

January 2010—March 2010



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COP CHRONICLE

BOAT HARBOR LIFT STATION

American Fork, Utah

The \$2.9 million dollar Boat Harbor Lift Station project was awarded to COP Construction in April of 2009. The project was estimated by Ron Batt. Jasen Bennie was the Project Manager, and the Superintendents were Celso Holguin, Jade Lee and Sam Vaitai.

The Boat Harbor Lift Station Project presented a unique challenge to COP Construction due to the nature of the job. The project included construction of a new 30-MGD submersible raw wastewater pumping station, odor control bio-filter and associated mechanical, electrical, instrumentation, civil and structural work. The real challenge was met when excavating 45' deep to cast in place the 40' deep, concrete wet well. Ground water was encountered 2' below the ground surface, and the excavation was 15 feet from the American Fork River.

The mass excavation was accomplished using a 320 Cat excavator with a 65' long stick to reach the bottom of the 45' deep excavation. COP subcontracted to Build, Inc., who drove 65 foot long sheet pile for earth retention. Build, Inc. also installed four whaler and strut rings inside of the sheet pile cell. This made excavating very difficult and time consuming. To help control the ground water, two wells and sump pumps were installed. Between the sheet piling restricting the water from infiltrating the excavation and help from the two wells installed, the water was less of an obstacle than anticipated. Overall, there were approximately 1,700 cubic yards of spoils removed from the sheet pile cell.



Build, Inc. driving sheet pile
(Photo by Jasen Bennie)



Long stick excavator digging out sheet pile cell
(Photo by Jasen Bennie)

Inside this issue:

Letter from the President	2
Faces of COP	3
Current Projects	6

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From the desk of the President –



In these challenging times, I believe that accountability becomes ever more an important trait that needs to be revived. People need to be accountable and responsible for their actions. In this country, more than any other country, people can achieve their goals with good decision making, hard work and a little luck. I believe that generally people control their own destiny. How often do we hear people blame others for their lack of success, claiming they are “victims” of the system? It is concerning to see that the actions our government is taking is resulting in bigger government with more government control. As Thomas Jefferson once said, “A wise and frugal government, which shall leave men free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned – this is the sum of good government.” Below is the story, “Lesson in the Barnyard”, by Ron Adams and Will Enns. I believe it identifies the direction that we appear to be headed.

Once upon a time in the barnyard next door, there was a little red rooster. One day in the barn, he found some grains of wheat in a bag that Farmer Brown had forgotten. “Look, look,” he said to his barnyard pals. “If we work together and plant this wheat, we’ll have some nice warm bread to eat. Who will help me plant it?”

“Not I,” grunted the pig. “Anything I earn will be deducted from my welfare check.”

“Not I,” moaned the cow. “I’ll lose my unemployment.”

“Not I,” brayed the donkey. “We don’t have a contract.”

“Not I,” honked the goose. “You haven’t done an environmental assessment.”

“Not I,” quacked the duck. “My ancestors used to fly over this barnyard, so I don’t have to do anything.”

“Then I will do it myself,” said Little Red Rooster. And he did.

The wheat grew and grew, and ripened into a golden blanket. “Who will help me harvest the kernels and grind them into flour?” asked Little Red Rooster.

“Not I,” grunted the pig. “I’m too busy with my employment preparation course.”

“Not I,” moaned the cow. “That’s not in a cow’s job description.”

“Not I,” brayed the donkey. “That’s considered contracting out.”

“Not I,” honked the goose. “Cutting grain destroys bird habitat.”

“Not I,” quacked the duck. “Got to prepare my land claims case.”

“Then I will do it myself,” said Little Red Rooster. And he did.

“Who’ll help me bake bread?” asked Little Red Rooster.

“Too busy rolling smokes,” grunted the pig.

“Must prepare my resume,” moaned the cow.

“That’s unauthorized overtime for me,” brayed the donkey.

“Baking contributes to global warming!” honked the goose.

“If I’m the only one helping, it’s racial discrimination,” quacked the duck.

“Then I guess I will,” said Little Red Rooster. And he did. He baked six big, delicious loaves of bread.

You can’t eat all that bread by yourself,” squealed the pig. “You should share some with me!”

“Give me some too,” moaned the cow. “It’s only fair.”

“Me too,” brayed the donkey. “Solidarity forever!”

“Equal share!” honked the goose.

“It’s all mine,” quacked the duck. “My ancestors used to fly over this barnyard!”

“No way,” said Little Red Rooster. “First, I’m going to rest a while, then I’m going to eat all the loaves by myself.”

“Corporate greed!” roared the pig.

“Cruel insensitivity of the rich,” moaned the cow.

“Union bashing!” howled the donkey.

