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**Pacific Northwest** Section

FALL 2020

# WATER *matters*

The Official Magazine of the  
Pacific Northwest Section – AWWA

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Message from the Chair • PNWS Association Director Report



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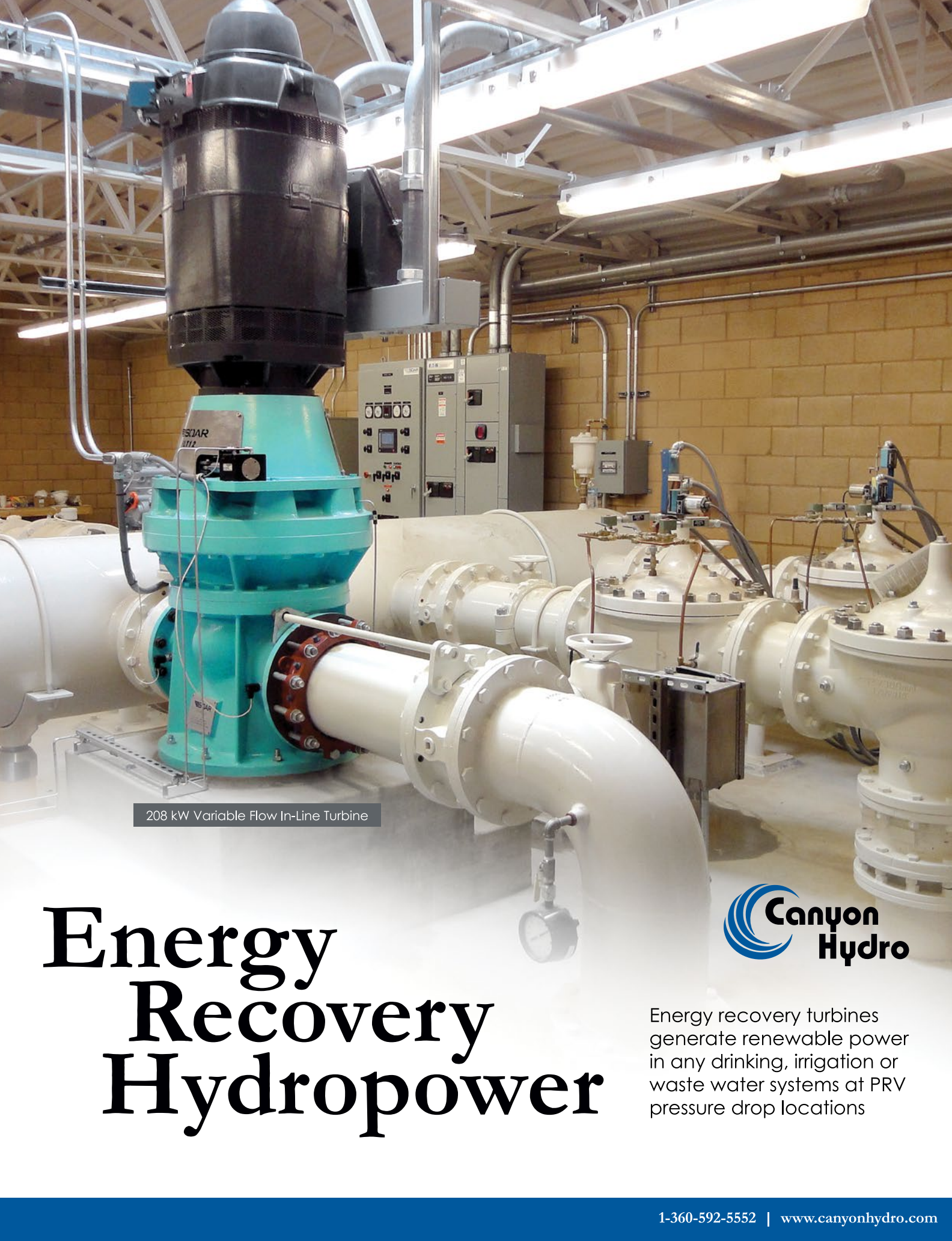
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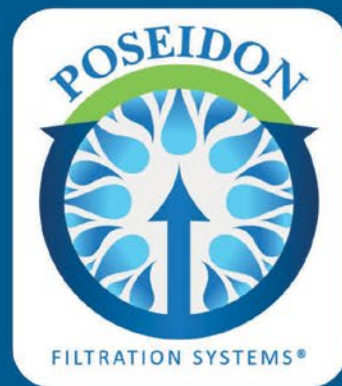
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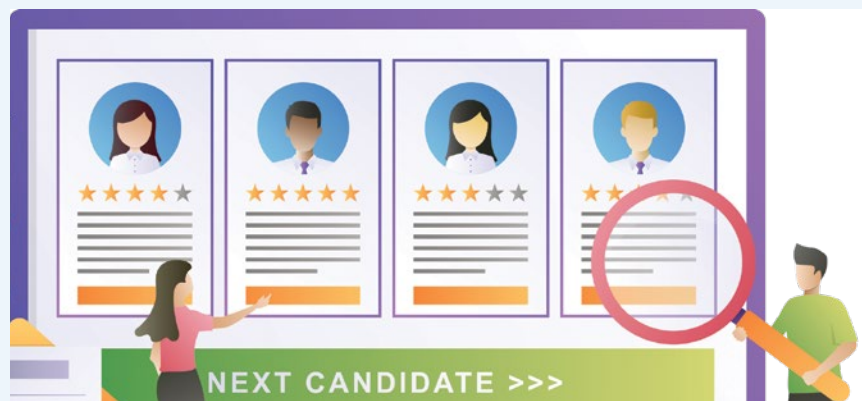


