



# THE FLOW

Vol. XX No. 2 February 2021

Official Monthly News of the Sorsogon City Water District

## 46th SORSOGON CITY WATER DISTRICT FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY

FEBRUARY 15, 2021

CELEBRATED WITH NEW WATER SOURCES AVAILABLE FOR TOMORROW!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

THANKSGIVING MASS

BREAKFAST ANNIVERSARY

BLESSING AND INAUGURATION OF ST. RAPHAEL PS

COVID-19 OUTREACH



By: Engr. Alejandro L. Alama

## Mayor Hamor leads ceremonial opening of St. Raphael PS, commends SCWD for improving water supply in Sor. City

City Mayor Ma. Ester E. Hamor opened the by-pass valve of the St. Raphael deepwell, showcasing the arrival of at least 1,200 cubic meters per day (cmd) additional supply from the new Abejo Waters Corp. pumping station inside the St. Raphael Subdivision, Brgy. Pangpang and ushering in a fresh chapter in the storied partnership between the City Government of Sorsogon, SCWD and AWC.

In her keynote message, Mayor Hamor commended the SCWD Board of Directors (*inset photo*) led by Chairman Charles P. Clemente III and SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada for finally resolving the water supply and quality issues in Sorsogon City in one year's time.

"Alam po ninyo sa buong term ko ngayon lang ako nakadama ng katahimikan, wala na pong nagtetext sakin na walang tubig," quipped Mayor Hamor.

She cited the water supply improvement in the West

### Benzon Compound now enjoys 24/7 water supply

By: Riza A. de Jesus



Benzon Compound of Brgy. Salog, currently with 51 active concessionaires, has been reporting low pressure to no water supply with almost zero pressure reading over the past years. But through the effort of SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada who

District such as OLV Pangpang, Ilawod Pangpang, Rover Subdivision, Executive Village and Cambulaga, the re-activation of Pamurayan Pumping Station with an additional of 700 cmd and the recent improvement at Benzon Compound, Brgy. Salog which used to have only two hours of water supply per day but now enjoys 24/7 water supply.

She cited that the partnership between SCWD, PrimeWater and AWC is stronger now more than ever as a result of constant coordination among them and with SCWD's regular visits to barangays and through regular updates via the SCWD Facebook page, SCWD website and other platforms.

Held as the highlight of SCWD's 46th Foundation Anniversary on Feb. 15 at 9:30 AM with the theme "Forging ahead with new water sources today for tomorrow!," the blessing and inauguration of the new pumping station inside the St. Raphael

proposed engineering interventions to PrimeWater, SCWD now monitors a pressure reading of 20 psi in the morning and 10 psi in the afternoon.

During the courtesy call on the conduct of 2021 Customer Satisfaction Survey at Barangay Salog on Feb. 8, Punong Barangay Reggie M. Flores (*left*) extended his gratitude to the SCWD Management for giving attention and improving the water supply in his barangay.

Based on the face-to-face survey on Feb. 8-9, concessionaires at Benzon Compound report experiencing stronger water supply from 21 to 24 hours a day (*right*).

They also hope that SCWD, together with PrimeWater Sorsogon City, will continue to improve the water supply services not only at Benzon Compound but in other parts of the barangay

Subdivisions the culmination of a series of activities of the SCWD Board and Management – policy directions and engineering interventions included – to address the water shortage of at least 5,000 cmd as reported by PrimeWater-Sorsogon City in December 2019.

In Jan. 14, 2020, SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada directed AWC, SCWD's bulk water supplier since 2012, to implement activities for additional water source development. After the endorsement from the SCWD BOD, resolution of support from the Sangguniang Barangay of Pangpang and addressing concerns such as opposition of 24 homeowners, successive typhoons and the COVID-19 pandemic, the new pumping station was finally interconnected by AWC to the SCWD water system on Feb. 8.

(continued on page 3)





