CHEROKEE RURAL WATER

PRESORTED

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

CHEROKEE, IA

PERMIT NO. 1022

1593 580th ST.

PO BOX 1022

CHEROKEE, IA 51012-1022

Address Service Requested

I sincerely **THANK** all of the Board Members, the success of any organization like CRW depends largely on the Board of Directors.

Here is a little bit of information about this year’s nominees.

 **JOE BRADY:** Joe and his wife Jackie have 3 boys, Beaux, Kade, and Roy. Joe, along with his dad Shawn, farm north of Marcus. Joe graduated from Iowa State University in 2010 with a BS degree in Agricultural Studies with a Minor in Agronomy. Joe works for Tucker Consulting as an independent crop consultant covering Sioux, O’Brien, Plymouth, and Sioux counties. He is a certified crop advisor with experience in ag retail, manure management, soil sampling, and crop advising. Joe is a member Holy Name Catholic Church and is a volunteer on the Marcus Fire Department. Joe commented, “Rural Water is a great quality, reliable, and economic water source, and if elected I am looking forward to helping continue being a voice for our members.”

**NICK PATTERSON:** Nick and his wife Kristen have three children, Sophia, Garrett and Owen. They live west of

Cherokee- where Nick farms with his dad and takes care of their cow/calf herd. He is a 21-year employee of Cherokee County Roads Department. He is also a Cherokee Township Trustee, a longtime member of the Iowa Cattlemen’s Association and member of NFIB. Nick commented that he “has learned so much in the past years working with the Cherokee Rural Water board and would like to continue representing its members.”

***Cherokee Rural Water***

## Annual News

***May 2024***

**We had a very busy year in 2023…** During 2023, we completed approximately 21 add-ons, which is an average number for us. Our water sales for the year reached 350,569,000 gallons, showing a slight increase compared to the previous year. Once again, our primary focus was on finding and fixing water leaks. To achieve this, we conducted pressure tests on our lines, installed new mainline valves to isolate potential leaks, and inspected our members' meter pits. Looking back a decade or so, we used to encounter an average of 25 mainline leaks annually. Over time, this average has gradually risen, with the majority of failures occurring at the original solvent weld glue jointed pipe that was installed in the late 70s. In 2023, we successfully repaired around 50 water leaks. It's worth noting that we have an extensive 900 miles of pipeline in service. Covering this vast infrastructure within a single summer is simply not feasible. Therefore, we rely on our members to help us identify possible leaks. If you suspect a leak, we kindly request that you contact our office. Should you report a confirmed leak, we will reward you with a $20.00 leak reward.

 Late in 2023 we also began the process of replacing the last of the six original deep wells that were constructed back in the mid-70’s with completion of the new well slated to come online in the summer of 2024. This ongoing maintenance work is crucial to ensure the provision of a secure, dependable, and cost-effective water system for everyone involved.

**Progress*…*** With our aging infrastructure, it is crucial that we prioritize continuous maintenance and repairs. Already in 2024, we have successfully replaced a leaking expansion joint at our Meriden water tower and performed necessary excavation work on our settling ponds at our Mill Creek Water Plant by the city of Marcus. These settling ponds play a vital role in filtering out iron and manganese from the groundwater obtained from our deep wells. Additionally, we have addressed issues by replacing the riser pipe at our Marcus water tower and fixing over 25 leaks this year alone. Looking ahead to 2024, we remain committed to improving and updating our water system. Our collaboration with our trusted engineering firm has led us to embark on our most significant project yet, which will span the next two years. This project is set to undergo bidding in the near future and will involve the installation of major water transmission lines, the addition of two new 400,000-gallon water storage tanks, and the construction of a new pump station. These enhancements are essential to accommodate the ever-growing demands of our water system. Rest assured that we are dedicated to ensuring the efficiency, reliability, and safety of our water supply. We will continue working diligently to provide our members of Cherokee Rural Water with the highest quality water services.

**Website…** To access our website, please go to; **www.cherokeeruralwater.com** to check it out. We will continue to add information and notices to the website as time goes on.

***PLEASE… Also Subscribe to the Alerts,*** you can also use the area in the lower right corner of our website to send us any information that would be pertinent to your account.

***Reminder: Higher water usage than normal…*** Before calling our office, please check a few things around your house and yardshut the incoming valve off for a FEW minutes, open the valve, if you hear a rush of water you have a leak on your system. Look around. Toilets are the main reason for many higher water bills. Place food coloring in the back tank of the toilet, wait for about ten minutes, if the color has made it into the bottom bowl, the FLOPPER valve in the back tank is bad and should be replaced. Also, check the drain line on your water softener and make sure that it is NOT constantly running a small stream of water. Check outside plumbing. Look in pits to make sure you do not hear or see any water leaking. LISTEN to hydrants. You can hear leaks on them if it is a direct bury hydrant. Also, make sure you are using your physical disconnect properly so you are not pushing water back down your well. When you have exhausted all these options and you think it could be a leak, then contact our office to set up a time where we can come out and try to help you narrow down where the water is going.

**And Again… $20.00 For leak Reward!!**

Please report any unusual wet spots in the ditches, fields, and especially around your meter pit. It is not uncommon to see water around the meter pit. If so, let us know and we will then come out and fix the water leak and send you $20.00.

**Reminders…** Many of you no longer have a landline telephone, please use our website or send along with your next payment, your cell phone number where you can be reached at. We also want to remind you that when mailing your payment, address it to PO Box 1022 in Cherokee. If you use our street address, the post office will not deliver it to us and undoubtedly you will receive a late charge.

Having your bill deducted automatically from your checking account is simple, reliable, and can help you save time and money. CRW offers this service free. Some of the benefits include: no more money orders, checks or stamps; avoids late penalties, saves time for you and our office staff and reduces errors related to check processing. For more information on ACH payment, please contact the office.

**Consumer Confidence Report…** The 2024 (2023 reporting period) CRW annual Consumer Confidence Report has been filed with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. During 2023 we had ***0*** Maximum Contaminate Level violations. If you would like a copy of the report, please contact the CRW office to have one sent to you. The CCR Report is also available on our website.

The Board of Directors, employees and I sincerely appreciate your support and wish each of you the very best for 2024.

# Manager

Paul Hyndman

NOTICE OF OFFICIAL BALLOT

----------------------- cut here ------------------------------------------ cut here ----------------------------------------- cut here ----------------------------

**CHEROKEE COUNTY RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. ONE**

**OFFICIAL BALLOT - JUNE 2024**

INSTRUCTIONS: Place an **X** within the square preceding the name of the Candidate for whom you wish to vote. Vote for **ONE** Candidate in **each area**. Mail, drop off, scan/email ballot by **June 6, 2024**

 Central Area Director: Nick Patterson (Incumbent)

 Three-year term ­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Vote for one)

 Northwest Area Director:

 Three-year term Joe Brady (Incumbent)

 (Vote for one) ­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Return to:

CHEROKEE RURAL WATER

BOX 1022

CHEROKEE, IA 51012