PORTLAND WATER BUREAU
FROM FOREST TO FAUCET

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March 28, 2025

OESAC CEU Committee
PO Box 577
Canby, OR 97013-0577

Dear members of the CEU Committee:

Please consider this request for your approval of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Winter 2025 Webcasts for 0.9 CEU's.

DATE	AWWA Winter 2025 Webcasts	CEU's: 0.9
1/23/25	Pipeline Management: Is Your Data Ready for Action?	0.1
1/29/25	Dashboards That Deliver: Optimizing Benchmarking Visualizations	0.1
2/4/25	Loss to Savings: Non-Revenue Water Successes	0.1
2/5/25	AWIA Update: Lessons Learned for Your 2025 RRA and ERP Update	0.1
2/19/25	Strategies and Techniques for Identifying Known Service Line Materials	0.1
3/5/25	Emergency Preparedness Modeling for Distribution Systems	0.1
3/12/25	Chlorine Dioxide for Drinking Water Treatment	0.1
3/19/25	New Administration, New Congress, and Complying with Recent Rulemakings	0.1
3/26/25	Rethinking Reserves	0.1

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Brooke E. Gardner

Brooke Gardner
Portland Water Bureau
brooke.e.gardner@portlandoregon.gov

Enclosures:
1. Letter of request to review
2. AWWA Webcast Summaries and Speaker Bios

AWWA Winter 2025 Webinar Summaries and Presenter Biographies

AWWA Webinar: Pipeline Management: Is Your Data Ready for Action?

January 23, 2025

Overview:

Data-driven asset management is the foundation of a reliable and resilient water network and understanding asset risk is the cornerstone of this process. Despite the vast amount of data collected, many utilities aren't making full use of this valuable resource. Even with incomplete or imperfect data, utilities can assess risk and develop an effective pipeline management framework. As more reliable data is gathered, this framework can evolve, further optimizing network performance and decision-making.

In this webinar, Xylem speakers will discuss practical strategies for conducting a network-wide risk assessment using existing data and setting data improvement goals for long-term success. The City of Lacombe will share their experience with risk assessment and discuss how they are leveraging the results. Join us to explore ways of incorporating risk data into your pipeline management strategy to better anticipate and mitigate threats, optimize maintenance schedules, and maximize asset life and value. Whether you're just beginning your asset management journey or looking to refine your current practices, water utilities will gain valuable insights and actionable solutions in this upcoming webinar.

Learning Objectives:

- Overcome data limitations – learn how to work with incomplete or imperfect data to make informed pipeline management decisions.
- Leverage risk assessment – explore ways of incorporating risk assessment data into your pipeline management strategy to better plan for and address risks.
- Promote continuous improvement – Discover strategies for ongoing data evaluation and enhancement to continuously improve proactive pipeline management practices.

Presenter Biographies:

Sepideh Yazdekhasti, Ph.D., Senior Program Engineer and Asset Data Scientist Lead at Xylem

Sepideh holds a Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering. She is passionate about helping asset owners develop well-rounded water management strategies using advanced analytical tools, interoperable data, and domain knowledge. Sepideh focuses on advancing data integration to support pairing asset owners with the right solutions and technologies.

Greta Vladeanu, Ph.D., Senior Program Engineer of Network Data Insights at Xylem

Greta has 10 years of engineering research and development experience and Ph.D. in Materials and Infrastructure Engineering. She specializes in harnessing data to help utilities efficiently manage their water and wastewater pipelines. Greta is an expert at building quantitative risk models for strategic, network-wide asset planning. At the pipeline level, she helps utilities get

more out of their condition data with targeted intervention planning using remaining useful life analyses.

Phillip Bevans, Engineering - Asset Management Coordinator with the City of Lacombe

Phillip holds a degree in Technology Management from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton. He began working for the City of Lacombe's Engineering Services Department in 2019 as an Alberta Municipal Intern. Over the last five years, he has become a Certified Engineering Technologist while helping to advance the City's infrastructure asset management journey.

