

**HISTORY OF VALPARAISO DEPARTMENT
OF WATER WORKS/VALPARAISO CITY UTILITIES
1885 to Present**

1866 First water works was established with financial assistance from the county. The system consisted of several cisterns located in the corners of the public square and a large hydrant was established in front of the courthouse. Water came from a spring near Washington Street south of the Pennsylvania RR. (Vidette Messenger 08/18/36)

1882 Joseph Gardner, Valparaiso banker, made an attempt to raise funds to build a water works for an estimate of \$34,000. However, the city was in debt to its constitutional limit of \$50,000. (Vidette Messenger 08/18/36)

1884 In February, the city council contracted with Micah Walker, Port Huron, MI and Don Salyer, Valparaiso to build a water works system. They were given a 50 year franchise with the understanding the raw water would come from Flint Lake. Joseph Gardner filed an injunction against the project for the reason that the indebtedness would exceed the amount allowed (5% of assessed value). The lower court favored Gardner, but was reversed upon appeal. (Vidette Messenger 08/18/36)

1885 The city council enters into a contract with Don Salyer (Bay City Water Company, Bay City, MI). Salyer borrows \$55,000 to found the Valparaiso City Water Company. Flint Lake Plant was built and wooden water mains were built to the City. The agreement stipulated that the city had the right to purchase the water works at any time after fifteen years. (Vidette Messenger 08/18/36)

1886 The first customer to receive service was Maulsby Hankinson at the Merchant's Hotel. Service was installed on February 19th. The county courthouse and VU's Stiles Hall also received service customer in 1886. (Vidette messenger – March 29, 1972)

1903 After years of litigation, Mayor Wm. F. Spooner presided over the formation of the Home Water Company. O.P. Kinsey, Vice President of Valparaiso University, leads a group of investors (Oliver Kinsey, Melvin Stinchfield, Stephen Finney, John Sieb and Schuyler Billings) who purchased VCWC for \$90,000. They agreed to operate the water company for 25 years when the bonds would be retired. The City of Valparaiso agreed to take over the company at that time for the purchase price of \$100.00. (Vidette Messenger 08/18/36)

First recorded Board of Directors meeting was held August 29, 1903.

1904 The company was reorganized into Valparaiso Home Water Co. and hired E.L. Leslie Loomis as Superintendent. Mr. Loomis was previously the V.U.

bookkeeper. Mr. Loomis organizes the Valparaiso Building and Loan Fund and Savings Association three years later.

The water company began to install water meters in 1904.
VCWC adopts the logo “Pure Filtered Water Admirably Adaptable to all Purposes since 1886.”

Sept. 16th Board of Directors meeting; Walter Richards was given contract to haul coal from Valparaiso to the Flint Lake Pumping Station for 50 cents a ton.

All plumbers licenses were issued by the Water Company.

1907 The water company installed filters, chemical mixers, settling basins and a clear well. The filters were built just five years after the first filter was installed in the country. Superintendent, Mr. Loomis founded the Valparaiso Building Loan Fund and Savings Association (later to become Indiana Federal) in 1907. Both companies were operated out of 10 North Washington Street.

1909 Laboratory was established at Flint Lake Plant.

The water company purchased a meter testing unit which was used until 1968. (Vidette Messenger – M. Hendrichs date unknown)

1910 On August 10, purchased generator for plant.

1911 The water company constructed its first well at Flint Lake (12” diam.), which was abandoned in 1950s.

1914 VCWC pumps 1 million gallons daily. E.L. Loomis joins the American Water Works Association (AWWA). He eventually becomes the chairman of the Indiana Section of AWWA.

1915 The Listenberger Pipeline Ditch construction started (finished in 1916). This line is a pipe from the Urschel Airfield to Burlington Beach Road and then as a ditch to Flint Lake. It is built to provide more water to Flint Lake. During heavy rains, it will deliver as much as 6 million gallons per day.

A new office was built at 201 Lincolnway.