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## Looking Back and Planning Ahead

**A**s I move into my second quarter as Chair, I reflect back on the past few months and the state of our Section. With many members still working from home, the office or a hybrid of both, I can't help but think that we have all been dealing with so much change in our lives. I know that I am a big proponent for change but dang, how much can a person take? Hopefully, you are all doing well and taking some time to have some sense of normal in your lives – whatever that means to you.

Since some of you are now taking on more than ever in your daily lives, I know that you don't always have time to check in with PNWS; so, I thought it prudent for PNWS to check in with our membership and let you know what's going on with us.

On August 27, we held our first ever PNWS Virtual Town Hall and gave a 'State of the Section' update. I assure you all that our Section is in overall good health. We have been working hard on transitioning to a virtual environment. Part of this includes our new virtual training standards and pricing policy. This can be found on our website ([www.pnws-awwa.org](http://www.pnws-awwa.org)). The Board of Trustees also approved the use of some of our reserve funds to ensure that our Section can continue to operate during this time of loss for income. I guess those rainy days are upon us. We have also made some great progress on one of my goals I set as Chair: we now have a new Diversity and Inclusion group under our Membership Engagement & Development Council (MEDC). There is still plenty of room and time to get involved with that group; to join, please contact our Section office.





I would be remiss if I didn't mention the numerous impacts that COVID-19 has made to our Section over the past several months. You all know that our 2020 Spokane Conference had to be

canceled but did you know that with that we lost half of our operating income for the year? We also lost out on the competitions, ACE20, and all of our valuable training and networking opportunities.

Hopefully, you are all doing well and taking some time to have some sense of normal in your lives – whatever that means to you.

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I would like to thank Cheryl Capron, Washington Trustee, for helping me out with this meeting by providing information on training and what is available for our membership. Also, thank you to Kyle Kihs, Executive Director, for acting as our moderator.

To view this town meeting in its entirety, visit our website ([www.pnws-awwa.org/pnws-events/trustee-meetings](http://www.pnws-awwa.org/pnws-events/trustee-meetings)). In the future, we hope to reach out this way again as I feel that it is useful for our membership to be informed on what is going on –

I would like to thank all of you once again for your dedication to our Section.

not only with the Board of Trustees but also throughout the Section.

Looking ahead, we have come up with a plan for our 2021 conference that was originally set for Boise, ID. Instead of an in-person conference, we will be holding four mini virtual conferences (one every quarter) that will include sponsorship opportunities. More information will be released in the coming weeks.

Our leadership symposium has been rescheduled for September 2021, in Salem, OR, and our fall meeting will be virtual. We are working on the agenda now but it promises to be a valuable event that you will not want to miss. We will also have our fall trustee meeting virtually. At that trustee meeting, we will be voting on the 2021 Budget that will be made available to the membership prior to the meeting.

We also have our annual election coming up and have a great slate of candidates for you to choose from. Make sure to check out their bios in this edition of *Water Matters*. These are all very talented and dedicated volunteers within our Section. I wish them all good luck.

#### **Running for Chair-Elect**

- Michelle Cheek from Portland Water Bureau
- Dan Sleeth from Covington Water District
- Marshall Thompson from Suez, Boise

#### **Running for Trustee-at-Large**

- Nick Belmont from DN Tanks
- Katie Dillon from HDR, Inc.
- Charlie Sovacool from Consolidated Supply Co.

#### **Running for Washington Trustee**

- Mike Pleasants from Silverdale Water District
- Loren Searl from City of Spokane
- Tyler Clary from City of Vancouver

#### **Running for Oregon/Idaho Trustee**

- Jill Hoyenga from City of The Dalles
- Jamie Porter from Rainbow Water District
- Kristina Gillespie-Jaques from Mountain Waterworks, Inc.

As we move out of summer and into fall and 'pumpkin spice everything,' I would like to thank all of you once again for your dedication to our Section. I am truly honored to be a part of this industry and our Section. Stay safe and be good to each other. 🍂

Ronda Farmer  
PNWS Section Chair

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## The Value of Being a Member of AWWA

**I**n order to provide safe, clean, and reliable drinking water to our communities, we require many people (operators, field staff, engineers, managers, customer service representatives, accountants, IT professionals, and technicians): all of whom can benefit from being a member of the American Water Works Association (AWWA).

