



American Water Works Association
Pacific Northwest Section



PNWS AWWA
ORWARN Committee Report
2018 Winter Trustees Meeting
April 24, 2018
Tacoma Convention Center
Tacoma, WA

2018-2019 Board Members

Current Board members are:

Mary Ellen Collentine, Portland Water Bureau, Chair
Jeremiah Hunt, Eugene Water and Electric Board, Vice-Chair
Gina Johnson, City of Klamath Falls, Secretary
Stephanie Penselin, Eugene Water and Electric Board, Treasurer
Michelle Owen, City of Baker City, At-Large
Dwayne Barnes, City of Salem, At-Large
Ronnie Mompellier, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, At-Large
Chris Miccolis, City of Bend, At-Large

2018 Goals

The Board set 5 goals for 2018. They are:

- Outreach to increase wastewater membership
- Training and exercises
- OEM participation
- Non-utility mutual aid
- Website Improvements

2018 ORWARN Conference – Save The Date!

ORWARN is sponsoring a conference to be held September 17-19, 2018 at Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, Washington. This location was chosen in order to attract attendees

from Washington as well as Oregon. The conference theme is: “In the Wake of a Disaster” Continuity Planning and Recovery for All Hazards. The conference organizing committee is soliciting abstracts and will be requesting water and wastewater CEU’s for both Washington and Oregon.

Water Operational Plan Training and Field Training Exercise 2018

After the success of the wastewater operational plan training and field exercise earlier in 2017, ORWARN Board decided to coordinate a similar training for the water sector. The location and dates are still being worked on.

Membership and Outreach

ORWARN currently has 130 member utilities and 14 associate members. In order to help facilitate response during emergency times, the Board is working on a plan to bring more associate members into the group, such as local county emergency managers.

Website

Ways to improve the ORWARN website are being explored after the national WARN meeting in October 2016 and an EPA sponsored workshop on WARN website capabilities. The website is 10 years old and in need of a major overhaul. Board Members have been communicating with other WARNs gathering ideas for improvements that allow resource requests to be sent out by a member to the entire membership, resource request tracking, notifications to Emergency Management Agencies (County and State), and other improvements that will make the website much more user friendly and a better tool that members can use during an activation. The Board has obtained a cost proposal from the original website developer and is looking for funding sources to implement changes.