Flint Lake facility became the official reporting station for the National Weather Service. (Post Tribune/ J. Conn/March/1/1998)

<Picture Post Card – Joseph Baker, Nekoosa, WS>

1916 After January 1, customers previously charged a flat rate for water service will be metered and pay a meter rate. This will affect approximately 25% of the customer base. (V-M 12/10/35)

Loomis Lake project began to provide additional water to Flint Lake. Flint Lake's capacity is 485 million gallons compared to Loomis Lake's 100 million gallons.

1925 E.L. Loomis dies. S. G. Billings assumed management of the water company affairs. (Vidette Messenger 02/11/28)

Mayor Edgerton Agar created a water board and appointed himself superintendent. (Vidette Messenger 07/09/36)

1926 On January 1st, the Valparaiso Home Water Company turned its facilities over to the City of Valparaiso and was operated under the Board of Works from 1925-1933. (Vidette Messenger 06/28/30 & 07/18/36)

1927 On January 14th, Supt. E.W. Agar submits a report to the City Council advising them of the value of the water plant of \$208, 267.07. Agar reported that the total receipts for November and December 1926 were \$10,601.03 and total disbursements for that time period were \$6,715.42 with cash on hand on January 1, 1927 is \$22,996.55.

On July 8, the City Health Board advises the City Council that "Valparaiso is sitting on the edge of a volcano" Dr. A.P.Letherman, secretary of the board was referring to a survey taken by the Indiana Board of Health of the sanitary conditions and water purification of the city and the northern lake area. The health officials were concerned about the possibility of a typhoid outbreak.

Recommendations are to develop a suitable provision for a water supply and that the water must be kept pure. The survey found that outdoor toilets and drains from homes were close to the pumping station and also were draining back into the lake. Further, it is recommended that improvements be made to the Flint Lake area to make the chain of lakes one body of water. It was also stressed that Valparaiso needed a modern sewer system both sanitary and storm. It was stated that in areas of the city, sanitary and storm sewers were used interchangeably for convenience which causes sewer backups and odors coming from storm intact. Particular concern was expressed as being fouled by sewage and outlets from septic tanks. Also, concern was expressed that many sections of the city were without sewers. (Vidette-Messenger,7/9/27)

1928 Loomis Lake project/Proffitts Dam completed. The work was constructed by Hiram E. Dille, a local contractor for the amount of \$1,800. The official inspection was made on April 26, 1928 by A.R. Purnam, assistant city engineer along with Aldermen Louis Leetz and E.S. Miller. The spillway is 24 feet deep

and controls the flow from Loomis Lake to Flint Lake. The agreement with Knapp and other property owners is that no water can be drawn from the lake below 185 datum plane. (Vidette-Messenger 04/27/28 & 04/28/28)

1929 During March, the state legislature passed and the Governor signed special legislation, written by Supt. Agar, that allows for the first phase of improvement to the water plant. Prior to the passage of this legislation, there was no state statute to aid municipalities owning water works. The city will now be able to bond its water works, on income showing, and thus obtain the funds necessary for rehabilitation and expansion. (Vidette Messenger 03/12/29)

1930 In February, the city council passed an ordinance creating a water board of trustees.

1930 On June 27th, the city council accepted the resignation of Edgerton W. Agar as superintendent of the city water works. The water works will be headed up by A. C. Kamplain as general manager. In addition to serving as water superintendent, Agar served as mayor, city councilman, and city attorney. He completed 15 years of public service. He also resigned as an instructor at Valparaiso University. Agar continued his work as an attorney. (Vidette Messenger 06/28/30)

1931 Lawrence Orr, State Examiner, Department of Inspection and Supervision of Public Offices of Indiana writes on May 25th, that his office does not believe that the City Council or City Clerk has any jurisdiction over the water department after they have appointed the board of trustees.

