

# "In-House" Talent: Town of Scio Water

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Lets take a look at what the guys at the Town of Scio Water Department have been up to lately. In Scio, raw water is pumped uphill through a raw water line that passes through an underground vault, where it is metered into the reservoir and chlorinated. Part of the daily operation involves either Water Works Supervisor, Dan Jordan or his able assistant, Bob Linnecke entering the vault to monitor the treatment process, record meter readings, etc.

Concerned about safety and the remote location of the site, as well as, confined space issues, Supervisor Dan Jordan's desire was to convert the underground facilities to above ground and enclose them in a building.

There are many requirements to properly execute a



project such as this.

- 1.) Board approval. You must have the trust and backing of the Board. More on this in a future article. Please stay tuned!
- 2.) A plan. You must understand and communicate the full scope of what it is you plan to accomplish and how you plan to do it. Carefully consider the consequences of your actions as you proceed.
- 3.) Funding. Estimates should be realistic and as accurate as possible so the project can be completed without creating a hardship near the project's completion. Try to obtain a realistic cost comparison to contracting the project out. In Scio's instance, Dan estimated contracting out would triple the cost of his project.



- 4.) Qualified staff. Solicit and use the special talents of your staff. Are there elements of the project you will be forced to 'hire out'?
- 5.) Proper timing. "Duh, don't start something you can't finish!" Consider your workload, both current and anticipated. In this case, Scio's reservoir was down for rehabilitation so the timing could not have been better.
- 6.) Preassembly. Save as much labor and 'down time' as you can by preassembling as much of the project as possible, especially the critical components.

Well, when the fellows operating the Town of Scio's Water System go about their daily chores and especially weekend duty, they can now do so with a much higher degree of safety. It is remarkable what you can do 'in-house' when you put your mind to it! **Very nice job guys!!** 💧

