Argyle crew’s dedication to city extends to fire, rescue squad

by Steve Downer

City or municipal utility employees often serve their community as a volunteer firefighter or first responder. It is more than a little unusual, however, to find a city crew with each member volunteering.

Argyle, population 639, is located in the fertile farmland of the Red River Valley, 40 miles from both Grand Forks and Thief River Falls.

There are three men—Utility Supervisor Don Kroll, Tony Safranski and Lowell Engen—on the Argyle city crew. They all serve on the fire department and rescue squad.

The crew handles the natural gas, water, and wastewater utilities, streets, parks, garbage collection, and just about any other outside work that needs to be done, from dog catcher to snow removal. (Part-timers help with mowing.)

With that encompassing list of responsibilities, it is important to prioritize tasks. Sometimes it seems like there’s “no way to get it all done,” Kroll said.

And, because of the time commitment for fire and rescue squad work, “We have to work a little harder on all the other stuff we have to do,” Tony Safranski, Lowell Engen and Don Kroll, from left to right, comprise the City of Argyle public works crew. Each man also volunteers for the local fire and rescue squad.

Their dedication exemplifies that which is necessary to keep a small city a viable place to live and work.
Similar to other industry coalitions, APPA has sought to try to work with the EPA and state officials on the proposed ‘Clean Power Plan,’ to craft practical rules rather than flatly oppose them. That hasn’t kept the association from speaking its mind on the proposed rule, which it has called “simply unworkable” with “no basis in reality.”

APPA said it is keenly aware that EPA intends to issue a final rule in June 2015 pursuant to a specific directive from the President, and that the final rule will be based on the proposed rule. Thus, APPA’s primary intent in upcoming comments is to recommend changes to the rule to improve its workability and affordability for the consumer/owners of public power utilities.

MMUA’s Bob Jagusch has played a central role in helping APPA craft these arguments. APPA, and other groups, including the Utility Air Regulatory Group, has asserted that the proposed rule would violate the Clean Air Act’s clear division of responsibility for regulatory decision making between the federal government and the states, eliminating the broad discretion Congress granted to the states when it enacted section 111(d) of the Act. Instead, the Proposal seeks to assign all of that discretion to the Government Agency itself.

The proposed rule would be an enormous and transformative expansion of the Agency’s authority, and the Clean Air Act evinces no congressional intent supporting EPA’s action, much less the clear authorization the Court requires, points out APPA.

Despite EPA descriptions of the Clean Power Plan as flexible with a 2030 deadline, many advocates have pointed out in numerous forums that the enforceable interim goal must be met on an average basis starts in 2020 with a steep carbon dioxide reduction, so that the final 2030 deadline is not the crux of the problem.

Among issues that MMUA’s Jagusch has focused on, include:
• The emissions data baseline and lack of sufficient credit for early action; assumptions and calculations in the building blocks; and the interim reduction requirement and the implementation timeline.

APPA recommendations will include:
• State selection of an alternative baseline.
• Full credit for early action.
• Decrease the stringency of the state requirements by correcting the errors making the assumptions and calculations in the building blocks realistic.
• Eliminate the interim reduction requirement.
• Allow states to modify the requirements and implementation timeline.

Jagusch: MMUA actively influencing proposed rule

Jagusch knew Stine and Thornton from his involvement with the MPCA stakeholder process, whereby the state’s official comments in the process are being influenced. Seeing the MMUA representative at the meeting in D.C., reinforced the idea that the municipal utilities were active on the issue and their viewpoint needed to be considered. Jagusch has continued to be very active on the MPCA stakeholder group, working with that agency and the Department of Energy Resources on crafting the State of Minnesota’s response to the Clean Power Plan.

Among the points he has carried both at APPA and the state stakeholder process is that the proposed rule fails to provide public power utilities with full credit for taking early action to reduce their carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions through energy efficiency measures and the addition of renewable energy. He was perhaps uniquely placed to make this argument, based on his work with the state of Minnesota in building its “deemed energy savings database” to calculate benefits from conservation issues.

During a November 2013 visit to EPA, Jagusch and MMUA Washington Representative Michael Nolan stressed a number of points on what Minnesota has done and is doing in regards to carbon dioxide reduction. This message reinforced some of these same points made to the same office by MPCA’s Thornton, three days earlier.