# 60% of concessionaires satisfied with PrimeWater's services

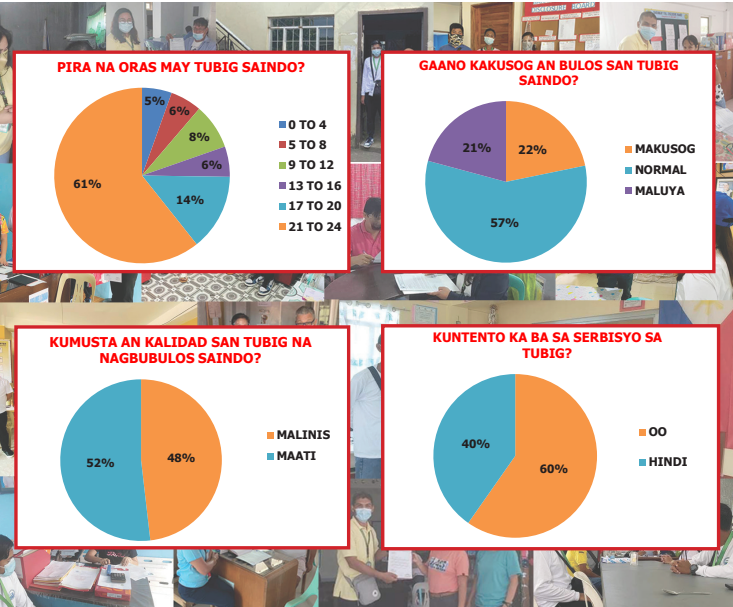
By: Elaine Leith S. Olea

Six out of every 10 concessionaires in 18 surveyed barangays as of Feb. 28 are satisfied with the water services provided by PrimeWater-Sorsogon City.

This was based on the partial tally of survey results at barangays Abuyog, Almendras-Cogon, Balogo, Barayong, Basud, Buhatan, Cambulaga, Gimaloto, Guinlajon, Pamurayan, Pangpang, Peñafrancia, Polvorista, Sampaloc, San Vicente, Sirangan, Sulucan and Tugos.

A total of 1,038 respondents were asked the following survey questions: (1.) "Pira na oras may tubig saindo?" (How many hours do you have a water supply?); (2.) "Gaano kakusog an tubig saindo?" (How strong is your water supply?); (3.) "Kumusta an kalidad kan tubig na nagbubulos saindo?" (How is the water quality flowing on your taps?); and (4.) "Kuntento ka ba sa serbisyo sa tubig?" (Are you satisfied with your water services?).

Below are the graphical presentation of the partial survey results. Final survey results in all 34 barangays will be released in the March 2021 issue of "The FLOW."



## SP interposes no objection to PrimeWater's proposed pipeline replacement project

By: Engr. Alejandro L. Alama

The Sorsogon City Sangguniang Panlungsod granted a resolution interposing no objection to SCWD and PrimeWater's pipeline replacement project within the city proper barangays beginning March 2021.

PrimeWater-Sorsogon City will replace approximately 5.2 km of 6-in diameter pipes along the national highway from Crossing Cambulaga to Chowking, Brgy. Sirangan and 2-in and 3-in diameter lateral lines at barangays Polvorista, Talisay, Burabod and Bitan-o/ Dalipay to improve water supply and quality and reduce non-revenue water.

In Resolution No. 60, Series of 2021 authored by City Coun. Franco Eric O.

Ravanilla and passed on Feb. 16, the SP supported the project subject to the conditions to ensure safety of motorists and pedestrians during project implementation.

This include instructions to PrimeWater to provide sufficient traffic signages, barricades and early warning device, to immediately haul excavated materials and to restore to its original condition all pavements affected by the project .

Aside from pipe replacement, SCWD IGM Tejada also instructed PrimeWater to replace at least 900 water meters with zero reading and intensify the apprehension of illegal connections to reduce the NRW.



## Bacon booster station to operate in 2021

By: Engr. Alejandro L. Alama

After being idle for four years, the SCWD Bacon Sub-office Steel Bolted Tank and Booster Station at Sitio Burabod, Brgy. Poblacion, Bacon District will resume operation this year.

IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada ordered the re-activation of the booster pump operations to optimize the supply from San Pascual Pumping Station for the whole Bacon District and utilize the supply from San Isidro PS to ensure 24/7 water supply at Brgy. Bibinchahan in the East District.

The 15-hp booster pump and variable frequency drive (VFD) have been restored as of IGM Tejada's validation on Feb. 4.

On the other hand, the rubber lining of the 200 cubic meter steel bolted tank - empty since 2017 - has been scheduled for replacement by PrimeWater-Sorsogon

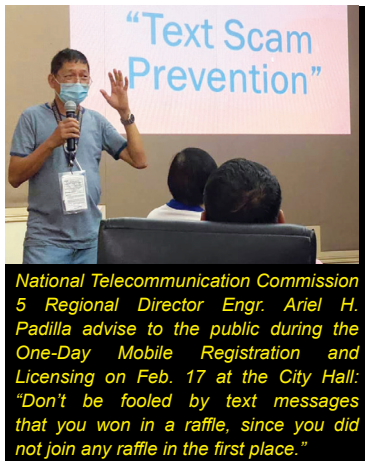
City before actual operations (top photo). The payment center, pump house, comfort rooms and perimeter fence of the Bacon Sub-Office were also rehabilitated by PrimeWater in compliance to IGM Tejada's directive to properly maintain all SCWD facilities pursuant to the joint venture agreement.