AWWA Webinar: Dashboards That Deliver: Optimizing Benchmarking Visualizations Online

January 29, 2025

Overview:

Visualizing comprehensive data through dashboards provides utilities with the capability of real-time performance monitoring and analyzing complex data in easy-to-understand graphs. In this webinar, attendees will learn of the benefits of participating in the AWWA Utility Benchmarking Survey and how utilities use the Survey data in their dashboards as a part of their continuous performance improvement program.

Three utilities will present their data dashboards and share their experiences and how they addressed challenges. The presenters will discuss their involvement in the Benchmarking Survey and how they use the Survey data to graph their performance, set targets, or develop scorecards.

Presenter Biographies:

Frank Roth, Program Manager – Benchmarking, AWWA

Frank manages AWWA's Utility Benchmarking Program. He is responsible for administering the annual Survey and developing the annual report. He also conducts or coordinates workshops, special topics sessions, and webinars on utility management topics. Prior to AWWA, Frank worked at the Southwest Environmental Finance Center for three years and fifteen years at the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority. His focus areas included utility management, strategic policy and planning, asset management, and resilience planning.

Susan Lander, Controller, ABCWUA

Susan joined the Water Authority in 2006 and has over 37 years of experience in local government in various accounting/finance and budget positions. Ms. Lander has worked in various roles at the Water Authority, serving as the Controller since 2019. Ms. Lander develops and manages the operating budget, oversees accounting/payroll functions and manages the performance management program for the Water Authority.

Emily Pontarelli, Diversity Program Manager, Pittsburgh Water

Emily has over eight years of experience working in the City of Pittsburgh's public sector. In her current role as Diversity Program Manager at Pittsburgh Water, Ms. Pontarelli manages the supplier diversity program in addition to performance data collection and tracking for the public utility.

Angela Akridge, Chief Strategy Officer for Business Transformation & Regulatory Compliance, Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District

Angela joined Louisville MSD full time in 1995 as an engineer upon graduating from the University of Louisville with a bachelors and masters degrees in civil engineering. A licensed professional engineer, Angela held multiple leadership roles at Louisville MSD throughout her tenure. She was appointed Chief Engineer in 2015 and served in that position for 4.5 years before being appointed to her current position of Chief Strategy Officer for Business Transformation and Regulatory Compliance.

Brad Good, Chief Financial Officer, Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District

Brad joined Louisville MSD in 2016 as Controller and was promoted to Chief Financial Officer in 2020. His previous experience includes 15 years in various accounting and finance positions in the hotel industry. Mr. Good is a certified public accountant and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science from Kansas State University and a post-baccalaureate degree in accounting from Indiana University Southeast.

AWWA Webinar: Loss to Savings: Non-Revenue Water Successes Online

February 4, 2025

Overview:

Join us for an insightful webinar where we explore how various water utilities are leveraging smart metering, advanced analytics, and digital services to effectively reduce non-revenue water. We'll delve into the critical drivers behind reducing non-revenue water, such as improving utility finances, addressing drought and water scarcity, and complying with regulatory requirements. We'll then showcase real-world success stories. This session is designed to provide valuable insights and practical strategies for utilities looking to enhance their water management practices and ensure sustainable operations. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from industry leaders and discover how to turn water loss into significant savings!

Learning Objectives:

- **Understand the Impact of Non-Revenue Water:** Learn about the financial, environmental, and regulatory drivers that make reducing non-revenue water a critical priority for utilities.
- **Explore Innovative Solutions:** Discover how smart metering, advanced analytics, and other cutting-edge tools are
  being used by leading utilities to minimize water loss and improve efficiency.

- **Implement Best Practices:** Gain practical insights and strategies from real-world case studies that can be applied to your own utility to enhance water management and achieve significant savings.