It is important for us to share – with a professional colleague, acquaintance, or neighboring utility that isn't a member of AWWA – the importance and value of our membership and the difference it's made in our careers.

We have the opportunity to share how and why we joined AWWA. Our journey to this industry and Association is our own; no one else has the same story as you nor can tell it like you can. If we shared all that the AWWA has offered us and provided examples of how each of us has benefited from being a member, we would create a powerful, authoritative, real-life promotion that would prove to be more successful than any campaign. I personally have found that people just don't understand what all comes with being a member; we need to change that.

Just as a reminder, here are a few (of many) benefits of being a member:

You have access to multiple platforms that connect you to a community of dedicated professionals, who all strive to create a better world through clean water, and best practices because the AWWA provides 24/7/365 access to trusted resources to ensure a continuity of service in times of turbulence or calm.

AWWA has resources that are available to support you in your professional growth, including member-exclusive opportunities that offer training, education, and a career center.

I personally have found that people just don't understand what all comes with being a member; we need to change that.

AWWA safeguards public health and welfare by uniting the full spectrum of the entire water industry.

Each member has access to over 180 AWWA standards and, with the anticipated roll-out of a digital format, we will have an even easier way to access those standards. When it comes to federal regulations and laws impacting the water industry, AWWA has a Government Affairs Office in Washington, D.C. to share information regarding the pros and cons of current issues and pending legislation that effect our industry.

AWWA covers the needs of its members on so many levels – encompassing and enhancing the areas we need to provide safe, clean, and reliable water to the communities we serve. Please take advantage of the vast and plentiful resources and tools that this association has to offer.

If this wasn't enough to demonstrate why being a member is so beneficial, here is another reason: the PNWS-AWWA Membership & Young Professionals Committee, in conjunction with the 20/20 Vision initiative, created a program to emulate the Mentorship Program, originally put in place by PNCWA in 2017. The PNWS-AWWA has created a successful Mentorship Program that matches mentors with protégés, who are interested in developing their careers. 2020-2021 will be the third year of the Mentorship Program; the goals are to help all (new or seasoned) professionals

establish themselves in the industry, gain technical and interpersonal skills, develop career path plans, and learn valuable resume and interview skills.

The PNWS-AWWA created a Mentorship Guide that breaks down the five one-hour sessions that comprise of the program. Mentors and protégés join the Mentorship Program by filling out an application form on the 2020 Vision website (<https://sites.google.com/a/pnws-awwa.org/2020-vision-initiative-committee/mentorship-program>).

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The first phase of the program comprises of accepting applications, than mentors and protégés are matched up. Participants schedule their meetings over a five-month period or less, depending upon availability (as needed).

I hope I've encouraged and reminded you of how valuable and supportive the Association is and the plethora of corresponding benefits that come with being a member.

### Association Updates

AWWA – the Association of choice for water utilities, professionals, and organizations – continues to strive to meet its member's needs. Its Strategic Plan is used in the decision-making process and keeps the organization focused on strategic goals and objectives.

AWWA's Strategic Plan is a critical document for the AWWA and its operations. The Strategic Planning Committee develops this plan by defining and formulating the Association's vision, mission, and core capabilities, which include strategic goals and objectives. In addition to establishing vision, identifying strategic

priorities, and fostering transparent communication, the Association's Strategic Planning Committee is tasked with aligning Board, Council, Section, and Committee strategic priorities. The Association's Strategic Plan was last updated in 2016.

Past President David Rager has been appointed as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee to update and build upon the existing 2016 Strategic Plan for the next five years.

While the 2025 AWWA Strategic Plan is a long-term plan, it begins in a time of economic challenge. The 2025 plan stresses the importance of Association and Section collaborations and recognizes AWWA's role globally in sharing knowledge and information. It also sets the expectation that AWWA will leverage its investments in technology to better serve members, advance its commitment to diversity and inclusion, and strengthen the public's trust in water.

To be successful in implementing the 2025 Strategic Plan, it will require all Councils, Committees, and Sections to align on the plan's goals and objectives.

I encourage you to go AWWA's website and see the full body of work

on the 2025 Strategic Plan: [www.awwa.org/about-us/awwa-strategic-plan](http://www.awwa.org/about-us/awwa-strategic-plan).

As a water industry leader, the AWWA has developed an approach to virtual training to meet the needs of its members. By the time you will have read this article, AWWA completed its first Virtual Summit, scheduled on September 23 and 24, exceeded its sponsorship revenue budget and attracted a great number of attendees. This is great news and clearly demonstrates the ability of the Association to put together meaningful and beneficial education and technical symposiums, in an ever-changing environment, and draw in vendors and consultants that recognize the value of staying connected with AWWA members.

