

Solution **H₂O**

SUMMER 2020



inside:

OPERATOR RECERTIFICATION

Letter from KDHE regarding 2020 changes

16

EXTRAORDINARY SUPPORT

Special recognition of exhibitors, sponsors

20

WHOSE FAULT IS IT?

Taking an honest look at why accidents happen

21

Providing solutions for Kansas to effectively manage water, the state's most important resource.

Kansas Receives 70,000 Cloth Masks for Essential Water/Wastewater Utility Staff

by Katie Miller, KsAWWA Board of Trustees; Kansas Municipal Utilities

In response to the Covid-19 crisis, water and wastewater utilities across Kansas are eligible to receive free washable, reusable cloth face masks for essential water and wastewater utility staff members. A total of 70,000 masks arrived in Kansas in early May for distribution to front-line water and wastewater utility workers, through a cooperative effort of FEMA, EPA, WARN, KDHE, KSMAP, and KMU. Masks are allocated to requesting utilities on a first-come-first-serve basis.

To date, over 33,000 masks have been distributed to utility staff members across Kansas, and requests continue to be filled and delivered every week.

on page 12

CONTENTS

1	Kansas Receives 70,000 Cloth Masks for Essential Water/Wastewater Utility Staff	17	Randig Announced as AWWA Gannet Flemming Scholarship Winner
3	News from the Chair	20	Special Recognition of Exhibitors & Sponsors for Extraordinary Support
5	Section Manager's Report	21	Who Do You Blame When You Have an Accident?
6	Director's Report	22	KsAWWA Annual Meeting Agenda
13	Wearing a Face Mask for COVID-19		
16	Letter from KDHE's Cathy Tucker-Vogel Regarding Operator Recertification		

ADVERTISER INDEX

Ford Meter Box 10	Pittsburg Tank & Tower Group..... 11
Midland GIS Solutions 14	R.E. Pedrotti Company, Inc. 4
Olsson, Inc. 15	Wilson & Company 23

News from the Chair

by Andrew Hansen, KsAWWA Chair

As my term as your chair starts to wind down, I'm beginning to reflect over the last year on some of the successes for the Section. Although there are always areas for improvement, overall, I think the board and committees did a pretty admirable job given the challenges we currently face.

Some of you may recall our keynote speaker from the 2019 joint Conference, former All-Pro Kansas City Chief Tim Grunhard. The premise of his keynote address revolved around the one degree of difference required to make water boil. Likewise, as pointed out in my fall 2019 letter to the section, I challenged your board members and committee chairs to do at least one thing above and beyond their normal responsibilities to make a difference for the Section. Some highlights from their efforts include:

- » Chair-Elect DJ Johnson and board member Steve Nirschl graciously volunteered to serve on KDHE Working Groups addressing PFAS and Operator Certification in the State of Kansas.
- » In alignment with AWWA's Veterans Workforce Initiative, which began in 2017, the Kansas Section started a Veterans Workforce Committee. This committee will serve as a valuable conduit between the water/wastewater industry and our veterans who possess strong technical capabilities and experience working in a regulated environment.
- » The Diversity and Veterans Workforce Committees will be teaming up to provide

"Spotlight" articles in upcoming issues of Solution H₂O. Both are major contributors to our industry, and I personally look forward to their recognition.



- » Darci Meese, chair of our Water Utility Council, worked with the YPs to connect them with the State legislative session, understanding what AWWA can do at the state level.
- » There was collaboration between Jessica Adams-Weber from the Membership Committee, and board member Michelle Wirth, to grow membership between the YPs, OTC, and Veterans Workforce.
- » Secretary/Treasurer Terryl Pajor worked to consolidate and streamline many years of hard copy financial records. Having these in an electronic format so they can be accessed and analyzed is well overdue. Bless her heart for taking on this challenge!!!
- » Board member Kurt Bookout continues to recruit for the Water Buffalos. Please reach out to him or fellow Water Buffalos Jim Jackson, board member, or Hank Corcoran Boyer, section manager, if you are interested.

» Vice Chair-Elect Katie Miller created synergies between her role at KMU and KsAWWA. Katie also spearheaded procuring and distributing masks when the pandemic hit. Last I heard, she still has some masks available if any utility is in need.

Regretfully, I can't provide the entire listing of all the great things that our team has accomplished over the last year. But one thing is for certain—even though we had to cancel our annual conference, there are no regrets about what we accomplished.