Presenter Biographies:

Chris Thomson, PE, Director, Drinking Water Marketing, Sensus, a Xylem brand

Chris Thomson is the Director of Drinking Water Marketing for Xylem. He has over 24 years in the water and wastewater industry – with progressive experience in consulting, design, and solutions across the water cycle. Throughout his career, he has been active in the training community – teaching and presenting through AWWA, WEF, Rural Water, and other organizations. Chris has a master's degree of Science in Environmental Engineering from Johns Hopkins University. He is a registered Professional Engineer in North Carolina and Maryland.

Matthew Thomas, Business Development Manager for Vertical Marketing Utility Networks, Sensus, a Xylem brand (Formerly Houston Public Works)

Matthew is a Business Development Manager for Vertical Marketing Utility Networks at Xylem. Matthew has 40 years of professional utility experience and most recently served as Assistant Director at Houston Public Works (HPW). Prior to joining HPW, Matthew spent 22 years in leadership roles in Electric Utility Operations, followed by 12 years of Financial Planning and Analysis leadership in the Oil and Gas industry.

Luther Kemp, Technical Services Supervisor, Superior Water, Light and Power

Luther is a Technical Services Supervisor for Superior Water Light and Power. Luther is responsible for leading a group of project managers, engineers, data analysts and operations support staff for gas, water, and electric services SWL&P provides. Previously Luther was the Supervisor of the meter department and was tasked with managing a full-scale Sensus AMI meter deployment for gas, water, and electric which was completed in 2021. Luther holds an Electronics Engineering Technology degree from Northern Michigan University.

Edward Navarrete, AMI & Meter Quality Department Head, Mount Pleasant Waterworks (MPW)

Edward is the AMI &Meter Quality Department Head at Mount Pleasant Waterworks (MPW) in South Carolina. He has been with the utility for over five years and has held progressive roles such as AMI Supervisor and Service Line Care Foreman. Prior to joining MPW, he spent over 16 years with the Isle of Palms Water & Sewer Commission as both a Systems Operator and Senior Systems Operator. An active member of multiple water industry associations and Sensus advisory groups, Edward is particularly passionate about meter performance and non-revenue water recovery. Over the past year, he and his team have made significant strides in optimizing their AMI system performance and customizing AMI reports to identify and replace non-registering meters. They've dramatically reduced their daily stale meter count, going from a daily average of 200-400 down to just 10-40, and even hitting zero stale meters twice in October of this year. When he's not working, Edward enjoys spending time with his family, their two dogs, and relaxing on the boat. He's also a big college football fan.

AWWA Webinar: AWIA Update: Lessons Learned for Your 2025 RRA and ERP Update Online

February 5, 2025

Overview:

Learn pro tips to update your America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) 2025 requirements. Learn from national utility risk experts about how to easily update your Risk and Resilience Assessment and Emergency Response Plan to ensure compliance. Be prepared for an EPA audit and turn in your reports by the 2025 deadlines. Hear details on lessons learned and how to use existing data to better inform your plans.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand AWIA regulations
- Demonstrate compliance
- Update AWIA requirements
- Understand EPA audits
- Understand how to use existing data

Presenter Biographies:

Sarah More, Senior Resilience Consultant, Arcadis

Sarah Moore is a subject matter expert for the Arcadis North America's Resilience Sector and is responsible for leading emergency management and preparedness projects.

Kevin Morley, PhD, Manager of Federal Relations, AWWA

Kevin works closely with multiple organizations to advance the security and preparedness of the water sector. This includes supporting the development of several ANSI/AWWA standards that represent minimum best practice for water sector risk and resilience management, including cybersecurity guidance. He is a leading expert on Section 2013 of America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2018 and multiple resources that enable water system to advance their security and preparedness to all-hazards. Dr. Morley has been appointed to the President's National Infrastructure Advisory Council.

Corinne Ketchum, Senior Risk and Resilience Consultant, Arcadis

Corinne has degrees in civil and environmental engineering and over 20 years of experience in the water sector. She specializes in RRAs and the planning and design of physical security projects.

