

WATER ENGINEERS FOR THE AMERICAS

2017 YEAR END SUMMARY REPORT

TRIPS MADE BY WEFTA VOLUNTEERS IN 2017

Trip to Chiapas, Mexico by Ramon Lucero and Royce Beaudry

Ramon Lucero and Royce Beaudry went to Chiapas and visited Tierra y Libertad and Miguel Hidalgo communities. Our two volunteers finalized technical and financial analysis for both projects. Trip report will be available on the WEFTA website.

Trip to El Altiplano, Bolivia by Jason Gehrig, Justin Logan, Ramon Lucero, Richard Mulligan, Jose Ortiz and Sara Mason

On July 7, 2017 a small group of nine WEFTA volunteers traveled from the arid southwest United States to El Altiplano of Bolivia. The nine volunteers comprised of Jason Gehrig, Water Engineer, Justin Logan, Wastewater Engineer, José Ortiz and Sara Mason, Engineers in Training (EIT)s, Richard Mulliken, Surveyor, Ramón Lucero, Water Resource Project Managers and Dolores Mulliken, and Liz and Brook Login collectively from New Mexico, Utah and Texas accomplished the following tasks.

- Document the condition and functionality of previous WEFTA/Suma Jayma water system improvement projects. Documentation include impacts to health and overall well-being of community members, community demographics, GPS of the water source and water storage tank locations, and recommendations for on-going operation and maintenance of the water system.
- Meet with the municipalities of Viacha and El Alto public work employees and municipality engineers to review existing and new wastewater system designs. These meetings included trainings to improve the operation and maintenances procedures for the existing and future wastewater treatment facilities.
- Provide technical training to Suma Jayma staff on the Total Station Survey Equipment. This survey equipment and additional operations information will be utilized by Suma Jayma when they're designing new projects.

Trip to Samaipata, Bolivia by Blanca Surgeon, Lam Ho, and Jason Obergfell. WEFTA received a request for assistance from Samaipata through WEFTA board member Blanca Surgeon. On July 2017, Blanca Surgeon, Lam Ho, SMA engineer, and Jason Obergfell, WEFTA Volunteer in Bolivia, traveled to Samaipata and spent a week evaluating technical, managerial, and financial capacities. The team identified issues to solve in all three aspects: complete evaluation of the system, asset mapping and asset Inventory, board training, governing documents updates, and rate analysis. Lam Ho is working on a Preliminary Engineering Report and asset mapping. Volunteer Emily Sotelo is traveling on November 19th to collect field data to complete asset inventory.

Trip to La Iguala, Monquecagua, Yamaranguila, and San Pedro Sula, Honduras by Andrew Roberson, John Rocha, and Karen Pereira. WEFTA volunteers traveled to Honduras to work with donors, community members, and volunteers on projects for the communities of Monquecagua, Yamaranguila, Llano Largo, Quioco and Guadalupe. Main accomplishments included:

- SMA surveyor John Rocha worked with local survey crew to verify critical survey points for construction of the water transmission line to serve Llano Largo, Quioco and Guadalupe. He also completed surveys for new water line extension to reach Quioco, and surveyed new tank locations for all three communities.
- SMA engineer Andrew Robertson conducted training with community volunteers on construction techniques and construction safety. He also field verified the construction staking and design, and made field updates to design as needed.
- WEFTA director Karen Pereira provided intensive training and mentoring to local administrative and financial personnel on management of project finances, book-keeping, and project administration.
- The WEFTA volunteer team also met with donors and local government officials who are contributing funding to the project.
- Follow up to completed projects for Monquecagua and Yamaranguila. In Monquecagua, volunteers met with community member to report the progress and talk about next phase of the project. Volunteers also visited the completed project and provided assistance to solve technical issues with the system operation. In Yamaranguila, volunteers met with the water board and discuss possible assistance with future projects.