The SCWD Board of Directors, in Resolution No. 30 passed last Dec. 28, 2020, directed PrimeWater-Sorsogon City to seek SCWD's approval before changing the operational set-up of all SCWD water sources.

This directive came after the SCWD Board learned that some SCWD sources such as the Pamurayan PS and Bacon booster station have been idle for many years while others, such as the Cabid-an PS, have been downgraded, "to the detriment of water consumers."



IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada (left) confers with City Coun. Danny Deladia, chairman of the SP Committee on Infrastructure as City Coun. Eric Ravanilla, chairman of the SP committee on Public Utilities (right) gestures to City Public Order and Safety office head Ani H. Anchinges (2nd from right) during the Feb. 16 joint committee hearing.



National Telecommunication Commission 5 Regional Director Engr. Ariel H. Padilla advise to the public during the One-Day Mobile Registration and Licensing on Feb. 17 at the City Hall: "Don't be fooled by text messages that you won in a raffle, since you did not join any raffle in the first place."

## 9 SCWD employees now NTC-certified radio operators

By: Annabelle V. Ancheta

SCWD employees Engr. Alejandro L. Alama, Renee Rose T. Anagon, Annabelle V. Ancheta, Armando J. Basilio, Pablo L. Gutierrez and Charmaine B. Mandane RMT and job order workers Anthony E. Azore, Wilfredo T. Doctor Jr. and Renato M. Lirio are now holders of the National Telecommunication Commission (NTC) Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Certificate and are qualified to operate VHF handheld radios.

The SCWD staff, along with more than

250 Sorsogon radio enthusiasts, were able to avail of the services through the "One Day Mobile Licensing and Registration" of the NTC Regional Office No. 5 headed by Regional Director Engr. Ariel H. Padilla on Feb. 17.

The province-wide activity, which afforded Sorsogonans to avail of the NTC certification despite the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic, was made possible through the initiative of Sorsogon Gov. Francis Joseph "Chiz" Escudero and Sorsogon City Mayor

Ma. Ester E. Hamor and with the assistance of the Sorsogon City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO) headed by OIC Luisito H. Mendoza.

The licensing of SCWD employees and JOWs is part of the directive of IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada to ensure SCWD's sustained monitoring activities using all available means of communications at all times, including during typhoons and other calamities.



# 125 Brgy. Macabog families receive food packs from SCWD, partners

By: Renee Rose T. Anagon

One hundred twenty five (125) families benefited from SCWD's Outreach Activity Year 2 held at the Multi-Purpose Hall of this year's partner-barangay Macabog on Feb.15 at 2 PM.

As part of the celebration of SCWD 46<sup>th</sup> Foundation Anniversary, this year's outreach activity focused on the distribution of rice and grocery packs to indigent families of sitios Sirangan (11 families), Centro (12), Ilawod (11), Kalundan (11), BLISS (11), Iraya (11) and Bagong Sirang (11); all barangay frontliners composed of barangay watchmen (tanod) and barangay health workers; and selected members of the Kapilya Pastoral Council.

The distribution was spearheaded by the SCWD Board of Directors led by Chairman Charles P. Clemente III and the SCWD Management led by IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada together with joint venture partners Abejo Waters Corp. led by President and CEO Gabino M. Abejo Jr. and PrimeWater Infrastructure Corp. led by Bicol Operations Head Engr. Robert Cables.

It was conducted in strict adherence to the COVID-19 pandemic minimum health protocols to ensure that attendees were not exposed to one another longer than necessary and only representatives of the tanod, BHW and KPC and all barangay officials were present.

Distribution of the rest of the food packs worth Php 1,000.00 each and composed of 10-kg of rice, sugar, milk,

coffee, chocolate powder, corned beef, noodles, sandwich spread and loaf bread was facilitated by the barangay officials.

Brgy. Macabog was chosen as beneficiary as it is the host-barangay of various SCWD water sources and facilities including the upcoming proposed SCWD Eco-Recreational and Water Supply Park to be developed within the year and because of the constant and full support and cooperation the barangay has extended towards the realization of SCWD programs, projects and activities over the years.