1932 In July, George A. Harrop, contractor selected by the water board to construct a 500,000 gal. water tower and three miles of water main, dies of a heart attack. This puts the project outcome in question. (Vidette Messenger 07/21/32)

1934 Five wells are constructed at Flint Lake.

The City Council on August 24th passed an ordinance creating the Department of Waterworks (Valparaiso Common Council minutes Book P, pages 248 & 249)

1935 For six days in August, two thousand water customers have faced not only shutoff of their water supply but a dangerous hazard from a fire standpoint. The water department main pump was out of commission due to a broken drive shaft. During that time, the water supply was reliant on a fifty year old emergency pump. The emergency pump was rated at 1 million per day, while the broken pump was rated for twice that rate. (V-M 08/09/35)

New 8 inch iron water pipe is being installed on South Washington Street from Indiana Avenue to Monroe Street and on Indiana Avenue from Washington Street to Franklin Street. These lines will replace the existing 4 inch wooden mains.

The work is part of the federal Works Progress Administration which is financing the labor, while the Water Department is paying for the material. (V-M 12/10/35)

- 1936** The Department of Waterworks develops rules and regulations. (Rules and Regulations – Department of Waterworks – City of Valparaiso dated: January 30, 1936)

The winter of 1936 was one of the coldest on record. Water crews were working around the clock to thaw frozen service lines and fire hydrants. At one time, 56 service lines were frozen. Coke fires were used to thaw the services. After the city ran out of coke, the department purchased a thawing machine and rented a transformer from NIPSCO. (Vidette Messenger – K. Meyne/January 6, 1977)

- 1937** Billings Street 500,000 gallon elevated tank is erected.

- 1938** The Flint Lake Plant coal storage (back portion), north wing and the 85 foot smoke stack were removed along with the steam driven pumps. A new west wing was built which contains two, three cylinder diesel engines. Also, a new north wing was built to house a lab, office and bathroom. New electric powered low and high service pumps and switch gear were installed. Electric power was supplied by the two diesel generators. The original entrance in the high service room was closed and a new entrance was installed.

- 1948** During late summer, the department pumped 2.37 million gallons in one day, which is the largest recorded water demand of the city. No particular reason for the increase was discovered. The heavy load proved to be a considerable burden on the department, not so much from a pumping standpoint as in the filtration phase. (VM – John Harmon – 02/03/50)

- 1949** The clarifier, an 85 foot high 150,000 gallon elevated tank to backwash filters, #3 raw water pump feed and a house were constructed. Also, a new intake pipe and screen was installed at Flint Lake.

- 1950** Flint Lake Plant changed over to NIPSCO power.

Richard Coote, Water Department Filtration Supt, spoke at the Valparaiso Rotary Club and reported that the current reconstruction and enlarging of the pumping station was progressing nicely. Of the 30 miles of wooden mains serving the city, 17 miles have been replaced with iron piping ranging in size from 4 to 12 inches in diameter. The remaining 13 miles is a concern. (VM – John Harmon – 02/03/50)

On April 27, Water Department Trustee William St. Clair announced that the department was considering the replacement of 12 miles of wooden water mains estimated to cost \$150,000. He stated the department was spending most of its annual maintenance budget of \$20,000 on the repair of main breaks of the existing