With respect to our conference, the unfortunate need to cancel our conference in Wichita created a ripple in the schedule for upcoming years. Specifically, since we missed our opportunity to be in Wichita this year, coupled with previously executed contracts in place

for Topeka, the board decided the conference would return to Topeka in 2021 and 2022, followed by a two-year stint in Wichita in 2023 and 2024. In 2025, we will once again resume our typical two for one schedule between Topeka and Wichita, respectively.

As my chairmanship comes to a close, I would like to say thank you to the team of board and committee members who worked so hard over the last year. Their dedication and efforts made my job much easier and are a strong reminder of how fortunate we all are to work in the water industry. 🍂

Andrew Hansen, KsAWWA Chair

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Section Manager's Report

by Hank Corcoran Boyer, KsAWWA Section Manager

What an interesting six months we have just come through. I looked back at what I was writing last year at this time, and the biggest concern was the amount of rain we were receiving and how we could use a little dry weather to help our agriculture partners. The weather certainly has taken a back seat this year and looks like it will for some time to come. I pray all of you have stayed safe and been able to avoid this coronavirus, and your utilities and related businesses have been able to maintain during these times.

The first unusual thing that happened was the cancellation of AWWA's ACE20 – never in the history of AWWA and the national convention and exposition has this happened. This changed many of our plans for June, but on the tail of that, AWWA was holding virtual meetings for all AWWA section staff, and the topic was do we postpone our spring conference to fall and what will the fall look like, do we cancel our conferences for 2020 completely or do we do a virtual conference. The discussions were all over the board; many had postponed from the spring to the fall and then started talking of canceling everything. Texas moved forward and put into place a virtual conference which not only included sessions but a virtual exhibit hall. With all this happening, KsAWWA and KWEA started visiting about what should be done with our joint conference. In the end, it was a unanimous decision by both organizations to cancel the 2020 joint conference. Now came the job of canceling the venue, exhibitors, presenters, etc.

We were extremely fortunate in that nobody we canceled required us to pay a partial payment because of loss of revenue for them. This pandemic was an entirely new thing for everyone, and it affected everyone.



So now to move on with the business of the Section. Do we have an annual meeting, or do we carry over our officers until 2021? It was decided we would hold a virtual annual meeting on the date that we would have held it during the joint conference, Tuesday, Sept. 2, beginning at 10 a.m. and concluding at 11:30 a.m. This annual meeting will include everything we would have included had we been in-person, including the minutes of the 2019 meeting, treasurer's report, committee reports, election of new trustees/officers, recognizing our scholarship winners and honoring our award winners who would have been honored at the annual banquet. Everyone in the Section will receive an invitation to this meeting and will be able to tune in and witness all of this. There should even be a short presentation from someone at AWWA to give us an update on what is happening in Denver. So, mark your calendars for Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2020,

continued on page 11

Director's Report

by Stephen Randtke, KsAWWA Director



At the time of my last report, the coronavirus pandemic was just getting underway. Since then, it has been the single most important driver of the agendas of both AWWA and KsAWWA. The most noteworthy action to date by

AWWA, in consultation with its Board of Directors during a special meeting held on April 9, was to cancel ACE20. The decision was difficult emotionally, but straightforward in light of AWWA's core principles. As stated in a letter from AWWA President Jim Williams to all AWWA members:

"Protecting public health is AWWA's first core principle. With the coronavirus pandemic still unfolding, leading health authorities are asking people to avoid travel and to practice social distancing. It's uncertain when these guidelines might change. With the conference less than 10 weeks away, it is hard to imagine a scenario in which we could move forward [and hold ACE20] with full confidence. ...

One of the hallmarks of ACE is the tradition of sharing knowledge and best practices that advance our sector's critical work. The face-to-face conversations that occur following professional sessions, the chance encounters on the exhibit floor, the moments of fellowship at social events – these irreplaceable personal interactions lead to real-world solutions.

Still, AWWA remains laser-focused on its mission to provide solutions to effectively manage water. We are evaluating exciting options to allow members to share their knowledge in new and innovative ways. We will be sending details on that in the weeks ahead. And we are already looking forward to ACE21 in San Diego. As the ACE20 theme suggests, the future is bright."

Many other events at both Association and Section levels have been canceled, postponed, or converted to an online (virtual) format, including 29 of 43 Section annual conferences as of May 21. This year's Summer Workshop was canceled but will be replaced with three webinars in July, and a more comprehensive ("360 degree") Summer Workshop is scheduled to be held in 2021 and every 3-5 years thereafter. This year's D.C. Fly-In was also canceled.