“Threatening endangered species!” honked the goose.

“Racism, genocide!” screeched the duck.

And the barnyard animals hurriedly began painting signs and organizing a political protest.

When Farmer Brown came to investigate the commotion, he immediately realized what was wrong. “Don’t be greedy,” he admonished Little Red Rooster. “Look at that underprivileged pig. Look at that poor cow. Look at that unfortunate donkey. Look at that helpless goose. Look at that disadvantaged duck. They’re all barnyard victims. You’ve shown them up and made second class citizens out of them.”

“But I earned that bread,” protested Little Red Rooster.

“Yes, that’s the great thing about our free enterprise barnyard,” said Farmer Brown. “Any animal can earn as much as he likes. You should be happy to have all this freedom. In other barnyards, you would have to give your bread to me. Here, the privileged animals share with the less fortunate, so you must give five of your loaves to your less fortunate friends.” And he did.

And the animals all lived happily ever after, even Little Red Rooster, who smiled and crowed, “I understand! I understand!”

But his barnyard friends wondered why he never baked any more bread.

In closing, I leave you with another quote from Thomas Jefferson. “I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.”

MEET THE FACES of COP

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT



THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT JOB YOU DO!

Kathy Thorson, Accounting Manager, has worked for COP Construction for six years, joining us after 15 years with Great Northern Equipment as their Controller.

She and David, her husband of 30 years this August, have 2 wonderful children. Kathy's daughter and husband currently live in Hawaii, where Kathy's son-in-law is stationed in the Army.

Her son resides locally, and he and his girlfriend frequently join Kathy and David for fun-filled weekends riding ATVs in the mountains of Montana.

"Winter 2010 will be a special one," reports Kathy. "With a daughter and son-in-law in Hawaii, David and I have plans to vacation and visit for two full weeks!"



Accounts Payable is handled by Donna Kuntz, who came on board in 1995.

Donna grew up on a sugar beet farm on the outskirts of Hardin, MT. She relocated to Billings, where she met her husband of 38

years. She has one son, who is a mechanical engineer in Kalispell, and a daughter who is a deaf education teacher in South Dakota. Donna enjoys refinishing furniture, gardening, taking walks in the mountains, and spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Jan Bramble, our Payroll Clerk has 26 years of experience with payroll. She joined COP Construction in 2005, after 21 years with UPS. Jan is married and "mom" to four black German Shepherds.



She and her husband own property at Newlan Creek Reservoir, north of White Sulphur Springs, MT, where they enjoy boating, fishing and hunting.



Accounting Clerk for COP Construction Utah and COP Wyoming, Tanya Brown, has been with the company since 1999. Her responsibilities include checking invoices against purchase agreements so they can be paid, entering payroll, and entering mileage for the mileage report – to name just a few.

Born in Glasgow MT, Tanya lived small-town Montana. She adored horses and rode at every chance. Upon graduation she attended college in Powell, WY, then Rapid City, SD where she attained her Bachelors in Business Administration.

Tanya enjoys many activities including restoring the 1930 cottage bungalow, where she and her husband and 8 year old daughter reside. She also enjoys gardening, needlework, and the Fur-trade Era (pre 1840) Mountain Man Rendezvous recreations where she spends the majority of her vacation time!



Historical pioneer water pipe uncovered on 400 East project

SPRINGVILLE
HERALD
Springville, UT
2/4/2010



Following are a few excerpts from the February 4 article: *“Part of Springville’s pioneer history was uncovered last Friday as crews from COP Construction unearthed several lengths of wooden pipe used in the city’s water system in the early 1900’s. Constructed of wood wrapped with iron to hold it together, the ends were made with a tongue and groove collar that the next pipe slipped into. When the water flowed through the pipe the wood expanded and sealed itself.” “Ellen Smith, an archeologist contracted by the Central Utah Water Conservancy District (CUWCD) to oversee the documentation, recording and researching of any historical objects found during the excavation of the new waterline, indicated that wooden water pipe was common in Utah during the early 1900’s.....” “Construction on the new city water line was shut down for several days while a decision was made on how to proceed.” Smith commented, “A lot of construction crews don’t seem concerned but when this pipe was unearthed the company immediately stopped work. It is refreshing to work with the CUWCD and COP Construction. They are people that care.”*



CLOSE CALLS AND NEAR MISSES

There are few “real” accidents that come completely out of nowhere, like a meteor falling out of the sky and hitting someone on the ground. Most accidents can be predicted and prevented.

