



# THE SPIGOT

from the NORTH DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEMS ASSOCIATION

## NDRWSA Holds Second Biennial Legislative Social



**Rep. Joe Kroeber, District 12; Mary Massad, manager of the Southwest Water Authority; Rep. Phil Mueller, District 24.**

The second North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association (NDRWSA) legislative social was held on Jan. 20, at the Best Western Ramkota in Bismarck. More than 50 percent of the state legislators stopped by for refreshments and to visit with the 18 rural water systems that set up exhibit booths or tabletop displays. “We received a lot of positive feedback both from participating rural water systems and from legislators who attended. Due to the success and positive response we received in 2009 and 2011, we will definitely make this a reoccurring event during legislative years,” says NDRWSA President Gordy Blixt.

“It is estimated in the next eight to ten years that more than \$1 billion will be needed to complete and update North Dakota’s regional and local water projects,” says NDRWSA Executive Director Eric Volk. “The legislative social was a great place for our systems to educate and inform the state legislators of the rural water funding needs. The state plays an important role in rural water development and it is important that all legislators are aware of this.”



**Sen. Ronald Sorvaag, District 45; Gordy Blixt, president of NDRWSA; and Jerry Blomeke, manager of Cass Rural Water District.**

### Sponsors of NDRWSA Legislative Social:

- Agassiz Water Users District*
- Burke Divide Williams Rural Water*
- Cass Rural Water District*
- Garrison Diversion Conservancy District*
- Grand Forks-Traill Water District*
- Lake Agassiz Water Authority*
- Langdon Rural Water District*
- McKenzie County Water Resource District*
- North Central Rural Water Consortium II*
- North Valley Water District*
- South Central Regional Water District*
- Southeast Water Users District*
- Southwest Water Authority*
- Stutsman Rural Water District*
- Traill Rural Water District*
- Tri-County Water District*
- Walsh Rural Water District*
- Williams Rural Water District*

# NDRWSA To Sponsor Free Small System Funding Seminars

Meeting the demands of repairing and replacing infrastructure, such as water and wastewater projects, is taking its toll on many small utility systems. The North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association (NDRWSA), in conjunction with the North Dakota League of Cities regional meetings, is bringing together several entities that offer funding and resources for small systems.

The objective during these half-day training seminars is to promote, under one roof, awareness of funding sources, rules, regulations, application processes, names, addresses, and “how to’s.” These training seminars are a do-not-miss for those looking at outside funding for a project in the near future. Attendance and participation will greatly benefit individual systems for years to come.

Acquiring funding for needed infrastructure improvements is time consuming and complex. These seminars will help participants understand how to get on the project priority list for construction, become aware of the current interest rates and special concerns for disadvantaged communities, and find out how these funding entities are working together to put affordable projects together for municipalities. They will help participants learn how to do their research and homework.

Subjects to be discussed include: USDA Rural Development loans and grants, North Dakota Department of Health revolving loan funds, Community Development

block grants, Interim financing, MR&I funding, National Rural Water Association revolving loan funds, rate setting, and money saving services and ideas.

Groups targeted for participation in these seminars are mayors, administrators, economic development personnel, utility supervisors, utility superintendents, engineers, water and wastewater operators, and others involved or interested in the financial stability of municipal and rural water systems.

Pre-registration is appreciated! The seminars will start at 9 a.m., (local time) and last until noon. North Dakota League of Cities regional meetings locations and dates are as follows:

**Crosby - April 26**

**Westhope - April 27**

**Killdeer - April 28**

**Grafton - May 3**

**Valley City - May 4**

**Jamestown - May 5**

Contact the NDRWSA for the specific seminar location in a particular city, and watch the mail for further details.

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## Small System Funding Options Seminar Registration Form

**Please complete in full**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

System/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Attending At:  Crosby  Westhope  Killdeer  
 Grafton  Valley City  Jamestown

Number of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

**Register by mail, fax, phone, e-mail or online**

**Mail:**

N.D. Rural Water Systems Association  
2718 Gateway Ave. #201  
Bismarck, ND 58503

**Fax:** (701) 258-5002

**Phone:** (800) 349-6951

**Email:** ericvolk@ndrw.org

**Online:** www.ndrw.org