- wooden mains. The department plans to petition the Public Service Commission in early summer for a bond issue to cover the replacement costs. The project will allow the department to increase the system pressure and raise the water level Tower (Billings Street) water tank. Increasing the system pressure will also improve the city's fire protection. (VM – 04/28/50)
- 1951** On December 10th, Councilman Virgil Tudor advised the Council that the water main trench work is complete, with temporary paving covering the work. Final paving, replacement of curbs, sidewalks and other damage done by the construction will be included next year.
- 1952** The Department became one of the first water systems in the country to fluoridate its water.
- 1955** During a drought period, the Department experiences difficulties supplying water to its customers. At that time, the department used Flint Lake and three wells as its water source.
- 1959**
- 1963** Work began to expand the department's water supply. Plans were prepared for a -
65 ground water pumping and treatment facility to be located at the Porter County Municipal Airport on the east side of the city. Three wells and two filters were constructed. Also, a 500,000 gallon elevated tank was constructed at the southwest corner of Evans Avenue and Silhavy Road.
- 1964** The waterworks office located at 201 Lincolnway is demolished. The office is moved to the first floor of City Hall located at 16 Indiana Avenue.
- 1969** A fourth well is drilled on the Airport well field.
- 1971** The last 1938 diesel generator was removed and a new diesel power generator was installed at Flint Lake. A new office building is constructed on Billings Street.
- 1972** On August 11th, a petition was filed in Porter County Circuit Court to form a conservancy district known as the Lake Area Conservancy District, located north of the Valparaiso City Limits. Among other duties, the district is to be formed to provide for drinking water distribution. The district proposes to purchase treated water from the Valparaiso Water Department. The Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District (VLACD) becomes one of the largest customers of the Valparaiso water utility.
- 1977** Two more filters were added to the Airport Plant along with two wells (#5 & #6).
- 1980** Department received AWWA Landmark Award for the Flint Lake Plant.
- First computer was purchased, IBM 5120 used for payroll and payables.

1982 On June 29th, the water board approved purchasing an IBM System 38, which will allow the department to handle billing in house. The computer system will be purchased through a three year lease-purchase for \$293,000. Since 1968, billing has been handled by Accu-data, a Valparaiso firm.

1985 Water Department celebrated its 100th Anniversary.

A two million gallon ground storage tank, a diesel generator for emergency power and a seventh well were added to the Airport Treatment Plant.

In July, Valparaiso Dept. of Water Works put its Backflow Protection Program into effect.

1988 A 4 pm to 9 pm water ban on the northside residents (an area bounded by Yellowstone, the Grand Trunk RR, Glendale and Roosevelt Streets) is to be lifted on August 22nd. The water ban was put in place due to a summer drought. The ban may be lifted because of the completion of construction of pipelines along Campbell Street to Evans Avenue. Also, a pump was installed at the Billings Street campus in order to maintain proper pressure for areas north of Glendale Blvd. (Vidette Messenger – T. Griffith/August 11, 1988)

The water board approved a contract for the drilling of a new well at the Porter County Airport to replace well no. 4, which was constructed in 1969. The replaced well suffered a collapsed screen. The well was in service for 16 years. Peerless Midwest was hired to do the work. (Vidette Messenger – T. Griffith/August 11, 1988)

1992 A new office was built over the high service pump room at the Flint Lake Plant.

-93 A new ground water treatment plant (Flint Lake Plant # 2) is built on ground purchased next to the Flint Lake Plant (#1) and four wells were drilled on the grounds of the Valparaiso Country Club. The new plant includes three filters. The new plant is placed on line in April 1993. The new plant can provide 4.4 million gallons per day. A two million gallon storage facility is included.

Monitoring wells were installed to investigate salt contamination from INDOT road salt storage site and preliminary WHPP starts.

1994 The slow mix chamber at Flint Lake Plant #1 was lined with steel to stop leaks in the old concrete walls and floor. Also, a back wash pump was installed at Plant #1 along side the 1949 elevated back wash tank that was taken out of service.

1995 Philip Coote resigned as the general manger of the water department after 29 years in that position. Paul Tumo was appointed interim general manger.

In August, Mayor David Butterfield appointed a special task force to review all operations of the water department. The task force included many local citizens

that looked into operations, finance and environment. The report was also to bring back to the Mayor a recommendation as to whether the department should be sold to a private utility. The task force made many recommendations including beginning the process of removing the utility from the control of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. It was also concluded that the city not sell the department. (Post Tribune/J. Conn/August/19/1997)

- 1996** Eugene Kopczek was appointed by Mayor David Butterfield on July 31st. Kopczak recently retired after working for 40 years as a process engineer for Bethlehem Steel. (The Times – P. Potempa/August 1, 1996)

Valparaiso City Council withdrew its water department from the authority of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission on September 23rd. The move will be on hold for 60 days while remonstrators can file a petition to oppose the decision. The move was made after a mayoral task force recommended the action. The decision was based on the cost to file petitions and to regain control of the department's rate requests (The Times – S., Walsh/September/24/1996).

