



Kentucky Rural Water Association

Helping water and wastewater utilities help themselves

May 10, 2004

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**PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION**

Mr. Thomas M. Dorman
Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

Case 2004-00176

Dear Mr. Dorman:

Kentucky Rural Water Association hosted three (3) regional meetings during the month of April, 2004. We request that his training be approved for commissioners as referenced in HB-75, KRS 74.020.

Please find enclosed a training summary for these meetings which includes a timed agenda, a description of the sessions, and speaker biographies. Two (2) hours of continuing education credit was approved by the Division of Water for drinking water treatment and distribution operators. A copy of their approval is also enclosed.

As required, KRWA has retained a record of all persons requesting commissioner training hours for the sessions. No written materials were provided to the attendees during these regional meetings.

With this letter and enclosures, Kentucky Rural Water Association is requesting the approval of two (2) hours per session for commissioner and board member training. If additional information is requested, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Phillip East
Education Services Director

jc

Enclosures

Training Summaries for Regional Meetings

Presented By: Kentucky Rural Water Association

Following a meal, the training portions of the Regional Meetings will be conducted from 6:30 PM until 8:30 PM. Two hours of training will be conducted to inform the attendees of various practices and techniques to enhance the operation of a water system.

Green River Regional Meeting

April 15, 2004

Ohio County Community Center

Hartford, KY

Topic: A May Shares His Knowledge of a Water Plant

Speaker: Mayor Earl Russell, City of Hartford

This session will provide information from the Mayor's perspective on dealing with issues regarding a city's water system. The presentation will include:

1. Planning and Budgeting-The Importance of Improvements/Updates to a System
2. Funding Strategies-Finding Sources for Improvements

Topic: Practices of a Highly Effective Water Utility

Speaker: Phillip East, Kentucky Rural Water Assn.

Working from "Ten Practices of Highly Effective Water Utilities" (based on a presentation from Dr. Janice Beecher of the Beecher Research Institute), this session will focus on the positive image we should strive to project as water professionals. Material selected from this presentation includes the following:

1. Responsible and Responsive
2. Win Recognition of Regulators, Industry Peers, and Customers
3. Prepare Reports
4. Manage Information
5. Follow a Budget
6. Practice Self Improvement

Northeast Regional Meeting

April 20, 2004

Ponderosa Steak House

Morehead, KY

Topic: Nitrate Contamination Case Study

Speakers: Jim Vergne, General Manager, Western Lewis-Rectorville Water

Jack Stickney, Kentucky Rural Water Association

This session will explain the importance of developing a program for protecting the water source and steps taken to rehabilitate a groundwater supply after a contamination incident. Topics of discussion include:

1. Protecting streams, reservoirs, and groundwater
2. Groundwater model demonstration
3. Nitrate contamination incident
4. Well and groundwater rehabilitation

Western Regional Meeting

April 22, 2004

Ponderosa Steak House

Draffenville, KY

Topic: Equipment Maintenance

Speakers: Clem Wethington, Kentucky Rural Water Association

This session will explain the importance of developing a maintenance program for water system equipment. Topics of discussion include:

1. Maintaining pumps, motors, vehicles
2. Lubrication charts
3. Maintenance schedules

Kentucky Rural Water Association requests the approval of two (2) hours for this session to be applied toward commissioner training.

CITY OF HARTFORD

Home of 2000 Happy People & A Few Soreheads

116 East Washington Hartford, Kentucky 42347-1141

Earl Russell
Mayor

TDD 800-648-6056
Phone (270) 298-3612
Fax @270) 298-3220

James Gray
Superintendent of Public Works

Janice Embry
City Administrator

Martha L. Vaught
City Clerk

Earl Russell

Earl Russell has been Mayor of Hartford since 1987. He is the 16th Mayor to serve dating back to 1904.