Punong Barangay Ronaldo "Jeck-Jeck" T. Laguidao, in his message, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to SCWD, AWC and PrimeWater for selecting Brgy. Macabog in the outreach program.

He said that although not all 1,128 families of the barangay can be covered by the program, the 125 foods packs are already a great help especially to the less privileged families of Brgy. Macabog during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Outreach Activity, which started in 2020, is now on its second year through the initiative of IGM Tejada and the full backing of the SCWD BOD with the objective of giving back to groups or communities belonging to the marginalized sector and was designed to give smile and hope to its beneficiaries by sharing with them the celebration of SCWD's anniversary.



# Casiguran WD conducts ISO orientation for SCWD, PrimeWater, AWC

By: Annabelle V. Ancheta

SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada led the orientation seminar on ISO 9001:2015 at the Aguador's Hub, 3/F Casiguran Water District Corporate Center, Casiguran, Sorsogon on Feb. 5 at 2 PM.

In attendance were 15 employees from SCWD, five from Primewater-Sorsogon City headed by Branch Manager Engr. Hendrickson E. Latonio and Mr. Biff D. Bulanon, plant in-charge of Abejo Waters Corp. Sorsogon Bulk Water Supply.

The ISO Orientation was facilitated by the Casiguran Water District ISO Quality Management System Core Team namely: Andrew H. Duque, Ralph Louie H. Rafer and Cecilio Habalo who discussed the legal bases of the government quality management program; the seven quality management principles; and productivity and 5S, respectively.

The activity initiated by IGM Tejada was designed to provide employees of SCWD and its two private partners PrimeWater and AWC an overview on the establishment of a quality management system and the processes of ISO accreditation towards a world-class water service delivery standard in the City of Sorsogon.

# MAYOR HAMOR LEADS ... (from p. 1)

With the community quarantine regulations still in effect, the blessing and inauguration was witnessed by only a handful of guests observing the minimum health protocols, including the legal bases of the government quality management program; the seven quality management principles; and productivity and 5S, respectively.

Hendrickson E. Latonio and their respective staff.

Under the #NEWNORMAL, the blessing and inauguration was streamed via Facebook Live and garnered 147 views. Posting of the event on the SCWD FB page reached 7,144 people, generated 25 reactions and was shared 81 times. FB posting at Mayor Hamor's FB account had 692 reactions, 54 comments and 18 shares while posting at the FB account Public Information Office - Sorsogon City had 80 reactions, two comments and 129 shares as of Feb. 28.

# TEDITORIAL

FEB 14

By Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada - Interim General Manager

February 14, 2021 was a big day for Sorsogon City Water District. It was the 46<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary of the biggest and the only Category B Water District in the Province of Sorsogon. To many, Feb 14 is Valentine's Day.

For this year's celebration, the Board and Management, decided to adopt the theme: "Forging Ahead with New Water Sources Today for Tomorrow." The theme speaks of the highlight of the event - the ceremonial opening of St. Raphael Pumping Station as developed by Abejo Waters Corporation.

The occasion, despite the strict observance

of health protocols, was full of positive atmosphere. Everyone was in high spirit. The solution for water supply woes is visibly in the offing. Now it can be told, the water supply problem in the city is solvable. Partnerships can be made to work.

The completion of St. Raphael PS was a strong statement that SCWD is true to its resolve to improve the delivery of safe water to its concessionaires. It is also worth mentioning that SCWD continues to demand and insist on its partners to develop more water sources. With the strong oppositions on two possible sources, namely - SPPVS and Rangas, SCWD paved the way for the well exploration at San Lorenzo, Bibinchan, Sorsogon, where a resolution interposing no objection from the Barangay Bibinchan Council was already acquired. As of this writing a geo-resistivity survey, prerequisite of well exploration, is already being conducted by Primewater, another partner of SCWD.

As a culminating event of the said Founding Anniversary, the District, again with its partners, distributed grocery packs to health and spiritual frontliners of Brgy. Macabog, Sorsogon Considering that we are still in the middle of a pandemic, the activity was not only timely but also appropriate. It was considered a small token of appreciation for the residents and leaders of Brgy Macabog for their important roles of being the host barangay of SCWD's important facilities, including spring sources.

For SCWD, February 14 is more than

just Valentine's Day. It is also a day to celebrate the continuous delivery of safe water to the ever increasing water concessionaires of Sorsogon City.

Happy Valentine's Day to all!





# SCWD monitors 15 psi system-wide pressure in February 2021

Data provided by: Renato M. Lirio



The average pressure within the SCWD system is 15.02 psi based on the pressure monitoring done by SCWD at the 104 pressure points on Feb. 19, 24 and 26.