Trip to Samaipata, Bolivia, by Emily Sotelo and Jason Obergfell. WEFTA volunteers traveled to Samaipata to work with the community on collecting data for to complete an asset mapping inventory and conduct training to Suma Jayma team member on GIS data collection

Upcoming trips

- Trip to Ethiopia, Africa by Scott McKittrick, Winn Cowman and Dennis Conner to follow up on status of Waterlines' projects. This trip is scheduled for January 2018.

2017 Year To Date WEFTA PROJECTS

Bolivia projects

- ***Pan de Azúcar hand pumps project***

The funds (\$14,300.00) for this project were transferred down on at the end of March 2017. The project is completed and benefitted 31 families.

- ***Colina Blanca hand pumps project***

Funded through Spirit of Christ in an amount of \$5,840.00. As approved by the Board on June 2017 meeting, the funds for this project were transferred down in full in October 2017. SOC will transfer the funds to WEFTA in twelve monthly payments, starting in July 2017. The project is in the final construction phase and will benefit 13 families. SOC will send the approved amount for the project in monthly payments during a year.



- ***Suma Jayma equipment project***

WEFTA helped with the acquisition of pieces of equipment (Air compressor purchased, still looking for welder/generator) for Suma Jayma in an amount of \$9,437.50. This equipment will help Suma Jayma to improve its performance in project construction, and hopefully will help SJ to generate more income and become more auto sustainable.

- ***Viacha Wastewater treatment plants project***

WEFTA continue to work with Suma Jayma and the municipality of Viacha on recommendations for the wastewater treatment plan. The draft is at 90% of completion.

- ***Senkata Libraries project***

Funded through Spirit of Christ. In addition to the Colina Blanca water supply project, a smaller amount was requested to help keep the Senkata Parish libraries network operating in service to the thousands of youth and children in this impoverished zone of El Alto, Bolivia. As approved by the Board on June 2017 meeting, the funds for this project were transferred down in full in October 2017. SOC will send the approved amount for the project in monthly payments during a year.

- ***Samaipata project***

WEFTA volunteers Lam Ho, Jason Obergfell, and Emily Sotelo helped the community with a Preliminary Engineering Report and Asset Mapping. In addition to this, Blanca Surgeon is helping the community with managerial assistance to the system's board of director.

- ***Ecological Latrines and Hand Pumps Projects, Jason Obergfell Fund***

WEFTA transferred \$16,452.67 to fund the work of Jason Obergfell related to development of ecological latrines and handpumps in the Cochabamba area and altiplano of Bolivia. These funds were all raised by Jason via personal contacts and tracked via special account set up for his work.

Mexico projects

- ***Miguel Hidalgo project***

The project includes repairs to the tank which present mayor leaks and distribution lines that are breaking due to high pressure.

- ***Tierra y Libertad project***

The project includes spring catchment system to capture two distinct springs into a single transmission line to a water storage tank, distribution lines to individual homes culminating with a water spigot to the outside of each dwelling unit.

WEFTA transferred \$16,695.91 as contributions to complete the two projects. The waterline replacement in Miguel Hidalgo and the spring catchment tanks in Tierra y Libertad has been completed. The team is currently working on the tank repairs for Miguel Hidalgo. The project is still ongoing. It was delayed by the raining season and the earthquake in October.



Honduras projects

- ***Monquecagua Phase 3***

The project includes a new 14.1 mile PVC distribution network and 400 individual connections that will connect 100+ families who are currently without water service and replace aging and sub-standard distribution pipes for entire village. The project is under construction. WEFTA provided technical assistance with design, construction management, project administration and local technical assistance. Initially, the project was going to be built with WEFTA and community funds, but we recently received notification from USAID that they will provide the funds to complete the majority of the distribution lines through its ACCESO program. The remaining lines will still be completed using community and WEFTA funding. Previous phases of the project received funding from the Vinyl Institute, World Geologists, Baptist missionaries, the local municipality, community residents, and WEFTA.