Achievements:

- 1991-New 1mg capacity Water Plant and storage tank-cost \$1.8 million
- 1994-Slip lining to control infiltration in the city's sewer system-cost \$43,000
- 1995-Preservation of Historic Kentucky Theatre renovated into City Hall at a cost of \$109,850 minus ADF Grant and donations-adjusted cost \$89,302
- Phase III of the renovation is currently in progress
- 1999/2001-Sewer Extensions for Hwy 1543 and Hwy 231S-cost \$219,900
- Welcome Signs on Hwy 69 and Oakwood Drive-cost \$3,800
- 2003/2004-Water Plant Improvement Project Upgrade/Actiflo Project-cost \$953,000(of the \$953,000, the city was awarded a USDA Rural Development Grant of \$453,000 for the project).

Mayor Earl Russell was appointed as Chairman of the GRADD Board as of January 1, 2004.

Also working with the Wastewater Regionalization future project.

(See attached article for additional boards and committees served.)

CITY COUNCIL

J.T. Boling, Sr. • Dwight Leach • Joey Carpenter • Cynthia McEnroe • Charlotte Hendricks • Catherine Neal

A Kentucky Certified City

Senior of the Week

Earl Russell has worked with education, Hartford mayor's position in Ohio Co.

By: Sam Ford, Messenger staff writer

Every week, The Ohio County Messenger and The Ohio County Senior Center names someone to be the Senior of the Week. This week, we here at the Messenger are proud to name Hartford Mayor Earl Russell to this position.

Earl Russell has been the mayor of Hartford since 1987, and, in that time, he has seen a lot of changes in the county seat.

Russell was born in Daviess County just across the county line at what is now the close to the Pleasant Ridge area to James Robert "J.R." "Jimmy" Russell and Betty Jolly Russell. However, he grew up in Ohio County.

He initially attended Crowe's School at the end of Bell Town Road very close to where he was born. Then, when his family moved to Beda, where his father had a general merchandise store, he attended Beda Rural School. He stayed there until the rural schools consolidated, and he went to Hartford in fifth grade. He then went to Wayland Alexander Elementary School the first year it was in operation for his sixth grade year.

Russell and brother Jake Russell grew up in the Beda area, and both were to eventually become involved in education in the county.

Earl Russell graduated from Hartford High School in 1944 and went to Western Kentucky Teacher's College, now Western Kentucky University before entering the army at the end of World War II. After moving back to the area, he finished at Western and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in 1950. Russell majored in biology/science.

He started working with his father as partners in the International Harvest farm implement business in Hartford until Stanley Byers, who was then superintendent, approached him and asked him if he would like to teach school.

"I didn't have a certificate, just a degree, but they got me an emergency certificate and sent me to teach high school at Horse Branch in 1951," Russell said. "I decided to try it and, after I spent some time at Horse Branch, I loved it so much I decided to go back and get my certificate."

Russell continued teaching while going back and taking about 19 more hours to get his teaching certification.

He then came to Hartford High School to teach mathematics.

Russell had minored in mathematics for his Bachelor's degree, and he decided to get his Master's in math while teaching at Hartford High School. He was one of the first students to get a Master's in mathematics at Western Kentucky University. He went on to get his Rank 1 degree.

Russell stayed at Hartford High School and taught until 1963, when he went with the Kentucky Department of Education in what is called The Bureau of Rehabilitation.

"The bureau helped the handicapped or disabled young people to get more training for jobs and other things," he said. "I worked at that job about a year, but I stayed away from home because I had a seven-county area to watch over and a lot of workshops to attend."

While working with the state, Russell was approached by Superintendent Bill Leach and asked if he would come back and be principal at Hartford High School in 1964-1965 because Charles Combs had gone to Daviess County. Russell said it was a little strange being the administrator over many of the teachers whose classes he had taken just a few years before.

The school year turned out to be the last year for Hartford High School before it consolidated into the formation of Ohio County High School.

Russell was the first assistant principal at Ohio County High School, where he was administrator under Wilbur Forsythe.

Russell continued in that position until 1975, when he took a job with the Board of Education, where he stayed until 1987 and received the state administrative award. There, he served as secondary supervisor at Central Office. He was also Title I coordinator and then got a special education program started in Ohio County. He also worked with the attendance program for the school system and consolidated lunch services and food services at each school into a county-wide program.