Pressure, in psi, per barangay is:

Abuyog	7.33	Pamurayan	15.33
Almendras-Cogon	10.33	Pangpang	18.40
Balete	19.33	Peñafrancia	13.67
Balogo	6.00	Plot	6.00
Barayong	14.67	Poblacion	42.33
Basud	11.67	Polvorista	12.67
Bibinchan	9.67	Salog	10.67
Bitan-o/ Dalipay	1.33	Sampaloc	4.67
Bogña	32.00	San Isidro	61.33
Buhatan	9.67	San Juan	6.33
Burabod	8.00	San Pascual	42.33
Cabid-an	4.00	San Roque	12.67
Cambulaga	10.00	San Vicente	22.00
Caricaran	47.67	Sirangan	2.67
Gimaloto	16.33	Sulucan	5.33
Guinlajon	9.67	Talisay	6.33
Macabog	2.67	Tugos	5.33

The minimum pressure requirement based on the SCWD PrimeWater Joint Venture Agreement is 7 psi.

Six additional pressure gauges were installed at Sampaguita Village (Brgy. San Juan), Isla Gigante (Brgy. Burabod), Housing Project (Brgy. Bibinchan), Purok 4 (top photo) and Doña Feliza Ave. (Brgy. Pangpang) and Magsaysay Street (Brgy. Sampaloc) to determine the prevailing pressure before SCWD recommends intervention programs to PrimeWater-Sorsogon City to further improve water supply distribution (top photo).

## Water supply at Miraculous Subd. improves

By: Engr. Alejandro L. Alama

Not a result of a miracle but of the many engineering interventions suggested by SCWD and implemented by PrimeWater-Sorsogon City, the water supply at Miraculous Subdivision along Diversion Road, Brgy. Macabog has improved substantially.

In a visit on Feb. 26, SCWD IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada witnessed pressurized water flowing from household taps as compared to the first time he went to the area on Oct. 6, 2020, when water was available only from three to four hours every day.

PrimeWater-Sorsogon City completed the installation of a 4-in diameter bypass line/ pipe reservoir on Dec.

22 last year while pipelaying of an additional 2-in diameter supply and clustering of connections was finished on Feb. 8 this year.

Residents thanked IGM Tejada for making good of his commitment to provide, as far as practicable, a 24/7 potable water supply at Miraculous Subdivision, Brgy. Macabog and all the other 33 SCWD-served barangays.

In 2020, residents of Purok 4 and Rover Subd of Brgy. Tugos and Ilawod and OLV of Brgy. Pangpang also reported an almost 24/7 water supply as result of the regular inspection and assistance provided by SCWD to PrimeWater-Sorsogon City in addressing the reported water shortage.



IGM Engr. Eduardo P. Tejada checks the water supply at Janaban residence, Miraculous Subdivision, Brgy. Macabog on Feb. 26, weeks after PrimeWater plumbers (inset) installed an additional 2-in diameter distribution line on Feb. 8.

## PrimeWater installs in-line chlorinator at Brgy. Abuyog

Data provided by: Charmaine B. Mandate, RMT

In compliance to SCWD's directive to maintain a minimum 0.3 ppm residual chlorine system-wide, PrimeWater-Sorsogon City installed an in-line chlorinator at Sitio Sagkahan, Brgy. Abuyog which operated beginning Feb. 25.

Aside from Brgy. Abuyog, SCWD also recommended the installation of in-line chlorinators along Alice Bridge in the city proper and at barangays Burabod and Bitan-o/ Dalipay.

For the joint SCWD-PrimeWater daily water quality monitoring in February, 66% of water samples tested (179 of 272) have a residual chlorine between 0.3 and 1.5 ppm while 98% (267 of 272) have a turbidity less than 5 NTU.

Of the 20 samples tested for microbiological analysis on Feb. 2, 9, 16 and 23, 75% of samples tested were compliant for Total Coliform, 75% were compliant for Thermotolerant Coliform and 100% were compliant for Heterotrophic Plate Count (HPC).



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NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES AS OF FEB. 28, 2021

576,532

113,895,988

4,793

627

BARCELONA - 10; BULAN - 51; BULUSAN - 19; CASIGURAN - 23; CASTILLA - 22; DONSOL - 19; GUBAT - 42; IROSIN - 32; JUBAN - 20; MAGALLANES - 10; MATNOG - 47; PILAR - 39; PRIETO-DIAZ - 21; STA. MAGDALENA - 15; AND SORSOGON CITY - 257