In response to the pandemic, AWWA has provided much leadership and support to the water sector in a variety of ways:

- » AWWA has offered educational webinars and access to publications on topics such as risks to consumers (negligible for properly disinfected drinking water); risks to plant operations (potentially disastrous if there's an outbreak among the operators) and ways to manage such risks; how to communicate with the public; research needs and updates; and how to properly re-open buildings when the water pipes are full of stagnant water.
- » AWWA has communicated in many different ways, including social media and news releases, with its members, the public, and various agencies and organizations, to share accurate information and sound advice about COVID-19 and the safety and importance of drinking water supplies.
- » AWWA has provided an abundance of information and assistance to sections regarding such things as resources and guidance for holding virtual meetings, event cancellations, compliance with bylaws, virtual award presentations, and holding elections; updates on the status of upcoming events; and frequent informational webinars for section leaders.
- » AWWA and the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies released a report assessing the pandemic's financial impacts on water utilities (\$32.7B in reduced economic activity and a \$5B reduction in capital spending), and brought these impacts to the attention of Congress, along with requests to consider the water sector in relief bills and stimulus legislation being considered by Congress.
- » AWWA reminded various state and federal government agencies involved in emergency

response and preparedness of the need to consider water utility employees are "essential" employees since safe drinking water is essential.

- » AWWA joined the Water Environment Federation in sending a letter to all state water program administrators, encouraging them to be flexible and creative in managing their operator training and certification programs since traditional programs involving large, packed classrooms for lectures and testing violate current guidelines for social distancing.
- » Representatives of AWWA and other organizations joined a workgroup to advise the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding water-sector personal protective equipment (PPE) uses and needs. Upon receipt of the information, FEMA immediately offered shipment of reusable cloth masks to water and wastewater utilities and planned to send out approximately 7 million masks directly to critical infrastructure sectors (including the water sector) and states.

As an employer, AWWA promptly encouraged employees to work from home and practice physical distancing. More recently, AWWA developed guidelines and implemented operational changes to its buildings in anticipation of re-opening its offices in Denver and Washington, DC (partially on June 10 and fully on Sept. 8). As an organization, AWWA reviewed and updated its business and financial plans. The Association's goals remain unchanged, and though some actions and events had to be postponed or altered, many are still on track, and some were accelerated. The Association remains very strong financially, with relatively large reserves and with pandemic-associated income losses expected to be largely offset by reduced travel and other conference-related expenses.

AWWA Statement on the George Floyd Tragedy and Protests

AWWA partnered with the Minnesota Section to craft a message that has been posted to AWWA's web and social media sites. It states:

"On behalf of the Minnesota AWWA Board, our Diversity and Membership Inclusion Committee, and all of the American Water Works Association (AWWA), we want to acknowledge the tragedy of George Floyd's death and the protests that have been happening all over Minnesota and throughout our communities. We realize this is a significant event in Minnesota, throughout North America and beyond, and this injustice affects us all deeply. AWWA is committed to public health, safety, and welfare, and these core principles extend beyond just drinking water and to the health and wellbeing of the communities we serve. We know many of our members are tired and anxious in this time of compounded crisis, and we offer our support and compassion to you. AWWA is committed to engaging our workforce to promote principles of diversity and inclusion to better reflect the communities we serve. We welcome your thoughts on what we can do together to help heal division and work toward a more just society, in the water profession, and in our communities. Take care, and stay safe."

Other Business

Much of AWWA's business has continued largely unaffected by the pandemic (thanks to great leadership and a talented and well-organized staff). A number of the Association's newsworthy activities in recent months were, as usual, related to proposed legislation and regulations, but there were other important announcements and events as well.

AWWA's D.C. office recently published a comprehensive [regulatory update](#) detailing current federal activities affecting the drinking water community, plus insights on anticipated policy changes, highlights of major legislation recently passed or in development, and recently proposed drinking water regulatory determinations.

AWWA submitted comments on EPA's [preliminary positive determinations](#) for perfluoro-octanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), which included consideration of other per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). AWWA also provided comments on the agency's [supplemental proposal for the Significant New Use Rule](#) for long-chain perfluoroalkyl carboxylate and perfluoroalkyl sulfonate chemical substances.

AWWA's recommendations included moving forward to develop standards for PFOA and PFOS expeditiously, but not without undertaking the analyses required to ensure the resulting regulations are sound. AWWA's comments on PFAS were part of a bigger package of comments on EPA's preliminary [regulatory determinations for its fourth drinking water contaminant candidate list](#). On June 3, AWWA joined eight other water organizations in submitting

a letter to EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler with a short list of recommendations these associations believe EPA should adhere to as it takes steps to ensure drinking water is safe from harmful PFAS.