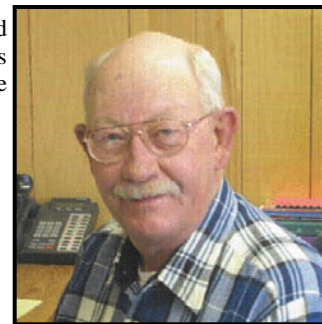
“Close calls” or “near misses” are predictors. They are warnings that safety-wise something is wrong and requires immediate attention – otherwise the near miss this time could be an accident next time.

So don’t just say “Thank goodness!” and go back about your business when there is a close call because you could have a big safety problem. A near miss means that you were lucky not to have had an accident. It does not mean that you – or somebody else – will be lucky again if the hazard remains.

Most close calls result from a combination of factors. Although human error is often one cause, other hazards can play a role as well. Often, too, it’s not one big hazard but a lot of little things that just happen to take place at the same time. And in most cases the same factors that cause the near miss will eventually come together again to cause an accident.

Whatever the factors are involved in a close call, including the human factor, they are generally easily correctible. Training can correct human error and the other issues can be fixed with simple intervention. But to prevent a looming accident, you need to move quickly by reporting the near miss and take the opportunity to eliminate the hazards that caused the close call.

Make sure everyone who needs to know about the close call finds out what happened and what can or should be done to prevent it from happening again. Then take the necessary actions to eliminate or control the hazards that caused the near miss. This is the essential part of the process. If you do not act now, you or someone else will pay the price later when somebody really gets hurt.



Chris Cull, Safety Manager

The concrete wet well was formed using Alisply gang forms. The Alisply forms were used as a single sided form method with the sheet piling acting as the other form. COP subcontracted to Western States Rebar to supply and install the reinforcing steel, and Ivan's Crane Service provided the 40 ton rough terrain crane for hoisting. There was approximately 1,000 cubic yards of concrete poured for the wet well structure supplied by Geneva Rock Products.

The electrical work, subcontracted to Little and Sons Electric, included installation of all the controls related to the contract. The four, 16" Flowserve submersible pumps were supplied by Delco Western. Each pump is rated at 54.4 horse power and has the capacity to pump approximately 7,000 gallons per minute.

The working relationship with Bowen Collins & Associates (Engineer) and Timpanogos Special Service District (Owner) was equitable and strong, and we look forward to working with each of them again in the near future. COP would also like to recognize Larry Bowen who has recently retired from Bowen Collins and Associates. Larry has been a positive influence and contributor to water and wastewater design and construction in Utah. Over the years Larry has helped build Bowen Collins and Associates to a successful and high level engineering and construction management firm in the Intermountain West.



Precast meter vault
(Photo by Jasen Bennie)

345 excavator installing trench plate for earth retention
(Photo by Jasen Bennie)



Electrical utility truck holding an existing electrical pole
next to COP's 25' deep utility excavation
(Photo by Jasen Bennie)



P.O. Box 20913 Billings, MT 59104

PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

***** **COP CONSTRUCTION LLC** *****

** **COP WYOMING LLC** **

EXXON CIVIL PROJECTS Billings, Montana	LOCKWOOD SEWER PHASE 1, Part 1 Lockwood, Montana \$2,662,000 Estimator: Ed Allen	BOAT HARBOR LIFT STATION American Fork, Utah \$2,900,000 Estimator: Ron Batt	COLLEGE DR.-GRANT ST. EXTENSION Rock Springs, Wyoming \$2,069,000 Estimator: Dustin Dennison
THOMPSON FALLS FISH LADDER Thompson Falls, Montana \$5,900,000 Estimator: Darci DeBuff	LOCKWOOD SEWER PHASE 1, Part 2 Lockwood, Montana \$3,443,000 Estimator: Ed Allen	SPANISH FORK-SPRINGVILLE REACH PIPELINE Springville, Utah \$28,510,000 Estimator: Rod Braegger	STORY FISH HATCHERY Story, Wyoming \$2,285,000 Estimator: Dustin Dennison
GIBBON RIVER BRIDGE (Sub-quote to HK Contractors, Inc.) Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming \$3,889,000 Estimator: Dan Feldman	PHASE 1A: COLLECTION SYSTEM REHAB Hardin, MT \$1,523,000 Estimator: Ed Allen	SWGTP BY-PRODUCT PIPELINE, PHASE 1 West Jordan, UT \$8,384,000 Estimator: Rod Braegger	
NEIHART WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS Neihart, Montana \$418,000 Estimator: Darci DeBuff	LAUREL WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 2 Laurel, Montana \$1,061,000 Estimator: Dave Loyning		
KOYAMA WATER & SEWER EXTENSION Hardin, Montana \$107,000 Estimator: Dave Loyning	LAUREL 8TH AVE. MAIN TO 9TH (Sub-quote to Knife River) Laurel, Montana \$1,137,000 Estimator: Dave Loyning		