Along with all this activity, Jagusch is taking the lead in developing MMUA’s comments on the Clean Power Plan and coordinating the association’s comments with other public power entities in Minnesota and the Midwest.

The EPA plans to issue a final guideline by June 2015. States will be expected to submit full or preliminary plans to EPA for approval in 2016. Under its proposal, EPA could prepare and impose plans in states that over time do not submit approvable plans.
Regulatory rulings on swaps and demand response a mixed bag

from APPA

September ushered in significant legal and regulatory developments for the public power community.

CFTC Rule Will Help to Hedge Price Risks

On the regulatory front, there was welcome news in the form of a final rule approved by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission on Sept. 17 that will help ensure that public power utilities have access to the counterparties needed to hedge fuel and electric power price risks.

The rule makes permanent the relief provided for utility operations-related swaps by “utility special entities” in a March 21, 2014, CFTC “no-action” letter. It does not include a notification requirement included in a draft version of the rule. The American Public Power Association and other stakeholders opposed the notification requirement, asserting that it would impose an unnecessary hurdle to counterparties wanting to enter swaps with public power utilities.

“The CFTC is to be commended: the rule approved today will help our members continue to serve their customers with affordable—and predictable—rates,” APPA President and CEO Sue Kelly said after the final rule was approved. “Public power utilities, like any other end user, use swaps to hedge commercial operations risks. The rule gives public power utilities access to the broad array of counterparties necessary to protect their customers from rate increases and fluctuations.”

APPA is encouraged by the CFTC action, but knows more work needs to be done in this area. We hope Congress will continue to pursue enactment of the Public Power Risk Management Act (H.R. 1038 and S. 1802) to ensure that this regulatory relief is not revisited at a later date.

The CFTC has indicated that it may seek to amend swap reporting requirements to ensure that it can adequately monitor the swap transactions covered by the Sept. 17 rule.

APPA has long championed the Dodd-Frank Act and the market clarity it provides and will work with CFTC to ensure that it has the information—and resources—it needs to do the job.

Court Overturns FERC Request to Review Vacation of Demand Response Rule

In September, a federal appeals court turned aside a request by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that the court review an earlier ruling that vacated FERC Order No. 745.

The American Public Power Association has voiced concerns about FERC Order No. 745, a final rule on demand response compensation that was issued in March 2011 (see Sue Kelly’s blog post for more on this).

After the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued its ruling on Sept. 17, FERC and a group that includes the American Forest & Paper Association, demand-response companies, and steel producers separately asked the appeals court to delay finalizing the decision that vacated Order No. 745. FERC and the group said they needed more time as they considered whether to appeal the court’s decision to the Supreme Court. But APPA and several other parties told the appeals court that there was no reason to delay finalizing the order.

Instead of continuing to delay, FERC “should correct its orders, put an end to its improper intrusion on state authority, and allow the states to develop appropriate programs for demand response at the retail level,” APPA and the others said. “The nation’s electricity markets have been burdened for long enough by the Commission’s improper rule,” APPA, and the others argued.

Along with the Electric Power Supply Association, the Edison Electric Institute, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, and Old Dominion Electric Cooperative—filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on Sept 30 to urge the court to turn aside requests by FERC and others to delay the vacation of FERC Order No. 745.

It has been a long and winding road leading up to this point. The wheels were set in motion in March 2010, when FERC issued and sought comment on a notice of proposed rulemaking. The NOPR proposed requiring regional transmission organizations or independent system operators in which demand response resources participate in a resource, to pay demand response providers the market price for energy for reducing consumption below their expected levels.

APPA and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association responded to the NOPR in a joint filing by saying that while they welcomed an inquiry into the compensation of demand response providers in RTO-run markets, they could not support “the proposed regulation as stated.”

APPA and NRECA, noting that their members are recognized as national leaders in demand response, said that while many of the RTO-run centralized markets have programs that use locational marginal prices as a guide to incent economic demand response, the exact formulation varies among the RTO-run markets.

