



P.O. Box 20913 Billings, MT 59104

# COP CHRONICLE

COP Construction LLC & Subsidiary

## COP CONSTRUCTION LLC

P.O. Box 20913  
Billings, MT 59104  
406-656-4632  
406-656-4808 fax  
840 N. 700 W.  
North Salt Lake, UT 84054  
801-298-9556  
801-298-9725 fax

Ed Bedell  
President & CEO

Dennis McPherson  
Area Manager- Montana

Jasen Bennie  
Area Manager- Utah

Rick Morrison  
Chief Financial Officer

Taylor Bryson  
Human Resources Manager

## COP WYOMING LLC

P.O. Box 979  
Sheridan, WY 82801  
307-673-2570  
307-333-0188 fax

Mike Cartwright  
Manager

Crystal Lamm  
Kimberly Hope  
Co-Editors

## JUDITH RIVER TRESTLE

FALL 2014



Completed Judith River Trestle Project

The Judith River Trestle is one of four steel trestles on Central Montana Rail Incorporated's short line railroad. The trestle is located in Fergus County approximately 13 miles northwest of Lewistown, Montana.

Completed in 1913, the Judith River Trestle is a 2,000-foot long, single track, ballasted railroad bridge 140 feet in height, consisting of concrete piers, steel towers and twin steel bridge girders with precast concrete decking. The Trestle was severely damaged in May 2011 when floodwaters moved 8 of 64 concrete piers approximately 5 feet vertically and 3 feet horizontally, damaging two towers and displacing the trestle.

COP was awarded the Judith River Trestle Project in October of last year. The project was the best value design-build through the Montana Department of Transportation. The COP estimating department teamed locally with DOWL-HKM/Hanson Professional Services for the design portion of the project. The COP/DOWL-HKM team scored high on the design concept and extremely high on the price portions of the proposal. Our design encompassed removing the old damaged components, installing eight new 8 foot diameter drilled piers into bedrock, two new steel towers, lead paint abatement, reusing five existing girder spans, new concrete deck and handrail. A design requirement for the new towers was that the new towers had to visually match the existing towers. COP was responsible for all facets of the project including design, permitting, procurement and construction. Construction proceeded concurrently with the design portion of the project. The hardest part of the project was designing and installing the new components mid-span of the existing structure.

Continued on p. 3

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to be a premier heavy civil contractor in the Intermountain West. We do this with an ongoing commitment to safety, quality and teamwork while providing challenging opportunities for our people.

## CORE VALUES

COP's culture is defined and driven by the following values:

### SAFETY:

Safety is our #1 responsibility because people come first.

### EXCELLENCE:

We do our very best each day to consistently exceed expectations.

### INTEGRITY:

We strive to always do the right thing.

### POSITIVE ATTITUDE:

We perform our work with a positive "can do" attitude.

### TEAMWORK:

By working together we will achieve superior results.

### DEDICATION:

We are committed to our goals, values and people.

### INNOVATIVE:

We always look for new ideas and better ways to perform our work.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

### MONTANA, UTAH, & WYOMING

Pipe Layers

Equipment Operators

Civil Carpenters

Laborers

Underground Utility Pipe Superintendent-  
MT

Concrete/Utilities Superintendent- MT

Project Manager- UT

To view job descriptions and apply for current openings, visit our Career Center at

[www.copconstruction.com](http://www.copconstruction.com)

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Page2  
Letter from the President

Page4  
JRT Continued

Page6  
Employee Recognition

Page8  
Careers

[www.copconstruction.com](http://www.copconstruction.com)

## SAFETY MESSAGE

### VANDALISM AND THEFT

Recently, the COP Companies have experienced an increase in the occurrence of break-ins, thefts and vandalism. This is a growing trend and is occurring all over the nation. The most noticeable area of concern is in our small Utah locations. The intrusion is generally low key with items taken for salvage or small easy pawn.



**Brad Cutler**  
SAFETY  
COORDINATOR

The intruder is usually a juvenile or group of juveniles, or an adult looking for \$100 for the day. There are also organized groups that fill a pick-up with everything they can lift.

COP utilizes several different systems and policies to help prevent and minimize loss and destruction from break-ins. The primary electrical system is a TattleTale alarm system. This is generally a motion activated intrusion system that uses a loud local alarm and is monitored by a company who calls contacts within COP or local law enforcement as needed. These systems have worked very well in several situations where someone cuts locks on a connex but then leaves without taking anything as soon as the door is opened and the alarm sounds.