Earlier this year, both AWWA and KSAWWA submitted comments to EPA regarding the proposed revisions to the lead and copper rule (LCR). AWWA continues to monitor developments carefully and, when the final rule is promulgated, to help communicate the details and guidance for compliance to the drinking water community. Water utilities in areas with few lead problems in their distribution systems may still need to help local schools and other entities in their service areas comply with the new requirements.

AWWA continues to be very active in supporting source water protection by advocating federal funding and by encouraging and supporting efforts by water utilities to take advantage of funding opportunities. In March the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced a new Alternative Funding Arrangement (AFA) option within the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), making \$50 million in funding available for NRCS to run up to 15 projects per year, ranging in size from \$250,000 to \$10 million. Since then, AWWA has provided resources on [how to work with NRCS](#), [information about the conservation programs](#), and assistance to water utilities in developing applications.

In May, the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approved and sent two bills dealing with water infrastructure to the full Senate. AWWA commented on the first one, S. 3590, the Drinking Water Infrastructure Act of 2020, which

would make changes to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program, advance lead reduction, and create small grant programs for resiliency and infrastructure-related activities. The second one, S. 3591, America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2020, includes an administrative fix to the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program, one that AWWA is actively seeking and offered legislative language to address since no future WIFIA funds can be released until the problem is fixed. The senate committee subsequently came up with its own language for the fix.

On June 23, AWWA presented its 2020 Diversity & Inclusion Awards in an online webinar format. The purpose of these awards is to recognize an individual, group, or organization that has created, promoted, and maintained diversity and inclusion by establishing an environment that recognizes, encourages, and effectively utilizes each individual's talents. L'Oreal Stepney received to individual award, and AECOM, represented by Tina Houston, received the organizational award. L'Oreal and Tina both gave very inspirational acceptance speeches. The webinar was recorded and can be viewed on the webinars page of the Section Support Microsite (<https://sectionsupport.awwa.org>).

On June 30, in a historic virtual gavel passing ceremony, President Jim Williams (now past president) passed the gavel to [Melissa Elliot, starting her term as president of AWWA](#). Acknowledging she is taking the helm in the midst of a pandemic, high unemployment, and social unrest over injustice and inequality, she said, "It's time to build on the excellent work of all AWWA leaders before and strive to make the Association even better."

During her live-streamed comments, she highlighted three themes: economic challenges that water utilities, water sector partners and consumers will experience as a result of the pandemic; opportunities for engagement with one another in new ways in a more socially distanced environment; and the importance of advancing an inclusive, diverse water sector that ensures equity. She is director of strategic communication services at Raftelis in Denver and consults with water utilities across the United States. Previously, she directed public affairs strategies at Denver Water and Aurora Water and chaired AWWA's Public Affairs Committee.

Later in the day on June 30, AWWA CEO David LaFrance announced AWWA's first Virtual Summit, to be held Sept. 23-24. The Virtual Summit will connect AWWA members and others in the water community to exchange knowledge and collaborate on total water solutions during a world-class digital event full of innovative and educational content designed to help attendees stay on top of the latest water sector trends – all delivered to the comfort of your home or office. Please visit <https://www.awwa.org> for details.

Closing Comments

As an AWWA VP-elect, I recently attended several virtual meetings: AWWA's Official Representative Orientation for new officers, held in March; the spring meeting of AWWA's Executive Committee, held in April, which I attended as a guest since I did not officially take office as a V.P. until July 1; and the June meetings of the AWWA's Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

As always, please do not hesitate to share with me your opinions, suggestions, questions, and concerns; to contact me for additional information regarding any matter relevant to AWWA or KsAWWA; or to call just to say hello. I officially retired from K.U. on June 30, in part to have more time to spend with friends and family, including the members of KsAWWA. I am very much looking forward to seeing you all in person again someday soon! 🍷

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continued from page 5

at 10 a.m. to join us for our annual meeting (view the full agenda on page 22).

Since we will not have a Best Tasting Tap Water contest, the 2019 winner will attend ACE21 and represent Kansas Section. It will be the same thing with the Hydrant Hysteria and Meter Madness winners. The George Warren Fuller awardee from 2019 and the awardee from 2020 will both be recognized at ACE21; each will have their own breakfast.

The KWEA/KsAWWA Joint Conference will be held in Topeka at the Capitol Plaza Hotel and Stormont Vail Events Center Aug. 31 to Sept. 2, 2021.