“APPA and NRECA believe it is wiser to allow RTOs and the stakeholders in their regions to figure out what variations on demand response incentives in response to local and regional needs, rather than prescribe only one method of compensation,” the two associations said in their May 2010 filing at FERC.

A year after the NOPR was issued, FERC unveiled its final rule for demand response compensation on March 15, 2011.

On May 23, 2014, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit found that FERC Order No. 745 exceeded its legal authority under the Federal Power Act (FPA) and vacated the entire order as “ultra vires.” FERC appealed for a court review that resulted in the Sept 17 ruling.

MPUC calls for additional round of comments in IPL-SMEC proposed sale

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Oct. 10 issued a notice of additional comment period in the matter of a Request for the Approval of the Asset Purchase and Sale Agreement between Interstate Power and Light Company and Sale Agreement between Inland Energy and Southern Minnesota Electric Cooperative (SMEC). The comment period closed Nov. 10 and the reply comment period was set to close Nov. 24.

The MPUC on Nov. 6 (after this paper went to press) set forth for hearing the question of “Should there be public hearings” on the proposed transaction.

IPL and SMEC have requested MPUC approval of an asset purchase and sale agreement that would transfer IPL’s Minnesota service territory and associated electric distribution system with current rights to serve more than 42,000 customers in southern Minnesota to 12 separate electric cooperatives, which formed SMEC. They have requested MPUC approval by the end of the year.

The sale price is estimated at $121 million, subject to adjustments at the time of closing, which represents the book value of IPL’s Minnesota electric assets plus a gain on sale of approximately $8.85 million and transaction costs. State law requires a utility to seek approval from the MPUC to sell assets worth more than $100,000.

MPUC Oct. 6 called for a contested case hearing in the matter. The Office of Attorney General opined that a contested case would provide valuable information in regards to public interest aspects of the proposed transaction. The OAG said that if a contested case were not ordered, the proposed transaction should proceed “only if IPL agrees to forego its gain on sale, that IPL pay for other transaction costs of the agreement, and that the transaction be adjusted to compensate raters for increased power costs.”

The MPUC order noted a number of topics were open for comment, including: “Are the terms and conditions of the Asset Sale reasonable?”

IPL and SMEC on April 15 submitted to the MPUC their joint request for approval of the sale.

Subsequent comments were filed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce, the Minnesota Office of Attorney General- Antitrust and Utilities Division, the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association and the City of Amboy.

IPL and SMEC have requested MPUC approval by the end of the year.

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Argyle grew up on the railroad, still serves as shipping hub for area agriculture

MMUA member Argyle developed on a Great Northern Railroad site and was incorporated in 1883. A flour mill was one of the first structures and the local elevator remains a going concern and local landmark.

Rich farmland surrounds Argyle. Except for sugar beets, many area commodities are shipped by railroad. A shuttle loading grain elevator was built a mile north of Argyle in 2006 and the city natural gas department is extending a gas line to the facility.

Viking Gas Transmission Pipeline delivers gas to a point approximately 1 3/4 miles west of the city. The city approved connecting to this line in 1956, when the city approved construction of a municipal gas transmission main and distribution system. The Stephen-Argyle elementary school is the largest gas customer.

The water supply comes from an underground aquifer. The city reservoirs hold up to 160,000 gallons with a pumping capacity of 110 gallons per minute—an ample supply.

Streets and underground pipes have been systematically updated—a majority of the city’s infrastructure has been installed or replaced in the last 10 years.

Floods plague residents of the Red River Valley, but Argyle is well-protected. A dike system was completed in 1988. There is room within the dike for the city to grow, and five exits out of town.

The city office, located in the southeast corner of the Argyle Mall, coordinates a variety of economic development activities.

Argyle had a municipal electric utility. The city received electric lights in 1897, the first community north of Crookston to do so. Initially, a local businessman provided the service and received a city franchise. By 1902, with the demand for electricity growing, the council decided that the village should install a larger generator, to be owned by the village.

The voters favored the proposal and the local businessman sold the franchise back to the city. In 1920, work was begun on a power line to run from Crookston to Argyle, and the city received its first alternating current the next year.