Cameras are being used more frequently at several locations. These are small, high definition cameras that are motion activated and are battery run (Trail cameras). They can be turned on and off from a remote.

These systems have also been very successful in getting pictures of intruders on the site. These pictures are then turned over to law enforcement for prosecution.

COP's policies include securing of all equipment and supplies where possible in connexes, trailer, or fenced yards. Material is also left in trucks and driven off site. These procedures are also effective in helping to prevent loss by break in. But, these procedures have to be followed in order for them to work. Materials and tools need to be secured each night, as well as weekends.

One of the primary ways to prevent a loss from a break-in is to make the site appear difficult to access. This includes good locks, good fencing, and signs stating the site has alarm and camera systems. If the individual chooses to go somewhere else, the system has worked.

COP works hard to provide systems to help secure sites and prevent break-ins. Please remember when leaving a site after hours, or whenever possible to: secure all small tools and material, activate camera and TattleTail systems, and lock the connex and make sure fencing is secure. The more we prevent intrusions, the more time we can spend doing the work our customers want and expect.

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

### *S.T.A.R.T. - Supervision Training in Activity and Recognition Techniques*



Over the past year, the Senior Management Group has been taking steps to allow COP to start implementing a safety program supported by Caterpillar called S.T.A.R.T. The purpose of the program is to elevate awareness, reduce complacency and adopt action plans that will eliminate risk. The S.T.A.R.T. Program will help us enhance our current safety culture by putting emphasis on Accountability, Involvement and Commitment. With safety as our first core value, it is important that we better train our supervisors in more effective management principles and how they impact safety perceptions and actions throughout the Company. Training of all our supervisors was completed with the October 14, 2014, S.T.A.R.T. training session in Salt Lake City. We will be formally implementing the program by the beginning of the year and are excited about the positive results that we think can be accomplished. As I come around to our jobsites and offices, I will be talking with our supervisors about the program and the benefits that we can achieve. With the support, involvement and commitment of supervisors and managers, we can successfully work towards our goal of Zero Injuries.

**Ed Bedell**  
President & CEO

## JUDITH RIVER TRESTLE CONTINUED



Judith River Trestle in 1913.



Tops of Girder Spans, Before Demolition, Looking South.



Girder Removal.



One of Two Towers Tipped Over.

Article Continued on p. 4

## JUDITH RIVER TRESTLE CONTINUED

*Continued from p. 1*

Notice to proceed was given on 10-3-13 with an extremely tight 278 calendar days for the design, procurement and construction window. The COP team mobilized to the site in December and started temporarily diverting the river to provide access to the work area in order to begin dismantling the structure. There was a substantial amount of risk associated with dismantling the structure with potential for members to become bound up and the possibility that components of the existing structure would continue to move during dismantling. The risk was further compounded by working 140 feet in the air during Montana's harsh winter conditions. Due to the complexity and the height of the work, extensive safety planning was critical. Developing a superior safety plan and execution of the plan by COP Supervision and subcontractors, such as Apex Steel, resulted in zero incidents and zero accidents. The existing girders were removed utilizing a 275 ton Manitowoc crawler crane. The two damaged towers were pulled over, sheared up and then removed from the site. Eight piers were demolished with a hydraulic breaker on an excavator. Dropping the towers resulted in a 3.1 Richter Scale "event" that was recorded by the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology in Butte.



*Aerial view of completed project.*

For the replacement structure, COP installed the eight new 8 foot diameter drilled pier foundations using our 100 ton crane and a large vibratory hammer to key the casings into the existing bedrock. Six at-risk existing piers were armored with rip rap to mitigate further damage. It was also discovered that the foundation of an existing pier, not associated with our project, had been undermined during the 2011 flood. This pier foundation was repaired using pressure grouting.

The two new towers were assembled and erected on the new drilled piers. The existing bridge girders were required to be repaired if necessary and re-used. The scope of the repairs was unknown to COP and the design team until the girders were removed and inspected on the ground. They required extensive repairs to be able to re-use them. Once repaired, they were installed on the new towers followed by the installation of the new precast deck and handrail. Kudos to the design and erection team as the tops of the new towers were within an inch or less for elevation and alignment, which required very little adjustment once installation was completed. The project was completed 08-02-14.