Alex Morrison, Director of Operations, Albemarle County Service Authority

Alex oversees water distribution and wastewater collection operations. Alex has been with ACSA for 14 years, serving 13 years in the Engineering Department before transitioning to his current leadership role. A Registered Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia since 2015, he holds a B.S. in Mining and Minerals Engineering from Virginia Tech and M.E. in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University. Alex brings a wealth of experience and a strategic perspective to his work, with a focus on operational excellence and system resilience.

Linda Warren, Resilience Specialist, Launch! Consulting, Inc.

As the Principal of Launch! Consulting, Inc., Linda Warren has been at the forefront of water and wastewater resilience since 2001. Linda is a water resource engineer and professional facilitator, assisting more than 150 utilities with risk and resilience assessments, emergency and continuity plans, emergency exercises and team resilience. She served as the past chair of the AWWA Emergency Preparedness and Security Committee, and contributed to many AWWA standards and guidance documents, including M19, G430, G440, and G300. Linda also led the development of AWWA's Risk and Resilience Certificate Program.

David Yonge, Principal, A2O Consulting

David is a professional engineer, principle, and founder of A2O Consulting. He specializes in cyber informed engineering which integrates cybersecurity considerations into the conception, planning, design, build, and operation of any physical system that has digital connectivity within the water and wastewater sectors. David has assisted numerous small, medium, and large utilities with preparing risk and resilience assessments and emergency response plans and working with utilities to enhance their resilience and security posture. David currently volunteers in leadership roles in the AWWA on state and national levels. He co-founded the FSAWWA Cybersecurity Committee and received the Regional and State Volunteer of the Year awards.

AWWA Webinar: Strategies and Techniques for Identifying Known Service Line Materials

February 19, 2025

Overview:

Water utilities can prepare for LCRI compliance by identifying unknown service line materials. This webinar provides practical examples from water utilities that have executed service line materials identification programs using meter pit inspections, excavations, and in-basement inspections.

Learning Objectives:

- Understanding service line materials identification requirements under the LCRR/LCRI.
- Evaluate and select techniques for classifying service line materials in the absence of historical records.
- Improve quality control procedures for service line inventory development.

Presenter Biographies:

Ashley Pifer, Director of Water and Wastewater, Halff

Ashley Pifer has a PhD in Civil Engineering from the University of Arkansas and is Garver's Distribution System Water Quality Practice Lead. She regularly assists water systems with disinfectant residual management, corrosion control, and regulatory monitoring and compliance.

Bill Carr, Utility Systems Manager, Brushy Creek Municipal Utility District

Bill has led water and wastewater utility operations for more than 30 years. Since 2022, Bill has served as the Brushy Creek Municipal Utility District Utilities System Manager, overseeing a team responsible for the operation and maintenance of water, wastewater, and stormwater systems. He previously served as the Water Facility Supervisor for the District since 2013. Bill has extensive industry experience that includes team leadership; interagency planning and cooperation; and interpretation and implementation of state and federal rules, regulations, and environmental policies.

Abigail Hall, Project Engineer, Garver

Abigail is a Project Engineer on Garver's Water Team, specializing in W-WW facilities and infrastructure. She is pursuing a master's degree in environmental and water resources engineering from the University of Texas at Austin and is studying for her Professional Engineering License in Texas.

Victoria Smith, Water Quality Manager, City of Norfolk

Victoria is Water Quality Manager for the City of Norfolk and led efforts to compare meter box inspections with test pits to develop a process for selecting appropriate service line inventory methods.

Kevin T. Hyskell, Senior Project Manager, CDM Smith

Kevin has been a part of a large number of projects from the small municipal sanitary sewer pump station re-design to large greenfield municipal wastewater treatment plant design to mega greenfield oil refinery utilities design management.

Alisa Morrison, Project Engineer IV, Norwich Public Utilities

Alisa is a licensed professional engineer and serves as Norwich Public Utilities' Utility Project Engineer IV. She was tasked with coordinating basement inspections to facilitate Norwich Public Utilities' service line inventory development.