"I worked with starting things like the hamburger line and other things that were unheard of before then," he said. "We wanted to give students choices."

In 1987, Russell decided to retire, but it didn't last long.

"I had 33 years of experience by then and I was going to relax," he said. "When I taught for a month at Horse Branch, I went back to the superintendent and thanked him because I never thought I'd have a job I'd enjoy so much and get paid for it. I never realize that I wanted to teach until I taught. I would urge anyone to try something out first if they think they want to do it."

Russell had served on the Hartford City Council from 1983 to 1985

Hartford's mayor had found another job and left, so the city was without a mayor. Council member Joe Park had filled in as mayor before the election, and Russell was talked into running. He won the position, and, three days after the election, because there was no mayor in office, Russell took the position.

In his time as mayor, Russell has seen the city move out of the Community Center and into the renovated theater building. From 1989 until 1991, the city built its new water plan. In fact, it was this water project that has kept Russell in the position for so long.

"I am staying in this position because of the regional waste-water issue," he said. "I wanted to see that project through."

Russell has been involved in many other organizations as well, including the Junior Chamber of Commerce, The Kiwanas Club, The Kentucky Education Association and The Retired Teachers Association, which he has served as president of. He has also served as president of the Historical Society and is a member of Hartford United Methodist Church, where he has taught the adult men's Sunday school class for over 20 years.

He also served on the Board of Directors of the Kentucky League of Cities from 1992 until 1999 and has worked with The Green River Area Developmental District (GRADD) since 1990, where he has served on the Board of Directors. This next year, he will be chairman of that GRADD board. Russell married Dorothy Martin from Sulfur Springs in June 4, 1950. The couple has two children, Teddy Lou Russell and Edna Earle Russell. Teddy Lou Russell lives in Pennsylvania and works for a restaurant franchise, while Edna Earle Russell lives in New Jersey and works for a publishing company.

Earl Russell has had a great impact on our county, and we recognize all of his contributions by naming him this week's Senior of the Week.



Mayor Earl Russell

2004

BIOGRAPHY

Phillip N. East

Prior to coming to work as a Circuit Rider for the Kentucky Rural Water Association (KRWA) in September 1996, Phillip East served as Water Treatment Superintendent for the City of Franklin, Kentucky. Before moving to Kentucky, Mr. East worked as Treatment Plant Operator for the Hendersonville Utility District in Hendersonville, Tennessee. Phillip has served as the Education Services Director for KRWA since 1997.

Mr. East has also worked for the City of Odessa, Texas and the City of Austin, Texas where he worked his way up through the ranks serving as Chemical and Filter Operator, Instrument Technician, Maintenance Mechanic Foreman, Chief Operator, Assistant Plant Superintendent, Plant Supervisor, and Plant Operations Supervisor. Mr. East, who has over twenty years of experience, has worked with ground and surface water systems utilizing Accelerated Solids Contact and conventional treatment processes in plants ranging from 5 MGD to 60 MGD.

Mr. East earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Texas at Austin and has completed graduate work in Public Administration at South West Texas State University at San Marcos, Texas.

In addition to having been a member of the Capital Area Water and Wastewater Association in Texas, the Texas Water Utilities Association, and the American Water Works Association, Mr. East currently holds water treatment certification in Texas, Tennessee and Kentucky at the highest available technical levels.

Phillip and his wife, Joyce, reside with their son, Jeffrey, in Allen County, Kentucky. Another son, Jonathon, lives in Gatlinburg, Tennessee and daughter, Kimberly, lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

BIOGRAPHY

Jack Stickney

Jack Stickney came to Kentucky Rural Water Association in February of 2001. As a Groundwater Technician for KRWA, he writes Wellhead Protection Plans for small water utilities throughout Kentucky. He also assists utilities with problems and technical issues that pertain to groundwater resources. Jack earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology in 1979 from Radford University, Radford Virginia, and his Masters Degree in Geology in 1985 from Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky.