AWWA has announced that the November 10-11 AWWA/SWAN International Smart Water Symposium will proceed (on schedule) as a virtual event. Furthermore, AWWA has another Virtual Summit, *Water Quality & Infrastructure*, scheduled on December 8-9, 2020.

I hope you all will take advantage of these virtual conferences. 🌐

Randy Black  
PNWS-AWWA Director

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## Stepping Up to the Challenges and Opportunities

**F**ollowing the PNWS Officer Election last fall, I was looking forward to meeting with many friends and associates at the PNWS Spring Conference in the City of Spokane; then everything changed. In lieu of that in-person thank you, I want to extend my appreciation to you for having trust in me to serve as your Trustee-At-Large.

In the late winter of 2020, when I was a Trustee-Elect, I witnessed the hard choices that the PNWS Board had to assess prior to canceling the 2020 conference event, due to COVID-19. Once my appointment had begun, together with Michelle Cheek and Cheryl Capron, a new reality of social distancing and virtual meetings had set in. There would be no in-person Trustee meetings in the summer and fall of 2020. We were also faced with the tough decision to cancel the PNWS

Spring Conference at Boise 2021; this further reinforced the challenging times we are living through as the global pandemic reshapes our lives in ways that no one could have imagined. As an organization, we have a commitment – especially during times such as this – to support the membership. I personally have witnessed the resilience, enthusiasm and drive of the PNWS Section in response to the pandemic. The committees in which I serve as trustee liaison – Utility Management (including Public Officials & Women in Leadership), Distribution Systems and

Engineering – have all demonstrated this same passion and perseverance. Through the uncertainty, the volunteers within each of these Committees have stepped up to meet each new challenge and take advantage of the opportunities in order to change the way we serve the Section membership. Seeing these efforts in action – to not only sustain but advance the training efforts – makes me feel honored to serve alongside each and everyone of you. 🙌

Doug Schlepp  
PNWS Trustee-At-Large

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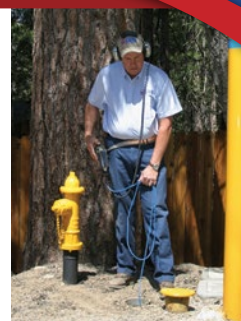
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### Oregon Water Utilities Council (OWUC)

The Oregon Water Utilities Council (OWUC) monitors legislation, regulations, and court actions that could impact the water industry – giving members the ability to engage in and help shape these kinds of issues. In addition, it provides its members with the ability to network with other water utilities of all sizes across the state to share information, discuss issues of importance to drinking water providers, and to engage in solutions. The legislative activities are closely coordinated with policies of the AWWA when applicable. Here is an update of what OWUC has accomplished over the past few months:

#### State Legislature

As the COVID-19 pandemic became the focus of the state's legislative actions this summer, OWUC remained engaged in a variety of key issues during this unprecedented time and during Oregon's special sessions. This included engagement and outreach on state agency budget cuts impacting water providers to tracking bills introduced during the special sessions. Most notably, OWUC was consistently engaged with the Governor's office and the House Committee on Water on the issues of a water utility disconnection moratorium and strongly advocating for rate assistance for member's respective customers during this unprecedented time. Multiple outreach and education efforts were held to provide updates to the state's elected officials about the critical role water provider's play in public health protection. These efforts will continue and to the extent possible, are also being aligned with any proposed federal legislation.


Additional activities that have continued on the legislative front include advocating against material's preference bills introduced at both the state and federal level and participating in the Harmful Algal Bloom (HABs) Workgroup, sponsored by the aforementioned House Committee on Water. Several water provider representatives and other stakeholders

– from state agencies to agricultural interest – have been engaged in this topic. The HABs Workgroup was formed last year and has been actively facilitating working meetings and making recommendations for proposed legislation to address issues surrounding multiple aspects of HABs, from preventing their occurrence to coordinated monitoring.

#### Committee Business *Willamette Basin Reallocation Study*

This work has been ongoing for several years under the OWUC Reallocation Subcommittee. This Subcommittee consists of several OWUC member agencies that have been tracking progress and advocating on behalf of water provider's interests in the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) process to reallocate stored water in Willamette Basin reservoirs for varied interest, including municipal and industrial uses like drinking water. Several recommendations were made in the final USACE report that was being provided to Congress for inclusion in key legislation this year. As a result, environmental advocacy groups took legal action in an attempt to stop the

process given their disagreements with some key aspects of the report related to endangered fish species. This legal challenge resulted in OWUC intervening in the case on behalf of its member's interests to make sure the process continued to move forward in a collaborative and transparent manner consistent with multiple stakeholders since its beginning. At the time of this writing, the case was 'stayed' until next year in the event the congress makes any further changes to legislation impacting the outcome of USACE's Reallocation process but overall, the environmental advocacy group's specific legal arguments were denied by the courts. This intervention and ongoing advocacy by OWUC resulted in a successful legal outcome on behalf of water providers and their communities. The specific members of the Reallocation Subcommittee will continue to track progress and engage on this important issue at both the state and federal level.