Minnesota Electrical Distributing Company (MED), which performed electrical services for the city, had approached the village several times with offers to buy the electrical system, but had been rejected each time. In April of 1931, the council decided to call an election to determine if the village residents would consider selling the system. The sale was completed, with a favorable reduction in rates, notes a local history, “and the village was relieved of the responsibility of maintaining the distribution system.”

MED eventually was succeeded by Ottertail Power Company as the local power source.

New electric generation all gas, renewable

New generation capacity added in the first six months of 2014 came exclusively from natural gas and renewable energy sources, according to the Energy Information Administration. The electric grid added 4,350 megawatts of utility-scale generation through the first six months of the year, with natural gas plants accounting for 2,170 MW, or about 50 percent. Solar plants contributed about 26 percent and wind 16 percent.

Adjacent to the train tracks is the old depot, which today serves as the local museum. Local history is intriguing, with ancestors of French Canadian traders matching wits (and losing) with James J. Hill and his railroad men for the eventual site of the city. The local Historical Society is an active one. City hall is visible down the block.
Minneapolis Energy Assistance Program begins 2014-2015 with less funds than last year.

The work, it seems, is never very far away. With the natural gas utility, somebody is on call every weekend. And with a three-man crew, those on-call times come around quickly.

The Argyle Fire and Rescue squad is also busy. It responded to 70-plus calls last year and 90 the year before that. The squad consists of 25 people with three trucks and a class III ambulance. The first responder unit has 13 members, including six certified Emergency Medical Technicians.

People in the sparsely populated area can get stretched pretty thin, especially during harvest and other busy times of the year. Local businesses supply firefighters and first responders, but some employees aren’t released until a second or third page.

But when a fire or rescue call comes in to the city crew members, excuses go out the window. The fire hall is next door to the city shop, and the door is often going up before the first page is done.

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“With being on call for the city, the fire department knows we are always around and have city resources if needed,” said Kroll.

Average response time to 911 calls is about five minutes. (The nearest hospital is 10 miles away, in Warren.)

A Memorial Day natural gas pipeline explosion, seven miles south of Argyle, displayed the squad’s quick response time. The volunteers still round on the long holiday weekend were ready and waiting before their fire department pager went off at 7 a.m. This group included the three city crew members, who had already congregated at the fire hall.

The fire and rescue crew responded and provided traffic control, keeping gawkers away from the 150-foot high fireball. The city crew keeps a clump of melted dirt, as a memento of the day. But it’s not all towering fireballs and roaring around with sirens on. In addition to calls, there is training (and plenty of it). The last two winters, eight to 10 local firefighters attended up to 70 hours of training, on Wednesday nights and weekends.

Training is important to become a better firefighter. It is also considered by FEMA, when it parcels out Assistance to Firefighters grants. One of those grants recently paid for a new tanker track, which is currently housed in the city shop awaiting preparation and paint.

The Argyle employees aren’t serving on the fire and rescue squad for the money. The fire department pays $2 per call. (Engen responded to nearly all of the 70 calls two years ago—earning about $140 for his diligence.)

Some of that money goes back to help pay for the annual banquet. There is a pension ($600 per year of service) when a firefighter retires, but that is little incentive on a daily basis.

You can believe Safranski when he says, “We do it for the town.”

The railroad and agriculture continue to play important roles in the Argyle economy today. This picture was taken early on a foggy Septem-

ber 18, 2014.

The city shop is adjacent to the fire hall (which is in the foreground), near the water tower.

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Argyle, population 639, is located on the ‘King of Trails,’ U.S. Highway 75, which runs the length of Minnesota near its western border.

Minnesota Energy Assistance Program begins 2014-2015 with less funds than last year.

The Minnesota Energy Assistance Program (EAP) started October 1, with over 81,000 households applying for assistance. Municipalities should encourage their customers to apply early, as EAP applicants are served on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Thus far, the Minnesota EAP has received $103,239,338 in federal funds to assist low income households with their energy costs this winter. Funding received so far is lower than last year’s total of $134 million, which included $20 million in emergency state funds. It is important to continually encourage households to apply, as it is unknown at this time if and when additional funding will be received.