Jack has over twenty years of work experience in the geologic field including oil drilling, uranium mining, coal, groundwater, and environmental from all over the United States, but primarily in Kentucky. He is a registered Professional Geologist in Kentucky, North Carolina and Alaska.

Together with his wife Theresa, a teacher, and his son, Caleb, Jack resides on a farm in the back woods of Estill County, Kentucky in a log home that he built over a twelve year period.

Western Lewis-Rectorville Water

8000 Day Pike
Maysville, KY 41056

Jim Vergne
General Manager

Jim Vergne served as a commissioner for over 14 years for the Garrison-Quincy Water District.

He holds Class IIIA water treatment and Class IIID water distribution licenses.

After graduating from Morehead State University (1964-BS; 1968-MS) with majors in math and physics, Jim taught school for 30 years.

BIOGRAPHY

CLEM WETHINGTON

Clem Wethington came to Kentucky Rural Water Association in 1987 from the City of Eddyville where he was Superintendent of Public Works for over eight years. For nine years he served on the Eddyville City Council. Clem holds the following licenses: Class IIIA Kentucky Water Treatment Plant Operator's License, Class II Kentucky Water Distribution System Operator's License, and Class I Kentucky Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator's License.

Mr. Wethington held the position of Circuit Rider with Kentucky Rural Water Association from June 1987, to March 1991. His primary duties as Circuit Rider were to provide technical assistance and hands-on training to rural water utility personnel throughout Kentucky. In 1988, Wethington received the "Rookie Circuit Rider of the Year" award from the National Rural Water Association (NRWA). He was also a contributing author of a Rural and Small System Training Guide entitled "An Introduction to Hydrant Operation and Maintenance" published by the National Rural Water Association in 1989.

Mr. Wethington's position with KRWA from March 1991, to March 1994, was that of Groundwater Technician. In that capacity, he worked with communities throughout Kentucky to help them develop local wellhead protection plans. In 1993, Mr. Wethington was named "Groundwater Technician of the Year" by NRWA. In March 1994, Mr. Wethington returned as a Circuit Rider for a brief period and then became Program Specialist in February 1995. The Program Specialist is dually responsible for providing training and technical assistance to water systems. Clem was awarded the honor of "Training Specialist of the Year" by the NRWA in 1999.

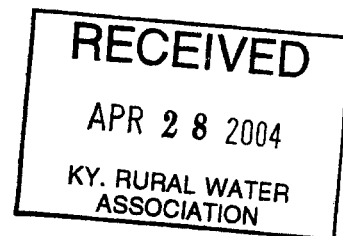
Clem, a native of Casey County, Kentucky, resides in Eddyville, Kentucky with his wife, Maxine. They have three children. Clem enjoys outdoor activities including working in the yard, fishing, backpacking, canoeing, and golf. Another hobby includes listening to and singing gospel music.

ERNIE FLETCHER
GOVERNOR



LAJUANA S. WILCHER
SECRETARY

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
FRANKFORT OFFICE PARK
14 REILLY RD
FRANKFORT, KY 40601



April 26, 2004

Clem Wethington
KRWA
P. O. Box 1424
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42102

Dear Mr. Wethington:

During the April 21, 2004 meeting of the Kentucky Board of Certification of Water Treatment and Distribution System Operators, your request for approval of several courses were evaluated and approved as follows:

Course Title	Course Date	DOW Event Id Number	DW Hours Approved
Green River Regional Meeting	April 15, 2004	2221	Two
Northeast Regional Meeting	April 20, 2004	2222	Two
Western Regional Meeting	April 22, 2004	2223	Two

Within thirty days of completion of each course, please forward to this office a list of attendees, including the appropriate drinking water certification number(s) and hours earned by each. When forwarding this information, please reference the appropriate DOW event id number as provided above. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (502) 564-3410, ext. 317.

Sincerely,

Melissa L. Brothers

Melissa L. Brothers
Operator Certification Section
Enforcement Branch
Division of Water