To find out more about how you can get involved with the Oregon Water Utilities Council, please contact Joel Cary, OWUC Chair, at [joel.cary@twwd.org](mailto:joel.cary@twwd.org). 



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### Customer Service Committee

The Pacific Northwest Section Customer Service Committee certificate training is growing in popularity. Now that we have changed to a two-day, one-course program, it is easier for people to attend and earn the certificate. We still offer CEUs for Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

We held two trainings this year: the first was at Kitsap County in

March, then in Wenatchee (originally rescheduled from last year due to the weather). We were able to hold both trainings prior to restrictions put in place for COVID-19.

We canceled trainings we had scheduled in April, September, and October, due to the pandemic, but plan to reschedule them once things are back

to normal. We will continue to update our website on the status of all trainings.

If you are interested in joining our Committee, or becoming a trainer for our upcoming programs, please contact Cathy Middleton, Committee Chair, at [cmiddleton@rwpud.org](mailto:cmiddleton@rwpud.org) or 503-674-4502. We would love to have you join our group .

### Young Professionals Committee

The Pacific Northwest Young Professionals (YPs) are a dedicated group of young professionals and students who are excited to engage with all that AWWA offers. Check our Facebook page for the latest events providing powerful leadership skills and technical information to enhance your career, as well as network with professionals and students in the water industry.

#### In the Works

You might be wondering what us YPs are doing while we are stuck in this unexpected quarantine? Well, we are still here innovating new virtual ways to continue providing networking and training for you. We have done some revamping of our Committee structure so our members can easily participate with their busy schedules in mind. With that being said, we welcome our newest Meeting Minutes Coordinator Rikki Oden, who is a recent graduate, and our newest Events Coordinator Alex Puryear, with Xylem, Inc.



Rikki Oden

#### PNWS YP Events Virtual Event Series

Working with Alex, our new Events Coordinator, we are putting together a virtual event series for our YPs, involving all the PNWS Subsections. With the cancellation of the 2021 PNWS Conference, where most of our YP events take place, we are working hard to schedule monthly virtual events for 2021 and continue to provide networking and training opportunities. Stay tuned and visit our website for updates: <https://sites.google.com/a/pnws-awwa.org/young-professionals>.

#### 5th Annual YP Summit

Unfortunately, our 5th annual PNWS-AWWA YP Summit was canceled this year. We hope to come back stronger than ever when we are able to return to in-person events.

#### 2020 Spokane Conference

We did not have the 2020 PNWS Conference this year but that did not stop us from losing hope. With short notice, we pulled together our first-ever virtual event with no shortage of attendees (just under 50). This was an excellent learning opportunity and we plan to use this as a trial run for our upcoming virtual events.

Even without the conference in 2020, there was still no lack of pioneering leadership from our YPs

this year. With that being said, we want to celebrate our *Pioneer Award* winner Joanie Stultz, with Brown and Caldwell. With her outstanding passion and volunteerism throughout the years, she has been awarded this well-earned award. Without Joanie, there would be much less enthusiasm and participation in our YP Committee so please give her a big thank you. We appreciate you, Joanie!

#### PNWS Student Outreach, Career Fairs and Mentorship

Are you planning a career fair or student outreach event or interested in connecting with other industry professional through the PNWS Mentorship Program? See the MEDC and 2020 Committee website for more details here: [https://sites.google.com/a/pnws-awwa.org/membership\\_committee](https://sites.google.com/a/pnws-awwa.org/membership_committee).

#### Participate and Stay Connected

Email our Communications Coordinator Annabel Warnell, [awarnell@landauinc.com](mailto:awarnell@landauinc.com), to find out more and get involved.

#### Follow us on Social Media



### Water Resources Committee

In light of the Board's cancellation notice in the August 2020 PNWS Newsletter, the Water Resources Committee (WRC) has pressed 'pause' on 2021 conference planning.

With normal business set aside, the WRC is re-directing its efforts toward something fun and will host a Zoom Happy Hour. We would love to see as many of you as possible with

your favorite adult beverage during a virtual social event. Details to follow.


Please contact Jacob Krall, [jkrall@geosyntec.com](mailto:jkrall@geosyntec.com), with questions or suggestions. 

### PNWS Distribution Committee

The PNWS Distribution Committee held elections for our new officers in early summer. Thank you to our former Chair Dan Reisinger and Co-Chair Doug Schlepp (now a Trustee and our Committee Liaison), for carrying the torch for our Committee for the past several years. Our new officers include Don Lovas, with the City of Salem, as our new Committee Chair; Rachel Lanigan, with RH2 Engineering, as Vice-Chair; and Aurelie Nabonnand, with Carollo Engineers, as Secretary.