General Manager Eugene Kopczak announced on November 15th, in a written public statement, that he would resign his position effective immediately. Kopczak's resignation was due to medical concerns. Paul Tumo was appointed interim general manger. (The Times – P. Potempa/ November/ 16/1996)

- 1997** In January, John Hardwick was appointed General Manager. Hardwick served as Valparaiso city engineer from 1972 through 1990. Recently, he was vice president of a local engineering firm. (The Times – P. Potempa/ January/ 13/1997)

The department will begin returning water deposits to about 3,900 customers. General Manager Hardwick, in a ceremony at City Hall, presented long standing customer in good standing Fred Doelling and largest customer ISK Magnetics checks containing their deposits. Returned deposits range from \$3 to \$1,500. (The Times/K. Beiker/ February/8/1997)

A report issued by Bonar Group, Fort Wayne, estimates that the water department has capacity to meet the community's water needs through 2025.

In March, VWD enters into a contract with Harza Engineering to renovate Proffitts Dam.

Wellhead Protection Program planning began with a 35 member Local Planning Team formed.

McKinley Street water main replaced from Calumet to Valparaiso Street.

Billings Street water tank painted with a new product, NOXYDE, a water based paint system.

August, the original Flint Lake Treatment/Pumping Plant was taken out of service permanently. The plant operated from 1885 to 1997.

1998 First Water Quality Report is published, one year ahead of EPA requirement.

Washington Street water main replaced from Bush Street to Walnut Street.

On January 22, the water and sewer utilities announced that EMA, Inc. would be employed to conduct a ‘reengineering’ project, which would make recommendations to make the water and sewer departments more efficient and effective. John Hardwick, water general manger, indicated that the two guiding principles of the program would be that customer service would not be compromised and that no employees would lose their jobs. Reductions in force would come from natural attrition. The program would take three to five years to complete. The program looks at ways a municipal utility can learn from how private utilities do things to save money.

Flint Lake backwash pond was enlarged and improved.

Department began to review and update systems to be Y2K compliant.

Board of Directors adopted a 19.5% decrease in water rates.

1999 Department was first in the state to get a Phase One Wellhead Protection Plan approval and was awarded IDEM “Indiana Exemplary” Wellhead Protection Program Award 2/11/99.

Department received IDEM 5 Star Environmental Recognition Award for its vehicle maintenance program management of liquid materials.

Department began looking at a team approach through the Reengineering Program.

The Indiana Department of Transportation will begin to drill 4 wells – 2 on INDOT US 30 property and 2 wells on Porter County Airport property in May. The work is designed to remove salt which has contaminated the aquifer. (Post Tribune – May/14/1999)

The second phase of Washington Street water main completed from Bush Street to Institute Street.

1300 feet. of 20" water main was relocated at the Porter County Airport for new runway.

Laptop computers with maps and service records were put into service vehicles as part of the Reengineering Program.

Evans Ave. water tank was painted with the water based NOXYDE paint.

2000 Y2K came and passed with no operational problems.

Department began operating under the new re-organizational structure, "Teams" with a Team Leader, implemented through the Reengineering Program.

Variable Frequency Drives were installed at the Flint Lake II Treatment Plant. This was a Reengineering Program project to save on electrical costs and stabilize pressure.

Board of Directors adopted a 12% water rate decrease which brought rates down to pre-1995 levels.

Washington Street water main replaced from Monroe Street to US 30.

3.33 miles of new construction and replacement mains were completed.

Department went to Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system. One person (with a van) can now read all meters in the system in two days. A reduction of about 300 man-hours per month. This was a Reengineering Program project.

A credit card payment system was added to the list of customer services provided.

