-RD for \$3,550,000 for this project. A Binding Letter of Conditions for an IJDC grant of \$850,000 was also received. The project is designed to provide a gravity sewer collection system in combination with cluster grinders to transfer flow to a proposed 60,000 gallon per day package sewage treatment plant at Ingram Branch. The project will include approximately 25,900 L.F. of 8" gravity sewer pipe, 16,300 L.F. of 6" gravity sewer pipe, road bores, road crossings, creek crossings, railroad bores, 4,600 L.F. of laterals, 239 manholes, 55 cleanouts, 41 grinders, 3 lift stations, generators, 60,000 GPD sewage treatment plant and miscellaneous appurtenances. Construction started July 2009. A final inspection was conducted in late March 2010. May 17, 2010 a dedication was held by the district. The final punch list items are being completed. Approval for additional change order work to provide service for approximately 20 customers has been granted. The district will be utilizing the remaining funds and closing out the project soon.

The **Town of Renick** (also known as Corporation of Falling Springs) received a Small Cities Block Grant, USDA grant/loan, IJDC grant and a contribution from the City of Lewisburg to construct a water system to provide public water to their residents. The Town will construct and own the water system from McMillion Road north along Rt. 219 and throughout the Renick community. This area in rural Greenbrier County has been plagued with unreliable, poor quality wells and cisterns. An Operations and Maintenance Agreement between the Town of Renick and the City of Lewisburg for the City of Lewisburg to O & M the system has been signed. The Town of Renick opened bids on May 27, 2009 and the bids were within budget. The loan closed in late July and construction started immediately. The low bidders were: Pro Contracting, Inc. (lines) and Welding, Inc. (tank). Construction is complete and a substantial completion inspection was held in early July 2010 with a few minor punch

list items that are being completed. A change order to install radio read meters to be compatible with the city of Lewisburg's system has been approved. An additional change order to pick up two customers – one residential and one small business and to request funding approval to utilize remaining project funds to make the public water system compatible with the Renick Volunteer Fire Department firefighting equipment are the Town Councils priorities.

GVEDC Rahall Technology Building – Phase I construction was completed November 2007. Phase II development received a commitment of WV Infrastructure and Jobs Development loan of \$1,000,000 and accepted this on March 3, 2007. Commitment of an additional \$1,000,000 from US Economic Development Authority was given December 13, 2007. Design is complete and the EDA approved the final plans and specifications on November 26, 2008. The first advertisement for bid was December 9, 2008 and the bid opening date was January 21, 2009. The contract was awarded to Nichols Construction Company on March 20, 2009 and a pre-construction conference was held April 1, 2009. Construction started April 11, 2009 and is 100% complete. The final EDA request has been submitted and is being processed. The IJDC loan closing was held July 14, 2010. The project will be closed out soon.

The **City of Ronceverte** was awarded \$1,500,000 to abandon their existing water treatment plant and purchase finished water from the City of Lewisburg. This proposed project will install approximately 4,000 L.F. of 8" pipe and a 700,000 gallon water storage tank. In order to remediate severe water loss, approximately 21,000 L.F. of water main will be replaced and to increase fire protection, 30 new fire hydrants will be installed. A Drinking Water Treatment Revolving Loan Fund loan completed the financing package. The bulk water rate and contract with the City of Lewisburg was finalized. Authority to advertise for construction bids was given on April 16, 2008 and bids were opened on June 12, 2008 with an overrun. The City decided to reduce Contract #2 (lines) \$267,000 by eliminating the purchase of radio read meters and associated costs. The City requested IJDC grant assistance of \$100,000 to close their loan and proceed with construction. IJDC approved their request due to the City already raising their water rate 24% since June 30, 2007. The loans closed in late July with construction starting in August 2008. The main interconnection with the City of Lewisburg is complete and the Ronceverte plant is offline. The City has purchased radio read meters.

City of Summersville received a Binding Commitment Letter from the West Virginia Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council for a loan of \$8,682,265 and a commitment from Department of Environmental Protection (SRF) for \$2,000,000 for their Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and Improvements. This project will provide improved service to approximately 1,541 customers. The Certificate of Convenience and Necessity was received in late October 2006. The bids were opened with a significant overrun. After much discussion and in order to make the project feasible the following changes were made: some modifications of equipment/processes, removing some equipment, changing methods of construction, and revising the Rule 42 based on a reduction in O&M expenses due to a decrease in chemicals to be used in the new plant. Following the changes, it was determined that the IJDC loan could be leveraged without any additional rate increases. The City closed on their \$10.6 million IJDC/SRF loans on May 15, 2007. Construction is complete. The computer software

system to operate the plant has been installed and technical training has been completed. Final project closeout is anticipated soon. The interest the project funds have earned will be utilized to pay a portion of a replacement pump at the WWTP. The project interest has been used and the project has been closed out..

