

# Regional Water Finance Forum

*"Financing the Future of Water Utilities: What's Ahead and How to Prepare"*

Sept. 12, 2017

Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center

St. Joseph, Missouri

## AGENDA

TIME	SESSION
7:30 am	<b>Registration &amp; Networking</b>
8:30 am	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Michele Pugh, Director, Wichita State University Environmental Finance Center</li><li>• Jeff Robichaud, Acting Director of the Water, Wetlands, and Pesticide Division, U.S. EPA Region 7</li></ul>
8:45 am	<b>Forecasting the Future: What Major Expenses Lie Ahead?</b> <p><i>Session will provide an overview of the regulatory changes and other requirements at the federal and state level that systems need to be aware of and association costs.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• John Covington, Senior Financial Analyst, Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center</li><li>• Phil Walsack, Manager of Environmental Services, Missouri Municipal Utility Alliance</li></ul>
9:30 am	<b>Maintaining your Water and Wastewater Systems</b> <p><i>Session will provide the keys to quality operation and maintenance to know what you have and how to maintain your assets.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kerrie Greenfelder, Department Manager, Municipal Water/Wastewater, Burns and McDonnell</li></ul>
10:15 am	<b>Break</b>
10:30 am	<b>Setting Rates: What's appropriate and How to Communicate with Customers</b> <p><i>Session will provide basic steps in rate setting, important considerations, and successful communication strategies.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nick Willis, Program Manager, WSU Environmental Finance Center</li><li>• Leslie Kimble, Marketing Coordinator, WSU Environmental Finance Center</li></ul>
11:00 am	<b>Planning for the Future: Long term plans and available assistance</b> <p><i>Session will provide a system's perspective on the benefits and importance of long term planning to address future and on-going costs, as well as where to get assistance.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dave Wagner, Director of Utilities, City of Lawrence, KS</li><li>• Larry Paine, City Administrator, City of Hillsboro, KS</li><li>• Rob Morrison, Senior Water Resources Engineer, Barr Engineering</li></ul>
12 Noon	<b>Lunch (onsite)</b> <p><i>Lunch Keynote</i> <b>Bill Teichmiller, CEO, EJ Water</b> EJ Water is a top innovating water co-op dedicated to customer experience and growing small communities. Founded in 1989 EJ Water is now the fastest growing regional water system in rural Illinois.</p>

Hosted by Wichita State University Environmental Finance Center (WSU EFC) in collaboration with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center (WIRFC), EPA Region 7, Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).

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*Continued on back >>*

TIME	SESSION
1:00 pm	<b>Achieving Regulatory Support for Planning Efforts</b> <i>Session will discuss the agency role in supporting system planning effort and how to achieve mutual commitment to achieve success.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Glenn Curtis, EPA Region 7</li><li>• Chris Wieberg, Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)</li><li>• Cathy Tucker-Vogel, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)</li><li>• Steve McNulty, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services – Division of Public Health</li></ul>
2:00 pm	<b>Break</b>
2:15 pm	<b>Communicating System Plans to Customers and Boards</b> <i>Session will discuss communicating financial and asset plans to governing bodies and the public to obtain input and effective implementation.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scott Meyer, Cape Girardeau, MO City Manager</li><li>• Steve Marsh, Iowa Municipal Utilities Association</li></ul>
3:00 pm	<b>Funding the Future: Funding Options Panel Discussion</b> <i>Session will discuss the available funding options and provide case study information on innovative success stories.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• William Carr, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) (SRF funding Overview)</li><li>• Clark Thomas, USDA Rural Development (USDA funding overview)</li><li>• Jody Carlson, Missouri American Water Representative (The benefits of private ownership)</li><li>• Bill Teichmiller, EJ Water (Regionalization cost savings)</li><li>• Kevin McDonald, Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)</li></ul>
4:00 pm	<b>Wrap up - What We've Learned</b>
4:30 pm	<b>Adjourn</b>



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