INDOT began a salt contamination remediation project that pumps and injects the contaminated water into a deep well. This project was to clean up salt storage contamination at the Porter County Airport well field.

2001 Preliminary design for renovations to Proffitts Dam is completed by Harza Engineering.

The water board approved a contract with Malcolm Pirnie Engineers to provide a study of water treatment alternatives. Review of treatment facilities will be made along with looking the cost and viability of softening Valpo's water. The study is expected to take six months. (The Times/P. Wieland/February/28/2001)

Construction of SCADA system was started to better control the treatment process at both the FL and AP Plants.

AMR/Meter change out program was put in place.

A National Drinking Water Week celebration program was put in place, first week of May annually.

Backflow Protection Program was updated with PC based BPMS software.

First Bulk Water Sales ATM was built at Evans Ave water tank.

5.88 miles of water mains were installed.

- 2002** The department signed first contract to rent Billings Street water tank to Cellular Phone Company for installation of antenna system on top of the tank.

Department participated in an Indiana Cities and Towns/EPA Class V Injection well survey which was funded in part by a federal grant.

A second bulk water ATM was opened at the Flint Lake Plant in August.

A customer survey is to be conducted to determine various issues that are on the mind of the department's customers. Issues such as the desire for softer water and what rate payers are willing to pay for softer water, how do customers feel the department is doing are some of the questions the department hopes to answer.

On two separate days, one in June and one in July, the department experienced a record water demand of 6.8 mgd. The average daily demand is between 4 to 5 mgd. (August 13, 2002)

A Reverse 911 phone system was installed. This system allows the department to make automated telephone calls to customers during times of emergency or when mass notifications are needed.

September, Board of Directors approves a \$10 million dollar list of projects to be funded by an \$8.8 million dollar bond issue, a 5.9% rate increase and \$1.2 million dollars from department reserves. Projects include: new storage tank, four water main projects; Valparaiso St. (S. of Glendale), Greenwich Street (Short to Don Hovey St.), Yellowstone Road and Joliet Road, upgrades to both FL and AP Treatment Plants, renovations and spillway to Proffitts Dam and renovations and addition to office on Billings Street.

2.32 miles of water mains were installed. Department now has 180 miles of water mains and 11,125 services.

- 2003** City receives Indiana State Board of Health award for 50 years of providing fluoridation.

First “Early Warning” monitoring well was drilled. This well is installed at the perimeter of the well field area to monitor for potential ground water contamination.

Billings Street office renovation and addition was completed.

Airport Plant improvements were completed.

- 2004** May 27th, a rain garden was constructed at the north end of the Billings Street office parking lot to control and treat run off.

Valparaiso becomes a Groundwater Guardian Community (The Groundwater Foundation) for the department’s efforts to educate the community on water protection and conservation. Valparaiso is only one of three Indiana communities to have gained this status to date.

Flint Lake Plant No. II improvements were completed.

- 2005** January, Water and Wastewater Departments merged to form Valparaiso City Utilities (VCU).

A contract was approved with Malcolm Pirnie to study the capacity needs for the next 50 years.

Agreement was made with the Municipal Airport Board to secure water source for 20 years with option for 10 more years.

- 2006** In January, third bulk water ATM opened on south HWY 2 on the Porter County Emergency Services Center.

VCU was first in the state to get a Phase II Wellhead Protection Plan approval from IDEM 4/10/06.

In July, new 1.0 MG elevated water tank on Campbell Street was put in service.

Malcolm Pirnie capacity study completed. Study shows current capacity sufficient until 2012 and with a few simple conservation measures could suffice for another 40 years.

- 2007** Storm Water Department merges with VCU.

VCU Water Reclamation Department initiated the implementation of the Cartegraph Work Management System as a pilot project.

VCU is one of three founding member utilities in the state to launch INWARN –

Indiana's Water & Wastewater Agency Response Network. South Bend waterworks and Indianapolis Water are the other founders.

VCU signed contract with CDM to develop water conservation plan; a task force is formed and first meeting is held in December.