In closing, I hope everyone continues to stay safe, wash your hands, wear your mask, and together we will get through this. ☂

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continued from page 1

Kansas Municipal Utilities, on behalf of KS MAP (part of the Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network through AWWA), has been working closely with EPA on this effort and is proud to be supporting all utilities across Kansas in distributing this important protective equipment. This program was nationally initiated through a workgroup convened to provide feedback to a FEMA request for information regarding water sector personal protective equipment (PPE) use and needs. The workgroup consisted of representatives from the EPA as well as the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA), Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA), American Water Works Association (AWWA), National Rural Water Association (NRWA), Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP), Water Environment Federation (WEF), and the Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WaterISAC). Through information provided by this workgroup, FEMA offered shipment of reusable cloth masks specifically to water and wastewater utilities across the nation. A total of

over 2 million masks are being distributed nationwide through this program to water and wastewater professionals. FEMA is aware the cloth masks are not technically PPE, and while the water sector would likely prefer to receive N95 or other types of masks for operations, those remain prioritized for health care workers.

Kansas Municipal Utilities has been working extremely hard to deliver cloth masks to essential utility personnel across the state. Within the first week of receiving the bulk mask shipment, KMU staff received, processed, and distributed over 8,400 masks to requesting water, wastewater, gas and electric utilities in need. Cloth masks will remain at KMU for continued distribution to utilities in Kansas, as needed.

For more information about this program or to request free masks, please visit <https://www.kmunet.org/page/MaskRequests>. 🕒

Wearing a Face Mask for COVID-19

by Bob Brower, KSAWWA Safety Committee Chair

There is much talk these days with COVID-19 about the wearing of masks to cover your nose and mouth when out in public and at the workplace. Some states have mandated the wearing of such masks by employees in retail, construction, and manufacturing industries, which typically have not utilized such personal protective equipment (PPE). So, what is the story, and why should you wear a mask?

One diagram that has famously made it around through social media indicates that if everyone wore a mask, it would effectively reduce the transmission rate to just 1.5%. That is a great thing, but it fails to identify what type of mask nor reference the study for the basis of the data. Searching the archives of studies shows little data on the effectiveness of dust masks or fabric face coverings in the reduction of transmission of diseases.

Masks come in all sorts of varieties from the N95 filter masks used by health professionals, homemade fabric masks, all the way to a bandana around your nose and mouth. If you look at the studies and the various government sites, the evidence shows that masks such as the professionally manufactured N95 mask clearly can help prevent the spread of diseases such as COVID-19. However, there is really no data on the effectiveness of homemade or many other types of masks, mainly because there are such huge variables in the material and design. Different types of materials have different types of filtering

capabilities, and design, along with the fit of any one particular mask on an individual, can certainly change the odds.

So why wear a mask when you are at work or even out in public? Let us look at four solid reasons:

- » It may be a requirement of your state or your employer.
- » Any type of mask will certainly reduce the amount of droplets YOU may expel to your surroundings or people around you if you were to sneeze, cough, or even when just talking. This is certainly one key in reducing the spread of COVID-19 or any disease for that matter.
- » Any type of mask will certainly reduce the amount of droplets OTHERS may expel that could enter your system through the mouth or nose.
- » And perhaps one of the biggest reasons is that wearing a mask will make you aware of your mouth and nose area and prevent you from inadvertently touching these areas with your hands.

When wearing a mask, it is important to keep several things in mind:

- » Fit it as closely as possible to the contour of your face, especially around the nose and chin areas.
- » Make sure it is comfortable and sized correctly for your particular facial structure.

- » Keep the mask on once you have it on. Constantly removing and putting it back on can dramatically reduce its effectiveness.
- » Apply and remove your mask carefully so as not to contaminate yourself with whatever may be on the outside of the mask.
- » Keep the mask clean, bearing in mind that studies have shown that washing fabric type masks can reduce the low effectiveness of fabric to begin with.

