

Urgent Letter to IVSD Residents

The Island View Sanitary district has been blessed to have Sel Micka as its Head Lift Station Operator since 2012 and as a lift station operator for many years before that. Because of medical concerns, Sel will be stepping down from the physical part of his position in the very near future, and the district will have to decide how it will attempt to replace him.

Over the years residents have stepped up to fill the lift station operator positions, knowingly working for little or nothing but realizing that their efforts have allowed the district to operate its system with people who have a stake in it. But the IVSD has found it increasingly difficult to find residents able to be on call for a few days per month and/or able to respond to any emergency situations that have arisen due to power outages or mechanical failure.

At present the district has four lift station operators: Jim Merten, Troy Hamidi, Roger Brey, and Jim Latta. Troy, who said he will continue, has a job that takes him out of the area for two weeks a month, and Jim Latta's job makes it difficult to schedule him very far in advance. Jim Merten has been with the district for many years and is willing to stay on, and Roger, who just started last year, has said he will continue as well.

Unless we can find at least one or two people to fill the lift station operator positions, we will be forced to consider other alternatives, one of which may be to hire a service to handle routine maintenance and perform weekly checks of the system. Another option might be to hire a part time person who would assume major responsibility for the system's maintenance. Either option has its strengths and weaknesses. At present the district spends approximately \$13,250 yearly on salaries for lift station operators, and that most certainly will change as Sel has been compensated for just a fraction of the hours that he has put in.

If you feel you might like to become a lift station operator or have ideas regarding this matter, please let us know immediately. A partial job description is as follows:

The position, lift station operator, requires mechanical ability and a schedule that allows the applicant to be on 24-hour call up to 10 days a month. Lift station operators earn up to \$14/hour.

Other qualifications:

- *Must have a valid Wisconsin driver's license, a working cell phone, and the ability to climb up and down a short ladder to enter the lift stations
- *Must be drug and alcohol free, and preferably a non-smoker
- *Must have a dependable work history and a clean police record

For more information text Sel Micka at 920-216-9896 or e-mail him at spmicka@sbcglobalnet or call IVSD president Ron Harrell at 233-4739 or e-mail him at ronharrell46@gmail.com