City of Richwood – Wastewater System Improvements Project. On February 10, 2006, the City of Richwood was awarded a \$1,500,000 SCBG to help fund their Wastewater System Improvements Project. The West Virginia Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council funds of \$1,000,000 loan and \$500,000 grant became available mid-July 2006. The project will include rehabilitation of existing sanitary sewers, replacement of sewage pumping stations, separation of sanitary and storm sewers, and elimination of dry weather overflows. The Certificate of Convenience and Necessity was received on March 19, 2009. The City of Richwood opened construction bids on June 17, 2009 with a bid overrun. IJDC provided the additional loan necessary and the loan closed in early September. The preconstruction conference was held September 11, 2009 with Mendon Pipeline. Construction started in late October and is scheduled for completion during the Fall of 2010. The contract has been extended from mid June to mid September with the additional change order work. The City has developed a “with list” of items. The City and their engineer are working with the contractor for costs in order for change order work to be negotiated and to request funding approval. Most original construction work is complete. The smoke testing portion of the project is underway to identify any necessary line replacement. All of these items are being coordinated to prioritize the “wish list” and to allow the City to maximize the use of their remaining project funds.

Pocahontas County Public Service District – Regional Wastewater System. Pocahontas County PSD has proposed to develop a regionally sized wastewater treatment and collection system to serve the Snowshoe Mountain Resort, the Silver Creek Resort and the communities of Linwood, Hawthorne Valley and Slatyfork. A total of 1981 residential and commercial customers will be served. Funding for the project includes \$9,547,000 from WV IJDC, \$5,711,000 from SRF, a Pocahontas County Commission grant of \$5,000, and a \$2,000,000 in-kind contribution of its existing wastewater system by Snowshoe Mountain Resort. Once project costs are finalized, additional funds will be sought from the respective funding agencies. The WV Public Service Commission has issued a Final Certificate of Convenience and Necessity and WV DEP has issued its Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Most recently, the WV Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council approved a Phase I \$4.5 million dollar loan to the Pocahontas County PSD to facilitate the transfer of customers from Snowshoe Water and Sewer to the PSD. The WV Public Service Commission has approved the Transfer Agreement.

The **Nicholas County Commission** was awarded a \$1,500,000.00 grant from Small Cities for their Gauley River PSD Rt. 39 Water Extension Project. This 3 phase project will provide water service to approximately 230 households along Rt. 39 from Summersville to Gilboa in Nicholas County. These areas west of Summersville along Rt. 39 are not served by public water and do not have fire service. Inadequate wells and cisterns serve the households with many wells generally having high levels of iron and magnesium excessively above acceptable parameters established by the WV Bureau of Public

Health. Many residents often have to haul water for normal household consumption. USDA Rural Development issued their “Letter of Conditions” on May 6, 2008, for Phase I. The remaining 1.3 million SCBG was committed in January, 2009. All permits are in hand and the PSC Certificate was issued in September 2009. Authorization to advertise for bids was given by USDA and bids were opened in mid January 2010 under budget. Bruce Allen, Inc. is the low bidder. Construction is scheduled to begin in early May. Due to extreme winter weather delays the contractor has not started construction yet. The contractor has delivered pipe onsite and anticipates starting construction soon.

The **City of Summersville** was awarded a \$1,500,000 grant to extend water service to 281 households in the Glade Creek area of Nicholas County. The residents of Lower Glade Creek Road, Armstrong Road, Phillips Run, Old Route 19, Tanglewood Road, Maria Estates and Lower McMillion Creek currently depend upon private wells, springs, cisterns and bottled water for domestic use. The wells generally provide poor quality water high in mineral content and inadequate supply. Often, the water must be treated before consumption. The USDA Rural Development “Letter of Conditions” was issued July 7, 2009. Authorization to bid was given to the City in August with bids opened on September 9, 2009. The contracts came in under budget. The loans closed in early November and construction began immediately. Five contracts are underway. With the extremely severe winter weather the project closed down and has experienced delays. Construction is progressing. Contract #1 is 78% complete, Contract #2 is 86% complete, 73% on Contract 3A, 72% on Contract 3B and 75% on Contract 5A.

Birch River PSD – Dille/Widen Water Extension – The Birch River PSD will extend water to 214 new customers in the Dille, Widen, Morris and White Oak areas of Nicholas County. Funding for the project includes \$2,024,924 from the WV Department of Environmental Protection’s Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation program along with a \$1,458,000 USDA grant and a \$530,076 USDA Loan. The district is in the process of obtaining easements. Final engineering design is complete and the request for the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity has been submitted. First Bid Advertisement July 23, 2009; Pre-Bid Conference August 12, 2009; Bid opening August 20, 2009; a pre-construction conference October 15, 2009. Construction began in Fall, 2009. The overall project is 76.34% complete. The district is in the process of making a list of prioritized needs to utilize the project funds upon approval of AML and USDA.

Town of Marlinton WWSP/Storm Sewer Upgrades
The proposed sewage treatment plant upgrade will serve the **Town of Marlinton** and various additions. The project contains modifications to the plant’s influent chamber and provides for a new screen and grit chamber. The project further provides for plant facilities flood protection. With passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), the Town was eligible to use economic recovery funds for the proposed project. This \$1,400,000 project was first advertised May 21, 2009. The pre-bid conference was held June 10, 2009 and the bid opening June 23, 2009. Kanawha Stone Company, Inc. Nitro, West Virginia was the apparent low-bidder. Construction began in September 2009 and was completed in April 2010. However, there are still some warranty issues. All

additional funds have been approved to purchase equipment. The project will be closed out soon.