In light of social distancing, the PNWS Distribution Committee is moving operator trainings to a virtual platform like other AWWA trainings. An Advanced Hydraulics training, originally planned to take place on March 17 with the Engineering Committee, was rescheduled to a new virtual format. Presentations were provided as 1.5-hour webinars over the course of two weeks on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in September.

The PNWS Distribution Committee will also be hosting a CEU-eligible training on the America's Water

Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Risk and Resilience Assessments and Emergency Response Plans. We will be hearing from experienced municipalities and consultants alike on lessons learned through the process of developing RRAs, including what smaller utilities can glean from larger utilities that had an earlier deadline for these required documents. Afternoon webinar sessions will be hosted in mid-November. Please see our website for more information: <https://sites.google.com/a/pnws-awwa.org/distribution-system>. 

### Oregon Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (ORWARN) Committee

#### Announcing New Members

ORWARN has continued to gain members – particularly from smaller water and wastewater systems and tribal outreach. We joined approximately 15 new member utilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### COVID-19 and ORWARN

ORWARN had the opportunity, from AWWA and FEMA, to obtain face coverings for water and wastewater utilities throughout all of Oregon. ORWARN, with the help of the Oregon Association of Water Utilities (OAWU), completed a first round of distribution of approximately 20,000 faces coverings and is now starting its second round of distribution.

#### ORWARN Website

The ORWARN website is up and running. A user's training was held at the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB), in November of 2019, and a user's guide was created to onboard and aid new members.

If you have not logged into the ORWARN website recently, please do so and update your organization's information. If you need help logging in, please contact ORWARN Board Secretary Gina Johnson at [gmjohnson@klamathfalls.city](mailto:gmjohnson@klamathfalls.city). She will help you gain access to the website.


#### ORWARN Assistance Events

ORWARN had the opportunity to provide assistance for two of its members over the last number of months.

#### ORWARN Annual Meeting and Board Elections

We will be holding our Annual Meeting at our October Board meeting, scheduled on October 15, 2020, at 10 a.m. We have four positions open for election at this meeting: Chair, Vice-Chair and At-Large. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please send your nominations to the Board Secretary Gina Johnson at [gmjohnson@klamathfalls.city](mailto:gmjohnson@klamathfalls.city).

#### 2020 ORWARN Conference Cancellation

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ORWARN Board has canceled this year's conference. We are planning on holding the conference in October in 2021 at Newport. Stay tuned for more information. 



## Scholarship Committee

The Pacific Northwest Section began providing scholarships in 1971. In 1985, the Section Board formally established the Education and Training (E&T) fund to help provide a stable funding base for these scholarships. Since 1995, the Section has awarded over half a million dollars in scholarships to 227 students. The Section also recognizes the increase in participation by Subsections in the E&T program. The Inland Empire Subsection, NW Washington Subsection, Southwest Idaho Subsection and the Southern Oregon Subsection all have named scholarships; meanwhile, other Subsections are diligently working to build their scholarship funds to join the ranks of the named scholarships. Thank you to all the Subsections for your hard work.

This year, E&T proceeds and direct contributions from the NW Washington Subsection, Craig Kelman & Associates (our publisher for *Water Matters*), and the Section Board have equipped us to award a total of \$46,900 for 12 scholarships. Unfortunately, we were not able to celebrate these awards at our annual conference; however, received great comments from the recipients.

The water industry faces a critical shortage of operators with an expected to increase of 6% in the next decade. The *One AWWA Operator Scholarship* was created to address the present and future need for operators by providing training and educational funding. Matching dollars from the American Water Works Association (\$1,000) and our Northwest Washington Subsection (\$1,000) provided the funding for the Scholarship. In memory of Chuck Kingston, the scholarship was added to the *2020 One AWWA Operator Scholarship* to assist **Alyssa Willis** in her educational pursuit of Process Technology and Operations Management at Bellingham Technical College.

*"I'm incredibly grateful for the generous scholarship gift awarded to me by PNWS-AWWA. This money will be very helpful in covering my educational expenses and will be*

*instrumental to my continued success in completing my education. I fully intend to exceed all expectations the organization may have for the kind gift."*  
– Alyssa Willis

### Here is the list of recipients for the 2020 Scholarships:

**Kathryn Hall** was awarded the Allen A. Alsing Scholarships, totaling \$4,000. Kathryn is pursuing a degree in Environmental Engineering at Portland State University.  
*"Thank you! Receiving this scholarship means so much to me, and I sincerely appreciate the PNWS-AWWA's and contributor's generosity."* – Kathryn Hall

**Andrew Burman** is working on his Master's in Civil Engineering/Hydrology & Hydrodynamics at the University of Washington. He was awarded the NW Washington Subsection Named and Direct Scholarships and E&T Scholarships, totaling \$4,000.  
*"I truly appreciate the AWWA for choosing me as a scholarship recipient for 2020. It is an honor to represent the water industry and I am more motivated than ever to help push the industry forward."* – Andrew Burman

**Heather Pina** was awarded the Skiles/Pettie, SW Idaho Subsection, Inland Empire and E&T Scholarships, totaling \$4,000. Heather is completing online studies at the University of Colorado seeking a Master of Civil Engineering while living in Spokane, WA.

