

La Plata Archuleta Water District granted \$500,000 by Colorado Water Conservation Board

Construction grant will add about 2 miles of pipeline to the LAPLAWD project starting in 2012

La Plata Archuleta Water District Vice-President Dan Lynn and Eric Jorgensen presented a \$500,000 grant request at the late September meeting of Colorado Water Conservation Board to fund about two miles more of water main pipelines than the district could have built with funds available.

Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) and Southwest Basin Roundtable, the decision making group for this corner of the state, together are funding the half- million- dollar grant for the project planned to begin in late 2012. The Southwest Basin Roundtable agreed to fund \$25,000 of the grant, from the basin's share of the Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA) and recommended that CWCB approve an additional \$475,000 from the statewide account.

La Plata Archuleta Water District (LAPLAWD) is now ready to start building the first pipelines that will deliver water to its first customers in 2013.

Town of Bayfield and LAPLAWD have agreed that water from the existing Bayfield treatment plant will be used to supply rural customers while an expansion of the treatment plant is being built. That expansion is estimated to provide both entities with adequate treated water for at least 10 years. LAPLAWD will contribute about \$5,000,000 toward that construction.

In order to use water from the treatment plant, LAPLAWD will build about five miles of pipeline along Bayfield Parkway to County Road 509 then south along CR 509 to CR 510 and west on CR 510. LAPLAWD will have approximately \$2,750,000 from 2010 and 2011 tax revenue to build pipelines.

The \$500,000 granted from WSRA will be used to extend the pipeline from the point that current LAPLAWD funds have been expended a distance of about two miles, depending upon construction bids. All of the grant funds will be used for construction of that specific reach of pipeline.

LAPLAWD will spend about \$2,750,000 of its tax revenue from the 5 mill levy and borrow \$5 million to expand the Bayfield treatment plant.

LAPLAWD's first grant, \$100,000, funded the Master Plan for developing the water system. The second, \$400,000, has been successfully used to develop an agreement with Town of Bayfield to build a joint water treatment plant; design pipelines from that plant in Bayfield to LAPLAWD customers; reach a court settlement with Southern Ute Indian Tribe concerning the mill levy; conduct a public process to establish the initial rate schedule; and do the necessary environmental work for construction.