Energy vendors will likely start receiving energy assistance payments for household’s accounts in late October. Contact the Department of Commerce or a local service provider for questions regarding payments or program policies. EAP continues to educate and encourage households to prepare for this coming winter, through energy conservation, budget plans, and applying for EAP early. If a utility is interested in partnering with EAP in these education efforts, please contact Jynell Boulka at 651-539-1807.

EAP provides grants to help hundreds of thousands of Minnesota households lower their energy burden each year. The program targets low income families with seniors, disabled members, veterans and children under the age of six. Working together vendors, households and service providers can help households in need while reducing the vendors’ costs associated with collections or discontinuation of service.

EAP services include:
- Primary Heat Benefits to reduce energy costs by paying a percentage of the household’s consumption costs; Crisis Benefits used to help households reduce or elimin- nate an energy crisis by preventing shut-off, reinstating service, or enabling delivery of heat and electric services; Emergency Repair & Replacement of eligible home-owner’s non-functioning heating units; and
- Case Management to help households find resources, energy education, to encourage regular payments and advocate.

November 2014 The Resource 15
Princeton celebrates Public Power Week Oct. 8

A number of Minnesota municipal utilities celebrated Public Power Week Oct. 5-11, including Princeton Public Utilities. The highlight of the week came Wednesday, Oct. 8, when the utility served hot dogs, bratwursts, hamburgers and all the fixings on its front lawn. The weather was sunny but chilly, the food good and the turnout strong, with approximately 375 people turning out for the event. Princeton has held a number of utility open houses over the years, and its customers continue to appreciate the courteous service they receive from their friends and neighbors at the utility.

Photos by Steve Downer

The utility had a beautiful fall day for the event. The awning covering the tables and chairs is visible beyond the pump house in this photograph.

People visited, had their plates filled with food, and ate under an awning at the open house.

Among those grilling and welcoming guests to the Princeton Public Utilities open house were, from left to right: lineman and 'chef' Tom Otto, Electric Superintendent Jon Brooks, General Manager Connie Wangen and Energy Services Representative Keith Butcher, of SMMPA.
Bill Radio, who has served for 24 years as Director of Member and Public Relations at Missouri River Energy Services, has announced that he will retire at the end of this year, ending a long career in public power.

Radio was city manager in Benson from 1975 to 1980, and also served during this time as vice president of the Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency.

He moved to another public power city—Chaska—from 1980 to 1984 and was MMUA president in 1983-84. He was also very involved with the American Public Power Association.

After working as a consultant he joined MRES, where he greatly increased the role of his department. His responsibilities included overseeing communications, public relations, member and energy services, strategic planning, employee education, member workshops, state and federal legislative relations, and distribution system maintenance.

Following a nationwide search for Radio’s replacement, MRES CEO Tom Heller made the decision to reorganize the Member and Public Relations Department and combine state and federal legislative activities under a new department.

Joni Livingston, who currently is the MRES Manager of Energy Services, will be promoted to Director of the new Member Services and Communications Department.

Deborah Birgen, who currently is MRES Manager of State Legislative Relations, will be promoted to Director of the new Legislative and Governmental Relations Department.

Jeff Peters, who is the MRES Director of Federal and Distributed Power Programs, will assume the organization’s strategic planning coordination duties that were formerly led by Radio.

The MRES distribution system maintenance service, which had been under the direction of Radio, will continue to be led by Distribution Systems Superintendent Jeff Bechtold, who will report directly to CEO Tom Heller.

All changes will be effective when Radio retires at the end of the year.
December 9 - 11, 2014
Holiday Inn & Suites, St. Cloud, Minnesota
Volunteers, pledges needed for 2016 APPA national Lineworkers Rodeo

Editor’s note: The following was originally communicated in an email to the membership Oct. 22 from Mike Willetts, MMUA Director of Job Training and Safety.

Planning for APPA’s 2016 Public Power Lineworkers Rodeo has begun. Our first planning meeting was held September 30 and was an overwhelming success. We accomplished a lot, but have much more to do. A special thank you to all who attended!

A key development from this meeting was to provide the membership with estimated budget figures so our cities and utilities can contribute funds to a category of their choosing.