2008 VCU received The Hoosier Water Guardian award from IDEM.

Unidirectional flushing conducted throughout the city for the first time.

Valparaiso hit by 100 year rain event causing severe damage in city.

VCU now has 200 miles of water mains and 12,452 services.

2009 Proffitt's Dam is turned over to the Valparaiso Parks Department.

VCU became a member of the Alliance for Water Efficiency and a promotional partner of the U.S. EPA WaterSense Program.

VCU's Water Conservation Plan is one of the instrumental components of Valparaiso being designated as a "CLEAN" (Comprehensive Local Environmental Action Network) community by IDEM.

After more than thirty years of mainframe custom programming, VCU switched to a computer based software called INCODE.

VCU Water Department started their implementation of the successful Cartegraph Work Management System with a completion date of 2010.

VCU now has 200 miles of water mains and 12,250 "active services" according to INCODE.

2010 In February, VCU Director John Hardwick received the George Warren Fuller Award at the 102nd Indiana Section AWWA Conference in Indianapolis.

May, the 125th anniversary of the Valparaiso Department of Water Works was commemorated with a window display at the Valparaiso Public Library.

May 11th, the VCU Board of Directors approved the Water Conservation Plan for Valparaiso City Utilities.

VCU was named the national winner of the 1st Annual Big Green Idea Contest, sponsored by Cartegraph, for savings in time, dollars and resources.

M.E.Simpson Company conducted first water audit of VCU, reporting annual loss

of 120 million gallons (mostly from main breaks), just under 10% of the total between 1.43 billion gal pumped and 1.31 billion gal billed (industry standard is 15% loss). Infrastructure leakage index was 0.98 and validity score was 84.

December, VCU introduces its Strategic Plan for 2010 – 2015.

VCU now has 206 miles of water mains and 12,287 active services.

2011 An Olympian 100 KW natural gas generator was installed at Billings Street so that the office would have power in any outage, including phone service for VCU and City Hall.

July 12th, the VCU Board of Directors ratified the appointment of Steve Poulos to Assistant Utilities Director for the City of Valparaiso.

VCU received a Gold Peak Performance Award for its Elden Kuehl Pollution Control Facility, presented by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies to recognize 100 percent complete and consistent National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System compliance for the 2010 calendar year.

VCU received a Community Achievement Award from the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns for the water audit that was conducted by staff with the assistance of M.E.Simpson Company in 2010 (see above).

Cartograph Work Management System has been fully implemented throughout the utilities and has expanded to the Engineering and Public Works Departments

Water Main Infrastructure Program – Since adoption in 2010, approximately 7500 feet of aged water main have been replaced.

During 2011 VCU has studied the full operational integration of the Water Distribution Division and the Sewer Division.

VCU was first in the State to get a Phase II Wellhead Protection Plan Update approval from IDEM 12/1/11.

VCU now has 206 miles of water mains and 12,336 active services.

September 10th, John Hardwick retired and Steve Poulos became the new Utilities Director.

VCU now has 208 miles of water mains and 12,392 active services.

2014 VCU has 221 miles of main and 12,655 active services.

2015 During January, the Board of Directors issued and sold an \$18 million water bond. The projects to be constructed are for seven new water wells, in the Airport Well Field and one in the Flint Lake Well Field. Two new 500,000 ground water storage tanks are to be built; one at Flint Lake Plant and one the Airport Plant. Also, both existing ground water storage plants are to be rehabilitated (Flint Lake and Airport). The Flint Lake plan will be expanded to allow for two new filters. Two Flint Lake Plant high service pumps and controls are to be replaced. A new backwash tank is constructed at the Airport Plant which will allow for reclaimed water. The project was designed by ARCADIS, Indianapolis and constructed by Bowen Engineering, Indianapolis under VCU's first guaranteed savings contract. These projects, once completed, are expected to increase Valparaiso's water capacity. The projects are expected to be completed by Spring 2016. (S. Chen/Water Operations Manager/10-15-15)