I would be remiss if I didn't end this without telling you that washing your hands is perhaps THE most important activity you can focus on to prevent the transmission of this or any other disease. ☔







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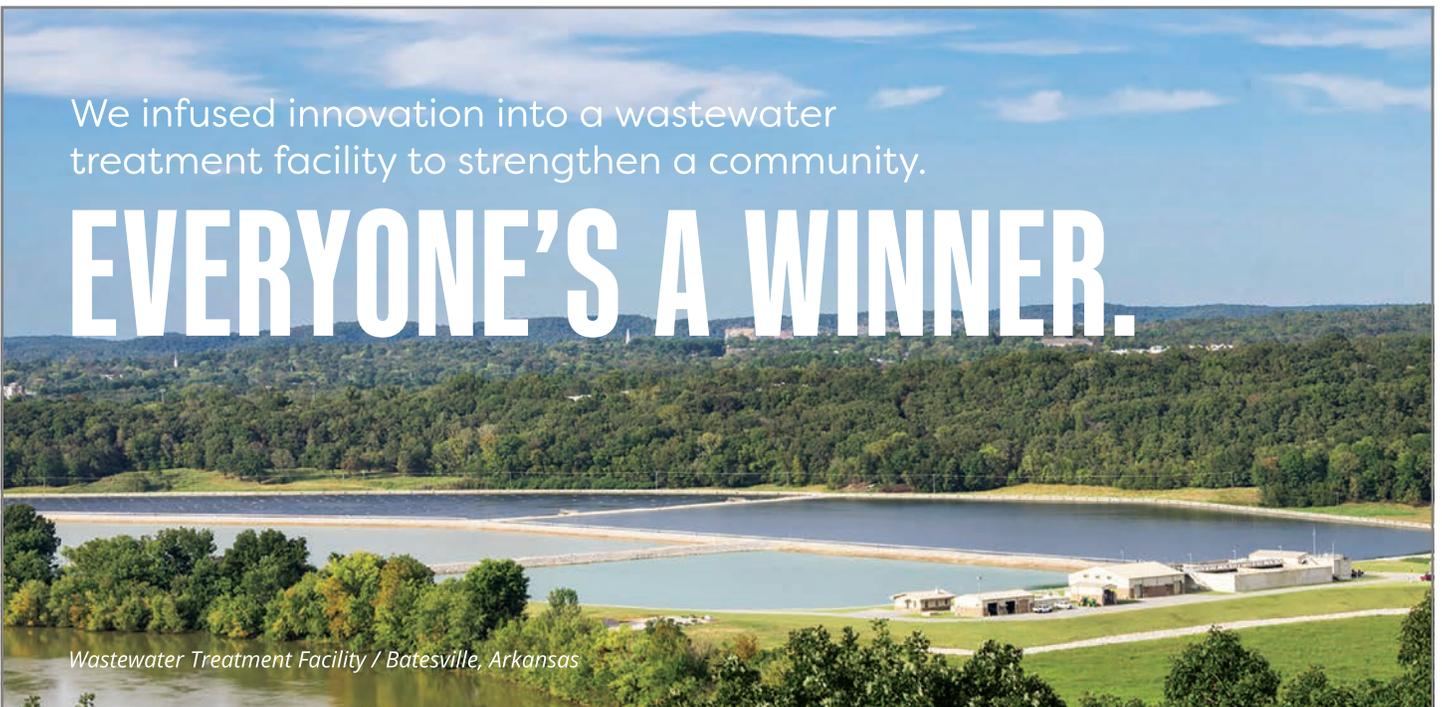
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Good Morning,

KDHE is in the process of updating the water and wastewater operator training calendar for sessions scheduled through the end of 2020. We will continue to approve virtual and in-person training through the end of the calendar year. KDHE will determine the approval of virtual training for 2021 in December 2020.

Requests for virtual training approval should include the following information:

1. [Standard Instructors Application For Training Course Approval](#)
2. The online platform used for the session (Skype, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, etc.)
3. Approaches used to insure participants remain engaged in training session after initial log-in
4. If a toll-free phone number will provided in addition to the long-in
5. Computer requirements needed to participate

Other information for virtual training:

1. Credit will be awarded in 5-hour blocks. Web-based sessions must include a minimum of 5 contact hours (breaks not included).
2. Can be broken into individual modules that total 5 hours provided over a series of days
3. Trainers must provide a list of all participants (including contact information) to KDHE and certify they were "online" for the duration of training session.
4. Virtual Sessions must be "live" (no prerecorded sessions).
5. Trainers will provide the link to training sessions to KDHE staff.

In-person training will continue to be approved following the regular process.

Please provide your schedule of training events to me no later than July 31. Schedules should include name of session, date, time, and location. We will update our training calendar in August. Please share this notice with others in your organization as appropriate. Also, please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. Thank you all for your assistance during this very challenging time.

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Randig Announced as AWWA's Gannett Fleming Scholarship Winner

Emily Randig Water Equation Gannett Fleming Scholarship winner will be attending Kansas State University in the Fall to get her master's in engineering. See more information on this below, as released by AWWA.