Included here are the estimated construction and ancillary costs needed to make the rodeo a success. Members who have already committed to donating to each event are noted. To be a part of committing to donating to each event are noted. To be a part of donating to each event are noted. To be a part of

Estimated ancillary donation needs

| Event #5 – Owatonna, Sleepy Eye | $19,008 |
| Food and Concessions | $8,000 |
| Portable Toilets and Wash Stations | $4,000 |
| Stage Rental | $1,000 |
| Children’s Play Area | $3,000 |
| Golf Cart Rental | $1,500 |
| Field Security | $3,300 |
| Tent Rental | $7,000 |
| On-Site EMTs | $1,000 |
| Portable Radio Rental | $490 |
| Scoring - Venue | $1,190 |
| Ice... | $860 |
| Field Clean-up | $750 |
| Trash Containers | $750 |
| Media (Advertising, Banners, Signage, Video) | $14,500 |
| Miscellaneous | $5,500 |

MMUA to reserve your spot on the donation list. Funding for these events will be needed in January 2016. Again, do not send money now. We are only looking for commitments at this time.

Volunteers Needed

Along with the financial needs, we have many opportunities for people willing to volunteer their time. The following is a list of volunteer positions:

- Pre-Registration Volunteers – Need 25
  Thursday, March 31, 2016
  Shift 1 – Need 10
  Shift 2 – Need 10
- Registration Volunteers – Need 16
  Friday, April 1, 2016
  Shift 1 – Need 10
  Shift 2 – Need 10

Rodeo Event Day

Saturday, April 2, 2016

- Children’s Area Volunteers – Need 30
- Parking Volunteers – Need 5
- Event Judge Volunteers – Need 40
  - Must have lineworker background to be an Event Judge

Greeter, Entry and Exit Auditor Volunteers – Need 30

Shift 1 – Need 10
Shift 2 – Need 10
Shift 3 – Need 10

Bucket Truck Operators for Hurtman Rescue Event Volunteers – Need 16
  - Must be qualified to operate bucket truck proficiently

If you have any questions or want to get on the list to donate and/or volunteer, contact either Mike Willetts, mwilletts@mmua.org or 763-746-0705; or Rita Kelly at rkelly@mmua.org or 763-746-0707. Thank you for your support!

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St. Paul, MN 55110-5196
651.490.2000
800.325.2055 toll free
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November The Resource
HELP WANTED

Government Relations Representative

Government Relations Representative sought by Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association, a non-profit trade association of publicly-owned electric, gas, water, wastewater and telecommunications utilities.

General Duties:
- Monitor and lobby the Minnesota Legislature and U.S. Congress regarding issues affecting MMUA member utilities. Also monitor pertinent proceedings of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and other state and federal agencies.
- Communicate with and between member utility management personnel, local public officials, state and federal agency personnel and related industry and issue representatives.
- Assist in preparing written communications for publication and filing with government agencies.
- Conduct and organize industry-related research.
- Assist with upper level administrative duties, including lobbyist reporting and record keeping.

Qualifications:
- Bachelor’s degree in Communications, Journalism, Political Science or related field.
- High level of proficiency in Microsoft Office programs (Word, Excel and PowerPoint).
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Advanced degree in Law, Public Administration or related field (preferred).
- Experience in public policy development or legislative administration (preferred).

Mail resumes to Bill Black, Government Relations Director, MMUA, 3025 Harbor Lane North, Suite 400, Plymouth, MN 55447 or email to bblack@mmua.org. Please include salary requirements. Position open until filled.

Energy Services Representative

Austin Utilities is seeking a full-time Energy Services Representative. The Energy Services Department is a multi-faceted department with responsibility for development and implementation of energy efficiency and demand management programs, marketing related to demand side management efforts, customer relationship management, market research and analytics, and related non-demand side management program functions. The department’s core responsibility is to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate Austin Utilities’ electric and gas energy efficiency and demand management programs and related customer engagement.

Austin Utilities is an electric, water and natural gas municipal utility located in Southern Minnesota. Minimum requirements include a Bachelor’s degree in Business (communications, management, economics, marketing or engineering), Minimum of three (3) years related experience and/or training, or equivalent combination of education and experience, Certi-
Wastewater Superintendent
The City of Pierre, SD is accepting applications for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent position. Under direct supervision of the Operations Manager, the Superintendent is responsible for directing and supervising the operation, maintenance & repair of wastewater treatment facilities and lift stations. Individual should have knowledge of plumbing, electrical, electronics, pumps & pump & motor controls & must have knowledge in the operation of Aerobic Digestion and SCADA systems. The Superintendent will assist in developing the department budget; work with management in overseeing projects and personnel; and must possess strong administrative, oral & written communication skills.