AWWA Webinar: Emergency Preparedness Modeling for Distribution Systems

March 5, 2025

Overview:

Water utilities are faced with tough decisions about how to operate, maintain, and improve their water distribution systems. This webinar will focus on helping utilities make informed decisions using hydraulic modeling to quantify and mitigate risks common to distribution systems.

The United States drinking water infrastructure system is made up of over 2.2 million miles of underground pipes. They represent the vast majority of physical infrastructure for water suppliers. Distribution system wear and tear can pose intermittent or persistent health and safety risks, as can unforeseen events and other emergency conditions. America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2018 served as a catalyst for utilities to evaluate their resilience to risk and to create or update emergency response plans for distribution systems. From this effort, many utilities discovered the criticality of their

water infrastructure and have been taking steps to evaluate the risk and strengthen emergency preparedness.

Several major areas of emergency preparedness in distribution systems will be covered in this session. Supply outages, both planned and unplanned, distribution system storage, valve criticality, and distribution system contamination will each be discussed with respect to using hydraulic models for emergency preparedness and response.

The presenters will cover the following topics:

- Introduction and The Challenge of Supply Outages
- Best Practices for Analyzing Distribution System Contamination
- Interaction of the System Storage and Resilience
- Evaluating Adequacy of Valves for Resilience

Learning Objectives:

- Identify ways to use hydraulic models to plan for supply outages (WTP and/or interconnection/tie-in shutdowns).
- Understand the purpose of water distribution system storage, how it can be leveraged for emergency preparedness, and how it can be evaluated with hydraulic models.
- Learn how to quantify isolation valve criticality in water distribution systems and use it to prioritize projects for risk and resilience.
- Identify ways and methods to use hydraulic models to trace and respond to water quality contamination in distribution systems.

Presenter Biographies:

Moderated by: Melissa Brunger, Principal / Vice President, Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Meg Roberts, Distribution Systems Services Leader, Hazen and Sawyer, P.C.

Meg has over 20 years of experience in water distribution system hydraulics and water quality. Meg currently serves as Hazen's Distribution System Services Leader, is a member of the Engineering Modeling Applications Committee, and is the Chair of AWWA's Water Quality & Technology Division.

Saša Tomić PhD, PE, Digital Water Lead, Burns & McDonnell Engineering Co. Inc.

Saša is Burns & McDonnell Digital Water lead. He has spent over 30 years on the intersection of hydraulic models, data and decision making.

Tom Walski, Industry Advisor, Bentley Systems

Tom is an industry analyst at Bentley Systems. He brings over 40 years of experience in water distribution hydraulic analysis.

AWWA Webinar: Chlorine Dioxide for Drinking Water Treatment

March 12, 2025

Overview:

Chlorine dioxide is an effective pre-oxidation and disinfection chemical that does not form high levels of regulated trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids. This webinar will help utilities evaluate the potential application of chlorine dioxide in their systems.

The presenters will cover the following topics:

- ***When, Where, and Why to Use Chlorine Dioxide:***
  This presentation introduces chlorine dioxide chemistry and its uses for drinking water treatment, including oxidation of nuisance metals, certain taste-and-odor compounds, and natural organic matter, primary disinfection, and control of opportunistic pathogens in premise plumbing. Like all chemical disinfectants, chlorine dioxide produces DBPs as it reacts with chemicals, such as natural organic matter, present in water.
- ***Generating Chlorine Dioxide:***
  Chlorine dioxide is unstable at high concentrations, so water utilities generate it on-site using a variety of techniques. This presentation will discuss chlorine-chlorite, hypochlorite-acid-chlorite, acid-chlorite, and chlorate-based methods and their applicability for small, medium, and large water treatment facilities.
- ***Lessons Learned from 30 Years of Chlorine Dioxide Use:***
  The Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority has used four different chlorine dioxide generation methods at its 86- and 87-MGD water treatment plants over the last 30 years. This presentation will discuss their drivers for using chlorine dioxide and lessons learned from the start-up and operation of chlorine dioxide systems.
- ***Chlorine Dioxide Strategies for Preoxidation and Primary Disinfection:***
  Gulf Coast Water Authority has applied chlorine dioxide for preoxidation and/or primary disinfection at its 57.6-MGD Thomas S. Mackey Water Treatment Plant. This presentation will discuss the plant's chlorine dioxide application strategies and lessons learned from chlorine dioxide use.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand basic chlorine dioxide chemistry for preoxidation and disinfection.
- Compare the benefits and challenges associated with chlorine dioxide use.
- Assess chlorine dioxide generation technologies.
- Evaluate the potential for chlorine dioxide application for individual water treatment facilities.