New Haven PSD Beauty Mountain Waterline Extension The New Haven PSD continues to expand water to their regional service throughout Fayette County where there is a need and funding is made available. In early 2007 the PSD applied for Design Assistance to provide service to approximately 57 new customers in the Plateau of the county. During the design WVDEP Abandoned Mine Lands agreed to fund the Beauty Mountain portion at 100% participation due to the pre-1977 coal mining operations. The advertisement for bids was published on October 2, 2008. The bids were opened on November 6, 2008. The contract was awarded, and the IJDC Loan closed on January 16, 2009. Notice to proceed was dated January 19, 2009. The construction start date was January 19, 2009. The Shawyer Bridge portion of the project has achieved Substantial Completion. The Beauty Mountain portion reaches Substantial Completion, November 20, 2009. A final inspection of Beauty Mountain/Power Plant Road project was held on March 15, 2010. All construction retainage, except for \$1 has been released. The change order work to further extend service to seven additional customers has been approved by IJDC and should be completed this Fall.

New Haven PSD- Derry Hale & Sun Mine Road Waterline Extension The New Haven PSD continues to provide and expand water services throughout Fayette County. The PSD secured a Bureau of Public Health Design Assistance Grant to get projects into "readiness to proceed status". The project will provide potable water services to approximately twenty households. The IJDC applications for construction funding are expected to be filed soon.

The **New Haven PSD – Stringtown Road**, has recently requested approval to complete proposed Change Order work to extend service to approximately 14 additional customers utilizing project funds.

The **Cowen PSD** has received funding to upgrade their existing wastewater treatment plant that serves approximately 588 customers around Cowen in rural Webster County. The project includes upgrading the existing main sewer treatment plant by adding new sequencing batch reactor (SBR). Treatment to replace the oxidation ditch, use the existing oxidation ditch for an equalization basis, and add tertiary treatment as well as construction of sludge belt press facilities. The project is funded by \$1,500,000.00 Army Corp of Engineers Grant, a \$1,270,000.00 USDA Loan and a \$2,560,000.00 USDA Grant for a total project cost of \$6,330,000.00. The Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) with the Army Corp of Engineers has been finalized and executed and the USDA letter of conditions dated April 12, 2010 has been delivered. Funding is in place and the project is under design.

The **Nettie-Leivasy PSD** is developing projects to better serve the community by providing more dependable public water. The three separate projects (1) Plant Upgrade (2) Carl Green Valley Extension (3) Summersville Interconnect. (1) Plant upgrade project will upgrade the existing 200 GPM Nettie-Leivasy water treatment plant to a 350 GPM plant. Major improvements will consist of a 350 GPM duplex submersible raw water intake pump

station with grip removal; a 350 GPM duplex raw water high lift pump station; approximately 2,265 LF of raw water line; a static rapid mixer; a second 55,0000 gallon spiral/vertical baffled sedimentation basis; the addition of over/under baffles in the sedimentation basis for flocculation; a new 100 SF high rate mix media filter with air wash to be used with the existing two (2) 20 SF filters; two (2) 350 GPM filters to clearwell transfer pumps; a new 39 ft. diameter by 42ft high baffled clearwell/storage tank; two (2) 350 GPM high service pumps; a 30 ft. X 120 ft. sludge settling/holding pond; a 12 ft. diameter by 102ft. high water storage tank; chemical feed equipment for Delpac, soda ash, carbon and chlorine gas; emergency generator; and all necessary piping, valves, meter, gauges, controls and appurtenances. The existing lab/filter building will be expanded to accommodate the new filter and office. The existing Leivasy water storage tank will be repainted. The PSD is anxiously awaiting authorization to advertise for construction bids. The project is funded by a Drinking Water Treatment Revolving Loan (DWTRF) and a WVJDC Loan. The Carl Green Valley water extension will provide water services to approximately 100 customers in the Carl and Green Valley areas. The project includes a 58,0000 gallon water storage tank, a 100 GPM booster pumping station, approximately 50,000 LF of 2", 4" and 6" water mains, fire hydrants and appurtenances. The project is funded by WVDEP Abandoned Mine Lands Grant and a WVJDC Loan. The certificate of Convenience and Necessity has been filed. The PSD anticipates being given authorization to advertise for construction bids late this year. (3) The interconnection project will provide a connection under the Gauley River/Summersville Lake to interconnect with the City of Summersville Regional Water plant to purchase water. The actual construction project will include approximately 15,000 LF of 8" water main, a new 250 GPM booster station with a generator, a new 300,000 gallon water storage tank complete with telemetry, painting of the existing Canvas tank and all necessary appurtenances. The District has received a Bureau of Public Health Design Grant to get the project to a "Ready to Proceed" status.