A special "thanks" to everyone involved who made this project a true success!



*The crew pictured from left to right: Mike Bulawsky, Dan Dodge, William Bass, Scott Grasma, Greg Mitchell, Clyde Nichols and JD Myhre.*

## FACES OF COP



Harold Stewart joined COP 12 years ago on July 29, 2002 as our warehouse yard forklift operator and is based out of our Billings, MT location. Harold was born and raised in Livingston, MT and moved to Billings 25 years ago. Harold ran the 17 Club Bar until they sold out and then went to work for Omo Construction. Harold was involved in a bad accident and after taking a year to recover came to work for Mark Rieker and Tracy Kaercher here at COP. Harold has been married for 30 years and has 2 kids and 3 step-kids. In his free time, Harold enjoys golfing, camping, yard work, riding his bicycle and walking his dog Bella.



Lynn Homer just celebrated his 2 year anniversary with us here at COP on Sept. 10, 2014. Lynn started off as a Master Mechanic and is currently our Area Equipment Supervisor based out of our North Salt Lake City, Utah shop. Lynn has been in the construction and mining industry for 30 years and is a self proclaimed "jack of all trades, master of none." Lynn is very proud of his 3 amazing children; Tyrone, Candice and Chaz and the woman in his life is his granddaughter Amelia, who just turned 2 (pictured left). Besides hanging out with his kids and granddaughter, Lynn enjoys reloading and shooting, four wheeling, maintaining his corvette and restoring his house that was built in 1959.



Ken McNeil joined COP on Aug. 9, 2013 and just celebrated his 1 year anniversary with us. Ken is a parts runner based out of our Billings, MT shop. Ken moved to Montana in 1990 and graduated from Absarokee High School in 1991- the last year that Absarokee won the 8 man football state championship. He got married in 2012 and has 1 son, 1 step son and 2 step daughters. Ken likes to spend time with his son and loves sports, especially football and is just wondering when the Dallas Cowboys will be good again!

### 3rd Quarter Anniversaries

**July-** Harold Stewart- 12 years, Aaron Lahn- 7 years, Brad Cutler- 2 years, Taylor Bryson- 1 year, Scott Grasma- 1 year, Sam Aiton, 1 year **August-** Ed Allen- 41 years, Kimberly Hope- 11 years, Joshua Pearson- 9 years, Bill Lentsch- 8 years, Justin Tomison- 8 years, Nick Knickerbocker- 3 years, Shawn Houston- 1 year, Ken McNeil- 1 year **September-** Dan Vogt- 12 years, Nickolas Myhre- 2 years, Lynn Homer- 2 years, Zane Seader- 2 years, Alan Woodward- 1 year

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION AND HARD WORK!**

# EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Our Employee Recognition Program focuses on COP's Core Values and recognizes any employee who best exemplifies those values while carrying out their work assignments.

**\*Safety \*Excellence \*Integrity \*Positive Attitude \*Teamwork \*Dedication \*Innovative**

**MIKE MCPHERSON– Safety**



Pictured from left to right: Foreman – Mike McPherson and Project Manager– Anthony Gentile

Mike has a positive attitude and is good in “using his knowledge of the plant to get jobs done safely with no injuries or incidents.”

**BRUCE DESPAIN– Teamwork**



Pictured from left to right: Area Manager– Jason Bennie, President– Ed Bedell, Estimator– Bruce Despain and Estimating Manager– Bill Camp

Bruce was nominated twice for teamwork. He came to Montana from Utah just to work on a bid. “While working on the bid in SLC he was very flexible and accommodating...” Also, “Bruce exemplified selfless teamwork in helping MT bid the job.”

**DAVE BURG– Integrity**



Pictured from left to right: Superintendent– Dave Burg and MT/WY Area Manager– Dennis McPherson

“Dave stopped and rendered first aid to a car accident victim.”

**SHAN LAURIE– Safety**



Pictured from left to right: Superintendent – Shan Laurie and Project Manager– Anthony Gentile

During the CHS lunch held on 8/28/14 Shan’s last words of advice to the crew before continuing work were, “We have a few more hours left before a long holiday weekend, so stay aware because this is the time a lot of accidents occur.”