- Identify opportunities for chlorine dioxide process optimization at individual water treatment facilities.

Presenter Biographies:

Ashley Pifer, Phd, PE, Director of Water and Wastewater, Halff

Ashley has a PhD in Civil Engineering from the University of Arkansas and is Garver's Distribution System Water Quality Practice Lead. She regularly assists water systems with disinfectant residual management, corrosion control, and regulatory monitoring and compliance.

Moderated by: Helene Baribeau, PhD, PE, Senior Specialist, California State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water

Helene has been in the industry for over 30 years, working for various private and public organizations mainly in California. She is currently a Senior Specialist for California's State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water. Of relevance to this presentation, Helene studied chlorine dioxide during her master and PhD and is one of he authors of the book titled State of Science of Chlorine Dioxide in Drinking Water, which was published by the Water Research Foundation and the Italia n Foundation AMGA.

Zhengkai (Zack) Li, PhD, PE, Senior Process Engineer, ERCO IDI

Dr. Zhengkai (Zack) Li is a senior process engineer with the International Dioxcide, An ERCO Worldwide Company. Zack started his career as a water supply and wastewater engineer. In the recent 10 years, Zack has focused on R&D and application of chlorine dioxide technologies in water treatment and disinfection. Zack holds PhD in Environmental Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis.

Patrick Pherson, Process Engineer, Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA)

Patrick is a Process Engineer with Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA). In Patrick's 25 years with CCMWA, he has worked with four different chlorine dioxide generation systems. Patrick has M.S. and B.S. Degrees from Purdue University in Civil-Environmental Engineering and is a licensed Professional Engineer.

AWWA Webinar: New Administration, New Congress, and Complying with Recent Rulemakings

March 19, 2025

Objectives:

This webinar is a status report and a look ahead at the federal water policy landscape, taking into account this year's new Congress and change in administration. The webinar will include focused discussion of early implementation considerations under the LCRI and PFAS.

There is no doubt that there has been a flurry of executive actions coming from the White House and being implemented across federal agencies since the inauguration. Likewise, the new Congress has started to lay down new priorities moving forward. Although there are many open questions, this

webinar will begin by overviewing key actions that have changed the picture for the water sector and emphasize aspects that remain steadfast. This webinar will also provide an overview of activities water systems need to take to prepare for compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) and the Per- and Polyfluoroakyl Substances Rule (PFAS Rule).

Learning Objectives:

- Contextualize recent federal administrative actions with potential impacts to the water sector.
- Understand how to utilize available information from EPA on PFAS Rule requirements to prepare to meet compliance deadlines.
- Learn how to utilize available information from EPA on LCRI requirements to prepare to meet compliance deadlines.

Presenter Biographies:

Moderated by: Steve Via, Director, Federal Relations, AWWA
Jihyon Im, PE, Principal Environmental Engineer, CDM Smith

Ji Im is a Principal Environmental Engineer at CDM Smith with over ten years of experience in drinking water quality and treatment tackling both conventional and emerging water quality challenges. She specializes in PFAS treatment having led many alternative analysis, treatability studies, bench-scale and pilot testing, regulatory review, design and construction projects throughout the country. She's an active volunteer for AWWA, currently serving as a member PFAS Technical Advisory Workgroup, a Member-At-Large for Technical & Education Council, and a Young Professional Advisor on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. Ji is a member of the New England Section based on Manchester, New Hampshire and received her Bachelor and Master of Science in Environmental Engineering at the University of New Hampshire.