**Geneva Schlepp** was awarded the Chris Uber Memorial Scholarship, totaling \$4,130. Geneva is pursuing a Civil Engineering degree at Washington State University.  
*"I am truly grateful for the PNWS-AWWA section scholarship which allows me to pursue my dreams of becoming an impactful engineer. The organization's commitment to my learning motivates me to continue giving my all in my studies and inspires me to one day give back in my own career through involvement in the AWWA."*  
– Geneva Schlepp

**Elizabeth Popoff** received the PNWS, E&T and Craig Kelman & Associates Scholarships, totaling \$3,534. Elizabeth is attending the University of Washington, pursuing a Communication Degree.

**Katherine Wampler** was awarded the Southern Oregon Subsection and E&T scholarships, totaling \$4,000. She is a student at Oregon State University, studying Water Resources Science.  
*"I want to thank you for your generous scholarship. I am both honored and grateful to be selected for the scholarship. Thank you for your generosity!"* – Katherine Wampler

**America Rodriguez** was awarded the Archie Rice, Cynthia Driscoll, James Doane and Wubben Family scholarships, totaling \$4,000. America is studying at Portland State University, seeking a degree in Civil Engineering.

**Tucker Kaus** received the Alan Jones, Bill and Teddy Beckman and E&T Scholarships, totaling \$3,500. He is a student at Portland State University student, studying Civil Engineering.

**Logan Smesrud** was awarded the John Aho and E&T Scholarships, totaling \$4,000. Logan is PNWS member that is studying for an advanced degree at UC Berkeley.  
*"I'm excited to pursue my MS in Environmental Engineering at UC Berkeley! Thanks to the PNW section for making it possible and helping me prepare for a career in water and wastewater!"* – Logan Smesrud

**Alexandra Franco** was awarded the Legacy, Kathy Merry, Allen A. Alsing and E&T Scholarships, totaling \$4,000. Alexandra is studying at Portland State University, seeking a master's degree in Water Resources Environmental Engineering.

**Ronald Young** received the Ron Heinke Memorial, Northwest


Washington and E&T Scholarships, totaling \$3,893. He is a student at University of Idaho student, studying Geology/Hydrogeology.

*"I would like to personally thank AWWA for this wonderful scholarship I have received! This scholarship will allow me to pursue an internship this summer that will further my career*

*goal of become a Ground Water Hydrologist."* – Ronald 'Griffin' Young

Colleagues, friends, associates and guests, if you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Education and Training Endowment Fund, please contact E&T Chair Bob Willis, [bwillis@rh2.com](mailto:bwillis@rh2.com), or

Section Executive Director Kyle Khis, [execdir@pnws-awwa.org](mailto:execdir@pnws-awwa.org).

Thank you for supporting the future of our organization, our communities, and these outstanding students. In you have any questions, please contact Cory Baune or LaDonne Harris, of the Scholarship Committee, at [scholarship@pnws-awwa.org](mailto:scholarship@pnws-awwa.org). 

## Membership Engagement and Development Committee (MEDC) and 2020 Vision Committee

The Membership Engagement and Development Committee's (MEDC), goal is to promote the value of membership and be a resource to all our members. We are excited to enter the fall season with a focus on member engagement.

Whether you are an operator, engineer, manager, service provider, student, or one of our members, we are committed to communicating the value of membership to **you**.

The value of the AWWA membership means something different to everyone. In a world where a large majority of our members our working from home, we are continuing to brainstorm ways to support the membership virtually.

### The MEDC is focused on:

- recruiting new members for the MEDC,
- reaching out to **first year members** to connect them with resources,
- planning for the fourth year of the **Mentorship Program** 2020-2021,
- connecting with to Subsections and providing leadership/tools to engage

**MEDC Purpose:** To support the Pacific Northwest Section of AWWA (PNWS) in the engagement, retention, and growth of membership.

**2020 Vision:** To align with AWWA's strategic initiative for a sustainable future by bridging young talent with the water industry.

their members, including **Welcome Wagon** materials, and

- creating and maintaining resources for our members.

### Diversity & Inclusion Committee

Our industry and local communities are facing extraordinary challenges. This past summer, the PNWS-AWWA Board officially created a Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee, as part of the MEDC.

By getting involved, you will play an important role in this critical effort. If you are interested in participating or just listening in on the conversation, please reach out to Chris Young, [chris.young@murraysmith.us](mailto:chris.young@murraysmith.us).

