

Iredell Water Corporation's Company History

The vision for a water system known as "IREDELL WATER CORPORATION" originated between two men named John B. Whitley and Victor W. Crosby. John Whitley of the Cool Springs - Fairview communities and Vic Crosby of the Harmony Community, each seeing the need for a water system within these areas, combined ideas and efforts toward a single water system project. Much of the original drafting, proposing, and organizational planning took place over the kitchen table of the John Whitley home. Early meetings began in both the Cool Springs High School and the Harmony Fire Department.

From these early developments, the first recorded official organizational meeting was held in the North Carolina National Bank Building in Statesville, North Carolina on March 4, 1966. Results from the first meetings were to learn that the Farmers Home Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture would only provide loans to rural communities and their programs, but not for cities or towns. In order to comply with the federal regulations, a rural water corporation was born and known as "IREDELL WATER CORPORATION."

A tremendous credit is due to a number of community minded men who stepped the extra mile in helping to organize "IREDELL WATER CORPORATION", a non-profit organization. The charter was filed with the North Carolina Secretary of State, Mr. Thad Eure, on March 4, 1966, with an immediate application filed in the office of the Farmers Home Administration for \$1,024,000.00. Mr. W. K. Dickson of the firm W. K. Dickson Company, Inc., of Charlotte, North Carolina was employed as the engineering firm for the corporation. The \$1,024,000.00 represents our first loan and transaction with the loan closed on December 20, 1967.

As the corporation developed and grew, the records indicate the first membership meeting was held on March 2, 1968, in the Bethany Club House building located on Highway #21 North of Statesville, North Carolina. The first officers elected there: Victor W. Crosby, President; Ralph S. Gaither, Vice-President; John B. Whitley, Secretary-Treasurer and B. B. McCormick, Jr., employed as General Manager.