Students are currently coping with the uncertainty of fall openings of universities and colleges, but AWWA scholarships reduced some of the anxiety of funding education for 37 students this year. While the awards are usually recognized at the annual conference, we took advantage of technology this year with a virtual scholarship recognition event. The link to the event can be found [here](#). The AWWA Scholarship portfolio of 27 academic scholarships and the One AWWA Operator Scholarship is managed by AWWA Water Equation, and awards over \$200,000 annually for water-related research and studies.

A California native will be moving to east to use her scholarship award at Kansas State University.

Emily Randig is a graduate of Cal Poly Pomona with an undergraduate degree in civil Engineering received the Gannett Fleming Scholarship as a student pursuing a career in engineering. She will pursue a master's degree at Kansas State University to gain a new perspective on engineering, as most states have different regulations for water conservation and treatment.

Emily says, "This scholarship will help me as I move across the country and start working toward my next degree. I look forward to all the research and learning opportunities that await me at Kansas State University as I join the Rural Resource Resiliency NSF Research Traineeship Program. I will be working on an interdisciplinary team to solve challenges of creating sustainable food, energy, and water systems for rural communities."

AWWA Scholarship applications will open again in August 2020 with final deadline in mid-December. The awards will be recognized at ACE21 in San Diego, California.



Congratulations to our 2020 Scholarship Recipients!

NAME	UNIVERSITY	SCHOLARSHIP
Melanie Vines	University of Alabama	AECOM Scholarship
Samuel Hodges	University of Arkansas	American Water Scholarship
Meredith Bullard	Virginia Tech	Arcadis Scholarship
Ryan DuChanois	Yale University	AWWA Abel Wolman Fellowship
Charlie Liu	Colorado School of Mines	Bryant L. Bench Scholarship, Carollo Engineering
Andrew Pogue	Bucknell University	Charles "Chick" Roberts Scholarship, Roberts Filter Group
Dienye Tolofari	Drexel University	Dave Caldwell Scholarship, Brown and Caldwell
Anthony Pimentel	University of Colorado Boulder	Denver Water Scholarship
Emily Randig	CPP - Kansas State University	Gannett Fleming Scholarship
Husein Almuhtaram	University of Toronto	Hazen and Sawyer Scholarship
Emilie Tarouilly	UCLA	HDR One Water Industry Scholarship
Naushita Sharma	Arizona State University	Holly A. Cornell Scholarship, Jacobs
Holly Rudel	Yale University	Larson Aquatic Research Scholarship for Doctoral Studies
Katherine Wampler	Oregon State University	Larson Aquatic Research Scholarship for Masters Studies
Carlos Cabrejos Niquen	Florida International University	Mueller Water Products Scholarship
Yitzchak Rosenberg	Cornell University	Neptune Technology Group Scholarship
Mitchell Turnage	Virginia Tech	Raftelis Scholarship
Jessica MacDonald	Stanford University	Stantec Scholarship
Zachary Kralles	University at Buffalo	TGO Technologies Scholarship
Nathan Moore	University of Toronto	Thomas R. Camp Scholarship, CDM Smith
Lindsey Pegram	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Vernon D. Lucy III Scholarship, Suez
Ann Brunton	University of Illinois	Woodard and Curran Scholarship
Andrew Sukowaty	University of Wisconsin-Green Bay	WRT Scholarship for Water Operators
David Guinn	St Cloud Technical and Community College	WRT Scholarship for Water Operators
Theresa Hughes	Florida Gateway College	WRT Scholarship for Water Operators



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Dienye Tolofari	Drexel University	Dave Caldwell Scholarship, Brown and Caldwell
Anthony Pimentel	University of Colorado Boulder	Denver Water Scholarship
Emily Randig	CPP - Kansas State University	Gannett Fleming Scholarship
Husein Almuhtaram	University of Toronto	Hazen and Sawyer Scholarship
Emilie Tarouilly	UCLA	HDR One Water Industry Scholarship
Naushita Sharma	Arizona State University	Holly A. Cornell Scholarship, Jacobs
Holly Rudel	Yale University	Larson Aquatic Research Scholarship for Doctoral Studies
Katherine Wampler	Oregon State University	Larson Aquatic Research Scholarship for Masters Studies
Carlos Cabrejos Niquen	Florida International University	Mueller Water Products Scholarship
Yitzchak Rosenberg	Cornell University	Neptune Technology Group Scholarship
Mitchell Turnage	Virginia Tech	Raftelis Scholarship
Jessica MacDonald	Stanford University	Stantec Scholarship
Zachary Kralles	University at Buffalo	TGO Technologies Scholarship
Nathan Moore	University of Toronto	Thomas R. Camp Scholarship, CDM Smith
Lindsey Pegram	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Vernon D. Lucy III Scholarship, Suez
Ann Brunton	University of Illinois	Woodard and Curran Scholarship
Andrew Sukowaty	University of Wisconsin-Green Bay	WRT Scholarship for Water Operators
David Guinn	St Cloud Technical and Community College	WRT Scholarship for Water Operators
Theresa Hughes	Florida Gateway College	WRT Scholarship for Water Operators



