



American Water Works Association
Pacific Northwest Section

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Idaho Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (IdWARN)

www.idwarn.org

PNWS-American Water Works Association Board of Directors,

Our current Steering Committee Members consist of the following:

Shelley Roberts, IRWA, Co-Chair
Kevin McLeod, Star Water & Sewer, Co-Chair
Dion Holton, City of Coeur d'Alene, Coeur d'Alene Region
Mike Dimmick, City of Moscow, Lewiston Region
Lonnie Chambers, City of Weiser, Boise Region
Rob Bohling, City of Twin Falls, Twin Falls Region
Rich Pierson, City of McCammon, Pocatello Region
Zane Baler, City of Sugar City, Idaho Falls Region
Barbara Jones, DEQ

IdWARN is continuing with quarterly meetings. All meetings are available to meet in person or via teleconference. However, the last meeting was hosted as an eMeeting or newsletter format. Three (3) new full members joined WARN since previously reported with the addition of Stanley Sewer Association, Kingston Water District and the City of Bellevue. So, IdWARN now has 66 full members and 10 associate members. Associate members include utilities that have not signed the mutual assistance agreement, vendors, regulatory agencies and emergency services agencies. Current associate members include: Idaho Rural Water Association (IRWA); Ada County LEPC; FBI; the Idaho Office of Emergency Management (OEM); Department of Homeland Security; and Idaho Public Utility Commission Infrastructure office.

We are not aware of any WARN activations since November 28, 2017, for the City of White Bird due to a sudden loss in their water supply. The event was declared a state disaster on December 11, 2017. Personnel, equipment and supplies were dispatched to respond to the emergency. There may have been additional resources dispatched we are not aware of because we are not always informed if members within our network reach out to one another for minor needs.

Current activities include:

- The last quarterly meeting was held April 11th via an eMeeting. The next regular member meeting will be October 10th. The July meeting was not held due to summer break.
- IdWARN hosted two (2) training and tabletop exercises during the year. The first training and tabletop exercise was hosted on April 4, 2018 in Twin Falls, ID with approximately 40 participants. The second training and tabletop exercise was hosted on June 19, 2018 in Plummer, ID with approximately 16 participants.
- IdWARN is planning at least two similar training and tabletop exercise events during 2019 as well as a multi-state event in conjunction with INL (Idaho National Laboratories) and Wyoming and Utah WARNs.
- Mike Dimmick, the Lewiston Region Steering Committee member, has volunteered to represent our state at the upcoming National WARN meeting in Atlanta, GA on October 28, 2018.
- IdWARN is reaching out to the Idaho State Office of Emergency Management to better understand how WARN and OEM may coordinate resources. IdWARN representatives presented at the OEM conference in February 2018. The purpose of participation is to introduce WARN to area county coordinators. We feel we are making progress towards building relationships with county coordinators but much work still remains.
- IdWARN prepared an article for the IOEM Spring newsletter distributed to all state OEM to recognize Karl DeHart for his leadership with WebEOC and introduce IdWARN as a valuable resource available to county emergency responders.
- IdWARN has been working with the Oregon and Washington sections to build relationships and coordinate activities. Oregon and Washington WARNs are sponsoring a conference in 2018 that IdWARN is planning to attend and has already begun promoting the upcoming September conference in Stevenson, WA.
- IdWARN participated at the 2018 ORWARN Conference in Stevenson, WA on September 17, 2018, sharing lessons learned during the White Bird water failure event. Discussion highlighted event successes as well as lessons learned including the importance of emergency communication and coordination between regulatory and other agencies.
- IdWARN has been working closely with the OEM to utilize their WebEOC (Web based Emergency Operation Center) system for communication. WebEOC is supported by OEM and allows IdWARN members to post significant events including emergencies, trainings and meetings as well as contact information and available resources.
- All activities are being sponsored by local Idaho utilities and Associate IdWARN members, the Idaho OEM and EPA. The only direct costs at this time are teleconference fees for hosting steering committee and regular member meetings. Updated marketing materials are needed for 2018. However, IdWARN was not approved for any budget for marketing or other costs.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Roberts, Co-chair - IdWARN