Cynthia Lane, PE, General Manager, Platte Canyon Water & Sanitation District

Cynthia, P.E. currently serves as the General Manager of Platte Canyon Water & Sanitation District. She joined the district in 2017 as the Assistant Manager and was appointed to General Manager in June 2021. Cynthia holds a BS in Civil Engineering from Penn State University and is a registered Professional Engineer (Maryland). Cynthia was previously the Director of Engineering & Technical Services for the American Water Works Association (AWWA), which is an international, nonprofit, scientific and educational society dedicated to ensuring the effective management of water.

Becki Rosenfeldt, PE, Associate Vice President, Hazen and Sawyer

Ms. Rosenfeldt has over 20 years of experience in corrosion control and lead and copper regulatory compliance. She is a winner of AWWA's Academic Achievement Award and serves as Hazen's technical expert in lead and copper. She is assisting utilities across the country build and manage programs for compliance with the LCRR and LCRI.

AWWA Webinar: Rethinking Reserves

March 26, 2025

Overview:

Governments are subject to financial shocks, including natural catastrophes, financial dislocations, and more. Financial reserves (a “rainy day” fund) are essentially a form of self-insurance that governments use to buffer themselves against these risks. But what are the risks governments should be concerned about and what size of reserves are appropriate to those cover risks? In this webinar, we will answer these questions and more. Participants will leave with resources and strategies to apply risk-aware and risk-savvy thinking to reserves in their own organizations, with a special emphasis on water utilities.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn how to recognize and analyze risks that reserves guard against and translate that knowledge into a reserve strategy.
- Access tools for risk-savvy thinking in public finance
- See how other local governments and public utilities have optimized their reserve strategies"

Presenter Biographies:

Chris Morrill, Executive Director / CEO, Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)

Chris is the Executive Director/CEO of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the US & Canada, a 22,000-member professional association that advances excellence in government finance to build thriving communities. He has decades of experience in local government, serving as city manager of the City of Roanoke, A, the only seven-time All-America City, Assistant City Manager and Budget Director for the City of Savannah, GA, a budget analyst for Catawba County, NC, and downtown project manager for Lynn, MA.

Shayne Kavanagh, Senior Manager of Research, Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)

Shayne is the Senior Manager of Research for GFOA and has been a leader in developing the technique of long-term financial planning policies for local government. He started GFOA’s long-term financial planning and policy consulting offering in 2002 and has been working with governments on financial planning and policies ever since. Most recently, Shayne has pioneered the use of computer simulation to “stress test” the long-term financial position of local governments.

David Matson, General Manager, Goleta Water District

David is the General Manager of Goleta Water District, overseeing the fiscal and operational sustainability of the district, which serves over 87,000 residents. With a portfolio of over $1 billion in infrastructure assets and an annual budget of $54 million, he leads a team of 74 professionals in providing water services and implementing the District’s innovative Net Zero initiative for sustainability. Prior to this role, Mr. Matson served as Assistant General Manager and has over 25 years of public service experience, holding advanced degrees from Syracuse University and a Bachelor’s from the University of Portland.

KK Holland, Assistant to the General Manager, Goleta Water District

KK oversees Customer Service, Public Outreach, and Human Resources. She previously served as the District's Principal Policy Analyst from 2014 and worked for the California State Senate. Ms. Holland holds a Masters in Communication from the University of California Santa Barbara, and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California Los Angeles.

Laura McKenzie, Chief Financial Officer, Goleta Water District

Laura oversees the primary administrative and fiscal areas of Goleta Water District, including financial management, reporting, audit and Information Technology. She has over twenty years of international experience in auditing and accounting, developing and implementing financial systems, strategies, processes and internal controls. Prior to joining the District in 2022, she served as Controller at MNS Engineers. Ms. McKenzie has a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Buenos Aires as well as a Global Business and Management Certificate from UCSB.