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Special Thanks to These Exhibitors & Sponsors For Their Extraordinary Support

KsAWWA would like to recognize these exhibitors and sponsors who elected to leave their 2020 joint conference paid registrations and sponsorships with us rather than requesting a refund of their money. This money will be carried over for their registrations to the KWEA/KsAWWA Joint Conference in Topeka, Kansas, to be held Aug. 31 to Sept. 2, 2021.



Thank you!

Who Do You Blame When You Have an Accident?

by Bob Brower, KSAWWA Safety Committee Chair

How often have you had an accident in the past year? Have injuries happened to you more often than to your co-workers? If so, do you really know what caused each of those incidents?

It's human nature to find excuses when we make a mistake or do something wrong. We tend to look for reasons outside ourselves when something bad happens to us. But if we don't understand what has caused our problems, how can we keep them from happening again?

The majority of workers perform their jobs without injury, while some individuals seem to have more than their share of mishaps. Some people call this being "accident-prone," assuming that accidents are a pretty much a matter of luck.

But most accidents don't just happen; they are the result of what people do—or fail to do. They are usually caused by a personal decision. In the case of being "accident-prone," that decision usually has to do with whether the injured person understands, believes in, and follows safe work behavior.

Evaluating Your Actions

If that so-called "accident-prone" person describes you, then for your own sake, and for the safety of your co-workers, you need to find honest answers to the following questions:

- » What is your attitude toward safety? Do you believe you have a responsibility to protect yourself—or do you somehow think it is the duty of your employer, your co-workers, or someone else?
- » Do you follow safety guidelines and use appropriate personal protective gear, or do you figure you are somehow protected without them? Other people might need rules and safety equipment, but not you!
- » Do you report to work clear-headed, after having had enough sleep? Or do you come to work fuzzy-headed and work with tools and equipment that can hurt you if you aren't alert? Fatigue has a big effect on coordination and performance and is a major factor in accidents and injuries.
- » Do you know your physical limits, and do you work within those limits? There are many times when people aren't fully prepared for a demanding job—after a vacation or layoff period, when beginning a new, tough project, or when they've put on a few "years" and gained skill, but lost endurance.

These are some of the questions to honestly ask yourself. When you have an accident, look hard at your behavior and the choices you made, before thinking about blaming "fate" or anyone else. After all, you are the one who suffered, and you are often the only one who could have prevented your injury and pain.

Do not let yourself be a "victim!" Decide to work safely and be safe—take control of what happens to you. 🕒

KsAWWA Annual Meeting Agenda

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

10 a.m.	Call to Order
10 a.m.	Roll Call
10:05 a.m.	Acceptance of the Minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting
10:10 a.m.	Treasurer's Report
10:15 a.m.	Committee Reports
10:25 a.m.	Recognize Scholarship Winners
10:30 a.m.	Recognize AWWA 30-Year and 50-Year Lifetime Members
10:35 a.m.	Recognize and Present 2020 Operator Meritorious Award Winner
10:40 a.m.	Recognize and Present 2020 Richard Porter Award Winner
10:45 a.m.	Recognize and Present John Lechner Award Winner
10:50 a.m.	Recognize and Present George Warren Fuller Award Winner
11:00 a.m.	Present Ballot of New Trustees and Officers
11:15 a.m.	Presentation by AWWA
11:25 a.m.	Passing of the Gavel and Closing

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

Annual KWEA / KsAWWA Joint Annual Conference

2021

Topeka Capitol Plaza / Stormont Vail
Events Center

August 31 – September 2

2022

Topeka Capitol Plaza / Stormont Vail
Events Center

August 30 – September 1

AWWA Annual Conference

June 13–16, 2021 San Diego, CA

June 12–15, 2022 San Antonio, TX

June 11–14, 2023 Toronto, Canada

KsAWWA Annual Meeting

August 31, 2021