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PRESS RELEASE

Southern Iowa Rural Water Association Annual Meeting *Elections held and awards presented*

Creston, Iowa, March 24, 2009:

With over 450 members in attendance, the annual meeting of Southern Iowa Rural Water Association took place at the Creston High School Auditorium on Monday, March 16, 2009. A catered meal was served for those in attendance and was provided by the generous donations of SIRWA supporters. At the conclusion of this year's meeting, 68 prize packages were awarded with contributions from 27 local vendors.

Two Board Members terms ended this year. Board Member positions up for election were; Adair, Madison, and Cass Counties as well as Taylor County. Incumbents filled both positions. Leland Little was re-elected for the Taylor County seat while Jim Smith was re-elected for the Adair, Madison and Cass Counties seat.

Dan McIntosh presented the yearly progress report. The year 2008 ended with SIRWA providing water to 10,484 rural and city customers combined as well as 10 bulk town entities. SIRWA also provides wastewater services for another 1,309 customers, up from last year's total partially due to the additions of Macksburg and Thayer communities. In addition, 167 new meter pit installations were added in 2008 to SIRWA's nearly 4,000 miles of pipeline. Randy Cook with Draper, Snodgrass and Mikkelsen & Co. presented SIRWA's financial report along with results from the annual audit report. This report is available for review at the SIRWA office.

Numerous awards were presented during the annual meeting. One such honoree was Dave Beck. Dave was the recipient of SIRWA's Friend of Rural Water Award which is presented to a person that has helped SIRWA develop over the years. Dave has worked for the NRCS since 1974 and was a Field Operations Planning Leader when SIRWA first became acquainted with Dave. He has since then become an Assistant

State Conservationist and has moved to West Bend. Dave was instrumental in the planning and developing of our lakes here in Southwest Iowa.

Another award presented was the Earl Hathorn Award. This award, voted on by their fellow coworkers, was awarded to Rodney Brown. Rodney has worked for SIRWA for 6 years and is SIRWA's CAD/GIS Operator. In this position, Rodney compiles data and creates an accurate mapping system while incorporating gps technology. This allows for easy reference while our employees work out in the system or are preparing for a new water or wastewater project. Rodney's good nature and willingness to help others along with his knowledge makes him the ideal recipient of this award.

Recognition was given to Dan McIntosh for receiving Iowa Rural Water Association's Manager of the Year Award. Dan was presented this award at the Iowa Rural Water Association's Annual Meeting which was held in February of 2009. Coworkers submit an essay as to why their Manager should be awarded this honor. Dan has represented SIRWA for over 15 years. He has held his current position for the last 6 years. There is not another staff member, or manager in this industry, that has committed his self as fully to overseeing a company as he has. Whether it is dealing with the day to day items, the extreme circumstances which we encounter, or the never ending meetings and business trips, Dan always puts forth 110%. He is a Manager that is accessible day and night to his staff, if he is not already right there working beside them.