Education
Bachelor’s degree in environmental science, a related field, or obtain one within six months.

Years of Experience
Line Worker or equivalent is preferred. At least five years of full-time employment experience in the wastewater treatment and plant maintenance or repair is required. Experience in the operation of SCADA systems is preferred.

Salary
Wage range of $26.94 - $30.72. Salary commensurate with experience & qualifications. Excellent benefits package, including pension, health insurance, life insurance, 457 plan, paid sick leave and vacation. A completed application and resume, including salary history, references and a cover letter are required. Job description and application are available at: Waterfront Municipal Utilities, Attn: Human Resources, 901 – 4th Avenue SW, Watertown, SD 57201. E-mail: hwatertownmu.com Application and job description also available online at www.watertownmu.com Deadline to apply: Until Position is Filled

LineWorker
Virginia Public Utilities is accepting applications for future full-time LineWorker positions. This position is responsible for installation, maintenance and repair of underground distribution and service lines, repair, maintenance and installation of power lines, street lighting, service connections, etc. Installation of new transformers, air switches and reclosers. The LineWorker will learn to climb power poles to make inspections, installations and repairs, assist in the construction of substations, answer trouble calls and perform other duties as assigned. Qualified candidates will have successfully completed an approved Electrical LineWorker program and four (4) years journeyman experience or have successfully completed and approved 4-year apprenticeship course and two years’ experience as a Journeyman LineWorker. Candidates must have a Class B Driver’s license; subject to random drug and alcohol testing, ability to drive all equipment, must have skills in locating and correcting defects in electrical systems, transformers, appliances, etc.; should be able to get along with individuals at all levels, both inside and outside the department; must be able to deal with customers with unfailing courtesy and tact. Interested candidate may apply by submitting their application and resume to: Virginia Department of Public Utilities, Attn: Nancee Strgar, HR/Safety Director, 618 South 2nd Street, Virginia, MN 55592 or send via fax: 218-748-7544 or e-mail: nancee@vypc.com. Applications are available on our website: www.vpuc.com. WANTED TO BUY Steam Meters
Cadillac Steam Condensate meters, parts for size A or B. Please contact Bob Engman at (218) 748-7540 - Virginia Public Utilities.
Rodeo Team
Training Clinic
January 27-29
MMUA Training Center, Marshall

Winter Legislative Conference
February 4-6
Crowne Plaza, Bloomington

FirstLine Supervision
February 4-6
Central Lakes College, Brainerd
February 11-13
MMUA Office in Plymouth
Cross-Training School
Dates to be determined
MMUA Training Center, Marshall

APPA Legislative Rally
March 9-11
Washington, D.C.

MMUA/APPA/MREA Meter School
March 10-11
Basic Metering
March 11-13
MMUA Training Center, Marshall

Generation School
April 14-16
Multiple locations: to be determined

APPA Rodeo and E&O Workshop
May 14-16 — Rodeo
May 17-20 — Workshop
Sacramento, CA

MMUA/APPA/MREA Underground School
May 5-8
MMUA Office in Plymouth

Annual Summer Conference
August 17-19
Breezy Point

MMUA/APPA/MREA

Technical & Operations (T&O) Conference
October 21-23
Central Lakes College, Brainerd

FirstLine Supervision Conference
October 7-9
Central Lakes College, Brainerd
November 4-6

Substation School
March 24-26
MMUA/APPA/MREA

MMUA/APPA/MREA

Overhead School
September 15-18
MMUA Training Center, Marshall

Overhead School
October 7-9
Central Lakes College, Brainerd

Transformer School
December 15-18
MMUA Training Center, Marshall

Transformer School
December 15-18
MMUA Training Center, Marshall

Transformer School
December 15-18
MMUA Training Center, Marshall

Transformer School
December 15-18
MMUA Training Center, Marshall