## ★ Congratulations on your retirement Mark Rieker! ★

Mark Rieker began his career with COP Construction on August 27, 1991 as a Project Superintendent on the East Bridge Project in Billings, MT. Mark was involved in bridge construction, bridge deck rehab overlays and multiple pipe projects. While in the field, Mark was very committed to completing projects ahead of schedule and below budget. He was also very creative in figuring out new methods to complete the work quicker and more efficiently.

In 1998 Mark was promoted to Equipment Manager. Mark took great pride in the condition and value of the equipment. Some of Mark’s major accomplishments as Equipment Manager were grading the yard and flattening it for an area where the equipment could be stored, as well as updating the equipment fleet and the service program. Mark made some major yard improvements as well as warehouse improvements in the small tools department in both the Billings, MT and North Salt Lake City, UT locations.

Mark also said that the people he worked with were a big reason that the department and equipment was in such great shape. His crew in Montana, as well as the addition of people he put in Utah was a very important part in the success of his role as Equipment Manager.

While working for COP, Mark enjoyed taking the time once or twice each summer to take his wonderful wife Corinne and their three children- Justin, Jeremy and Tonya, fishing at Hebgen Lake. Later on, Mark made the decision to start racing cars again and enjoyed it very much. During this time, he got to spend some quality time with his two sons building the race cars and then competing against them during the races. Today, Mark enjoys spending time with his three granddaughters, Ashley- 10, Hailey- 6 and Audrey- 5.

It was a very hard decision for Mark to leave COP, but due to some unforeseen circumstances he retired earlier than expected in July of this year. COP has been like a part of Mark’s family for the last 23 years and he couldn’t think of a better place to spend that time; he thoroughly enjoyed his job as well as the people. Mark still visits the office frequently and for that we are glad! Mark, “Thank you” so much for your years of service and the improvements that you made to the equipment department here at COP, you will be missed!



President– Ed Bedell shaking Mark’s hand and congratulating him on his retirement. Mark’s wife, Corinne, is pictured center.

## ★ CURRENT PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION ★

### COP CONSTRUCTION LLC

#### CHS PROJECTS

CHS, Inc.  
Laurel, MT

#### EXXONMOBIL CIVIL PROJECTS

ExxonMobil  
Billings, MT

#### AECOM 2014 PROJECTS

ExxonMobil  
Billings, MT

#### ROUNDUP 2014 WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

City of Roundup  
Roundup, MT

#### COLUMBUS STORM DRAIN IMPROVEMENTS

City of Columbus  
Columbus, MT

#### LOCKWOOD WTP CLARIFIER & FILTER IMPROVEMENTS

Lockwood Area Water & Sewer District  
Lockwood, MT

#### MUSSELSHELL 2014 WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Musselshell Community County Water & Sewer District  
Musselshell, MT

#### NORTH POINT SQUARE, P-612

Vacant Land, LLC and Five Mile Creek Investments, LLC  
Billings, MT

#### PPL SCRUBBER DRAIN POND

PPL Montana  
Colstrip, MT  
SUB TO OFTEDAL CONSTRUCTION

#### MINOT TANK RING

CHS, Inc.  
Minot, ND

#### FERGUS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS WATER & SEWER

Fergus County  
Lewistown, MT

#### PARK CITY 2013 WATERLINE PROJECT

Park City  
Park City, UT

#### POST FALLS LIFT STATION

City of Post Falls  
Post Falls, ID

#### MAPLETON/SPRINGVILLE REACH 2

Central Utah Water Conservancy District  
Springville, UT

#### WOODS CROSS WTF

City of Woods Cross  
Woods Cross, UT

#### 10200 SOUTH WATERLINE

Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District  
Jordan Valley, UT

#### WELL #3 PUMP HOUSE PROJECT

City of West Jordan  
West Jordan, UT

#### HERRIMAN CITY PUMP STATION

Herriman City  
Herriman, UT

#### UDOT SPANISH FORK RIVER TRAIL

Utah Department of Transportation  
Spanish Fork, UT

#### COP WYOMING LLC

**ILLINOIS ST. RECONSTRUCTION**  
City of Sheridan  
Sheridan, WY

## End of Summer Employee Recognition BBQ at the CHS Refinery in Laurel, MT



COP’s CHS refinery employees were treated to a BBQ and then gathered around Superintendents- Shan Laurie and Ron Beeman to receive recognition for their hard work and dedication



Employees line up to shake hands with Superintendent’s Shan Laurie and Ron Beeman (pictured from left to right), as they give away COP apparel as a “thank you” for all they do.