- ***Llano Largo, Quioco & Guadalupe***

Llano Largo has no water system whatsoever. Families collect rainwater in shallow, muddy holes in ground during rainy season, and walk two (2) hours to the river during dry season. Quioco and Guadalupe have water systems, but with severe water shortages due to lack of supply, and do not have chlorinated water. This regional project includes new water supply for 180 families, including water source, PVC supply line, 3 storage tanks, 3 chlorine disinfection units, and new distribution systems for all three communities. The water intake structure has been completed. The transmission line is currently under construction. The three distribution systems are currently in final design phase. This project is being jointly funded by the community residents, local municipality, American Chemistry Council, World Vision, Catholic charities, USAID Acceso and WEFTA.

- ***Ongoing Circuit Riding Programs in Honduras and Bolivia***

WEFTA continues to transfer \$2,500/quarter to Honduras to support the circuit-riding work of Enrique Lozano and \$1,500/quarter to Bolivia to support the work of Suma Jayma in the same capacity. For next year, the amount sent to Suma Jayma will increase up to \$2,500 as approved by the board.

2017 Year To Date DONATIONS RECEIVED

Contribution from Jennifer McDowell via the Pittsburgh Foundation

WEFTA received a donation of \$30,000 from Jennifer McDowell in March to cover project costs and potentially additional administrative costs of the organization. The funds have been used for Pan de Azucar project and equipment acquisition for Suma Jayma in Bolivia and Miguel Hidalgo and Tierra y Libertad in Mexico.

Contribution from businesses

- On April 2017, WEFTA received \$1,500 from Enterprise Holdings Foundation
- Contribution from amazon through SmileAmazon for \$13.85
- Contribution from Andrew Robertson/SMA for \$20,000.00 for projects in Honduras



- Contributions from David Wallace and Walter Fant to WEFTA Ameritrade stock account for \$66,739.99.
- From January to December 2017, IceWorks donated \$ 4,637.00 to WEFTA

Contribution from individuals and matching grants

From January 2017 to date, WEFTA has received \$ 20,551.00 from individual donations other than those identified above. These donations are designated to El Salvador, Bolivia, Jason O. fund, and undesignated fund.

Other activities

Grant Proposals submitted

- ***Spirit of Christ Catholic Community, in Denver, CO***

On March 2017, WEFTA submitted a proposal to the Spirit of Christ parish of Denver, Colorado for assistance with Suma Jayma project (Colina Blanca community) and the Senkata Library Network in El Alto, Bolivia. The grant request was approved and the projects are under construction. To December 2017, SOC had paid WEFTA the amount of \$3,528.00.

- ***Wheaton Franciscan Sisters Ministry Fund***

On October 2017, WEFTA and Jason Oberfell submitted a proposal to the Wheaton Franciscan Sisters Ministry Fund for assistance to the Ecological Latrines and Hand Pumps Projects lead by Jason in El Altiplano, Bolivia. The proposal was approved in the amount of \$30,000.00.

- ***Wallace Genetic Foundation grant***

Last September, WEFTA submitted the annual grant request to WGF to support WEFTA general operation. the grant in the amount of \$100,000.00 was approved and the funds sent to WEFTA on December 2017.

2016 Annual reports

- 2016 IRS report was submitted timely on May 15. WEFTA contracted CPA to complete the report. WEFTA kept the publicly funded 501(c)(3) status.
- Annual corporate report submitted to the NM Secretary of the State Office on May.
- NM Attorney General corporate report. WEFTA was out of compliance with this report for not registering the organization and not submitting the annual reports. On August 2017, all the reports from 2012 to 2016 were submitted and approved by the AG office after paying a late fee and committing to get the board and staff assisted by an attorney on reviewing charitable organizations requirements in an annual basis. SMA attorney offered assistance in a volunteer basis.

Social Media and WEFTA Awareness

From January to December 2017, WEFTA actively posted updates on Facebook regarding the different projects WEFTA is currently working with.

We have also thought on possible strategies we could use to build WEFTA awareness among volunteers, friends, family and other WEFTA supporters and inform them of very simple ways they can help, including Amazon Smile and iGive programs.



Development Activities

Since August 2017, Kathy Mastoras has been providing support to WEFTA on development activities helping with grant writing, funding opportunities research, and reviewing/evaluating WEFTA website.

