

EMERGENCY GRANT REPORT

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION-RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

Report Date: June 1, 2015

Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program Emergency Grant
Appropriation for the 2015 Biennium \$100,000

Current Appropriation Balance: \$ 5,000

City of White Sulphur Springs \$15,000
Water Treatment Plant Emergency Improvements Project
July, 2013

The City of White Sulphur Springs owns and operates a slow sand filter water treatment facility as the primary supply for its municipal water system. Two wells serve as a backup source, but they fail to meet regulatory criteria with regards to the quantities of water they produce.

In June, 2012, a tornado destroyed the structure that housed the slow sand filter system, but the equipment was left undamaged. Since that time, the system has relied upon the backup wells as its water supply. To utilize the wells requires the operation of pumps; electricity to operate the pumps has been a significant additional cost to the community, since the slow sand filter system is gravity fed and requires no electricity to operate.

The City has obtained loan funding to replace the filter building and enable operation of the slow sand filter. This grant will be used to decrease the required loan amount for the \$300,000 project.

Cascade County \$1,500
Emergency Water Pump Repair for Windy Acres Subdivision
August, 2013

On July 30, 2013, the controls for the primary pump supplying water to Windy Acres Subdivision, located about four miles north of Great Falls, failed. This left the small subdivision (43 users) with total reliance on a secondary pump with limited capacity. The Homeowners' Association associated with the subdivision contacted DNRC with a request for emergency funding to offset the \$1,800 cost of repairs. Because the Homeowners' Association is not a governmental entity, they also contacted Cascade County to support them by applying for grant funding.

Town of Flaxville \$28,500
Water Storage Reservoir Emergency Repair Project-2014
January, 2014

The elevated water storage reservoir for the Town of Flaxville water system developed a leak in late December, 2013. Due to cold temperatures, the reservoir inlet pipe began to freeze and fail structurally, necessitating the draining and removal of the reservoir from the system. An elevated storage tank specialty contractor from Sioux Falls, South Dakota was hired to repair the tank and replace the standpipe early in January, 2014. The total cost of repairs was \$61,650, a portion of which was borrowed by the Town through the State Revolving Fund Loan Program.

Town of Judith Gap **\$15,000**
Water Pump Replacement Project-2014
April, 2014

Judith Gap is a small town located 18 miles north of Harlowton in Wheatland County. In April, 2014, the Town's primary source of drinking water, a well with a 28-year-old vertical shaft turbine pump, failed. The total cost of the replacement, was \$27,000. Work was completed in April.

Town of Roberts **\$15,000**
Emergency Wastewater Bypass-2014
April, 2014

The community of Roberts, in Carbon County, experienced a wastewater lift station failure in April, 2014. Replacement pumps were ordered with a two-month delivery requirement. During the interim, it was necessary to rent a trash pump and bypass pump treated effluent to the holding cell for approximately two months at a cost of \$4,000 per week.

Lower Deep Creek Drainage District **\$10,000**
Drain Ditch Emergency Rehab
September, 2014

Lower Deep Creek Drainage District is responsible for the operation and maintenance of a system of drain ditches that were constructed in 1951 to lower the groundwater table east of Townsend. The state of disrepair is critical, and the District proposes to clean and reshape critical sections of the system in and around Townsend to prevent flooding and damaging high groundwater levels. Work is to be completed by December 31, 2014.

Town of Winifred **\$10,000**
Water Storage Reservoir Emergency Repair
November, 2014

In September, 2014, an inspection of the on-grade steel water storage reservoir that provides storage for Winifred's municipal water system revealed a collapsed roof. In response, Maguire Iron, Inc., a midwest steel tank design and construction firm, was contracted to inspect the structural integrity of the tank and recommend an emergency fix, since the tank is scheduled to be replaced as part of a water system improvements project pending the success of grant applications to both the TSEP

and RRGL programs in 2014. The proposed fix is to externally rig and jack the roof to its normal position and weld external steel support beams to prevent further collapse and potential total failure. The cost of the repair is \$24,900 not including engineering oversight, which would be minimal.