

City of DeSoto Water Treatment Plant Project Update for July 2021



As seen in the photos the Water Treatment Plant building has come a long way in the last month. Interior walls are now framed. The interior of the building has had conduit lines for electrical and data systems installed. Grating on the floor trenching is being installed. The chemical feed room walls are framed as well. Stoops have been poured for access doors. Work continues on the electrical as well as the interior of the building. Several deliveries are received each day that are all part of the R.O. equipment being supplied by the manufacturer. The contractor and crews are doing an excellent job for the city as they continue to pay very close attention to detail and have been helpful and courteous as small issues or concerns arise.

A question that was brought up per the last update was: "What qualifications do our employees have to operate our facility".

Answer: In addition to 16 years' experience working for this community, I hold a State of Iowa Grade 2 license in both Water Treatment and Water Distribution. Nick Eckstein, 13 years' experience, holds a Grade 1 in both Water Treatment and Water Distribution which is what our current treatment plant requires to operate. Our new plant is a Grade 2 treatment plant. These licenses are acquired by having "X" amount of years' experience/on the job training as well as testing that has to be passed through the Iowa DNR. Each year "X" amount of hours are required in continuing education credits or CEU's to maintain our license/certifications. The classes that we are required to attend are approved by the Iowa DNR and pertain to water treatment or water distribution.

Both Nick and I hold a license to operate the Wastewater Plant as well and the same requirements apply to maintain those.

Interesting facts that many of you may not know:

In 2012 The Public Works Department received the "Exemplary Source Water Protection for Small Systems" Award by the AWWA (American Water Works Association) a national organization, for our work on protecting the City's wells/source water by working with and educating area property owners as to the importance and impact of chemical application of crops. In part, due to their cooperation in removing row crop and adding CRP fields our program has been very successful. This was awarded to one small system in the nation that year.

In 2013 The Public Works Department was awarded the "Community Water System of the Year" In recognition of the dedication, commitment and professionalism exhibited in the provisions of the water and waste water service to its citizens by the Iowa Rural Water Association.

