



ATCHAFALAYA CHATS

City of Patterson Quarterly Newsletter

February 2019

Patterson's New Water Plant Soon to be in Operation



Outside View of New Water Plant



Inside View of New Water Plant

The citizens of Patterson will soon be the proud owners of a new state of the art water plant to replace the current 77 year old one. The \$4.5M water system is the first of its kind in the State of Louisiana and is the model for other plants in the State to follow.

The water system story began when Mo Saleh, Engineer from Professional Engineering and Environmental Consultants, Incorporated of Westwego, Louisiana (PEEC) master-minded this concept for the City of Patterson and made a presentation of the new technology to the Mayor and Council. He spoke of a water system that, because of a different type of clarifier, does not depend on the sand and sediment content of incoming water, and could produce water in 30 minutes compared to four hours. According to Saleh's presentation, plants using the new technology need half as much space to contain them as conventional ones, and cost half as much to build. Saleh asserted that the closest plant to Louisiana using the new technology is in the state of Arkansas.

After making a site visit to the Arkansas water plant, the Mayor and council voted to invest in the new technology with Mo Saleh in charge of design and management of building Patterson's new water plant along with Crist Engineering of AK, using the Veolia Acti-flow Clarifier System. The new clarifier system is made by Krieger Company of North Carolina. The builder for the new plant is the Lemoine Company of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Providence GSE provided project inspection.

Patterson's new plant can produce 1.5 MGD for a cost of \$4.5M. Everything that is needed to run the plant is contained inside of the small office-sized building, which can endure 150 miles of sustained winds. The City has plans to expand the plant to 3 MGD capacity. Funding would come in the form of a \$1.5M loan from the USDA, bringing the total project cost to \$6M, with a footprint 4 times more than the current plant. The loan would be paid back over twenty years.

After testing that begins in one week, the new water plant should be fully operational for the City's consumers. Saleh said, ***"The City of Patterson has the latest technology in water plant systems today."***



Construction Phase of Patterson's New Water Pant

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Presenting Patterson City Officials 2019-2023

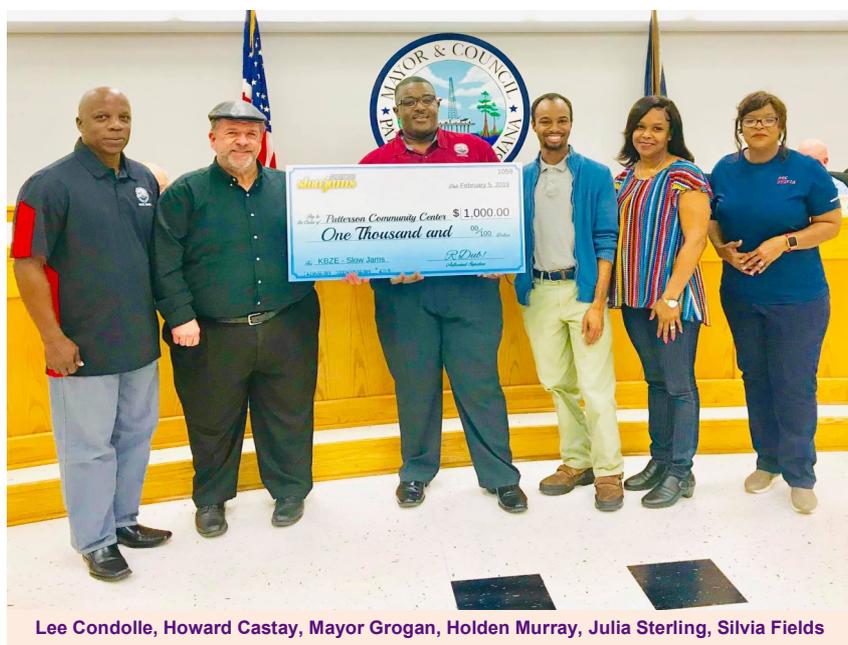


Pictured is the newly seated City Council, the newly elected Chief of Police and Mayor Grogan

Standing from left to right is political newcomer, Councilman Lee Condolle; Councilman John Rentrop; Councilwoman Sandra Turner; Councilman Joe Russo; and Mayor Pro-temp Travis Darnell. Standing next in line is newly elected Chief of Police, Garrett Grogan. Standing at the end of the line (from left to right) is re-elected Mayor Rodney Grogan, who is serving his 3rd term as mayor of Patterson. All of Patterson's City officials are members of the Democratic party.

In speaking with Chief Grogan on his intentions for running the City's police department, he said, "The change that I've already started is making sure the officers are educated in the laws of the City." The Chief, himself, spent the first few weeks in his new position in a class. He stated that his employees will be doing qualifications twice a year, instead of once a year, as they were done under the previous administration. Chief Grogan's 26 year tenure with Patterson PD consists of police officer, juvenile officer, detective and narcotic agent. He says, "***I've done it all.***"

Patterson Community City Wins Contest



Lee Condolle, Howard Castay, Mayor Grogan, Holden Murray, Julia Sterling, Silvia Fields

The Patterson Community Center was the recipient of a \$1000 check for a video submission in a contest featured on the Sunday night program *Slow Jams with R Dab* on KBZE, *The Breeze* Radio Station.

According to Howard Castay, owner and general manager of KBZE, several videos were created and submitted using individuals from the Community Center; including Mayor Grogan, and submitted to 177 affiliate stations across the country for viewing; and the Mayor's video was the winner.

The contest began when Castay chose the Patterson Community Center as his charity to participate in a nation-wide marketing campaign to boost nighttime radio listeners. The winning video can be viewed on KBZE's Facebook page.

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