### We Need You - Join MEDC

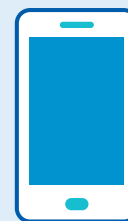
The MEDC is actively recruiting for new committee members. If you're interested in engaging new and current members and love to promote the AWWA, then the MEDC is the committee for you. We hold monthly calls on the first Friday of the month.

### Join the PNWS Mentorship Program

The fourth year of the Mentorship Program will kick-off this fall; to apply, the application form will be available in October. This year, we are taking a unique approach to the Mentorship Program. We will have our pairings assigned by early November and – instead of our usual 'behind the scenes' pairings – launch the program with a virtual event for our mentors and protégés to connect and network. Then we will use feedback from this event to help our applicants pair


**Stay Connected on MEDC** by attending the **Monthly MEDC Committee Calls:**

Email [chris.young@murraysmith.us](mailto:chris.young@murraysmith.us) to get on the listserv.



themselves with their desired mentor/protégé. At the end of the program, we will host another virtual event for take-aways and further networking in lieu of meeting at the conference.

If you're interested in learning more about the program, please contact our new Mentorship Program Coordinator Erica Rodriguez at [erica.rodriguez@murraysmith.us](mailto:erica.rodriguez@murraysmith.us).

To learn more about the program and find the application, please see the Mentorship Guide at [www.pnws-awwa.org/membership\\_committee/2020-subcommittee/mentorship-program](http://www.pnws-awwa.org/membership_committee/2020-subcommittee/mentorship-program) or take a picture of the QR Code with your smartphone to be directed to the website. 





## Be Kind and Stay Resilient

By Dan Kegley, City of Spokane (retired), [dmkegs@outlook.com](mailto:dmkegs@outlook.com)

COVID.

On February 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced an official name for the disease that is causing the 2019 pandemic, first identified in Wuhan China. The new name: coronavirus disease 2019, abbreviated as COVID-19. In COVID-19, 'CO' stands for 'corona,' 'VI' for 'virus,' and 'D' for disease. Formerly, this disease was referred to as '2019 novel (new) coronavirus' or '2019-nCoV.'

At this point, I think we can lift the 'novel' designation from the name since (for me and a lot of you, I'm sure) this is getting old. I have been fortunate enough to contract and survive the virus. There are too many people that have not been as fortunate. I had a brief thought that my health was no longer at risk. Not so fast – it is still too early to tell if you can contract the virus again, so it is back to the basement to tie flies and make spinners. Since I am retired, I do have the advantage of reduced stress (or at least work-related stress) but trust me, the amount of stress this virus has put on us all is tremendous.

I asked a few of my fellow Past Chairs what they do to cope with the lack of face-to-face social interaction, networking, and in-person meetings. I received some great tips for response plans, such as working in the office with the door locked from the inside of course; picking moss off of apple trees, since it appears that global warming missed Portland this and last Spring; and talking to animals – specifically donkeys, since they are great listeners and help prepare you for meetings when you return to the office. All kidding aside, I believe that what we have overlooked is the impact that this disease has had on our lives, outside the lack of social interaction. I received a story from Mark Knudson that I hope you agree brings that point across. Mark did apologize for his lack of brevity, but I feel it is a good story to tell.



He writes:

*"With an abundance of spare time recently, I started sorting through my parents' old photos (my dad passed away 22 years ago, so I have been putting this off for a while). As I dug through a box of musty papers, I came across my dad's handwritten letters to his mother in Portland during the early years of World War II. One letter included a story of how my dad was on leave with a buddy from Portland when they met 'a couple of cute gals from Iowa' – one of those 'cute gals' eventually became my mother. Finally, near the bottom of the box was a small, faded newspaper clipping; my dad's buddy – the guy he was with when he first met my mom – died in a sea battle in the Pacific.*

*Like the 1940s, we are living in a turbulent time and the world is quickly changing around us. And like WWII, I suspect COVID-19 will be a driving force for profound long-term changes that we have yet to realize or appreciate, including changes to family, work, shopping, travel, and recreation (as well as the essential nature of water service and the role of wastewater as an 'early warning' of infections in a community). Fortunately, like our parents and grandparents, we are resilient; I am confident we will adapt to the changes swirling around us and we will build a future that results in a better life for generations to come.*

*I fear I have become numb to the daily reports of COVID-19 deaths.*



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I hope everyone will be a little kinder and provide a little more understanding – especially during these trying times.


*In fact, each one of these deaths was the passing of a mother, father, sister, brother, son, daughter, or best friend ... and their passing will forever change people's lives. So, today I honor those who did not make it and the families that will be forever changed. Thank you for your service and your sacrifice."*

I agree with Mark that we will all be changed from this pandemic; the impacts will be long lasting. It is also important to remember these impacts we face – each day and through our social interactions – may have long lasting effects on relationships. It is difficult to understand how these impacts affect one another on

a day-to-day basis. Anger, sorrow, and shame are all strong emotions and we cannot possibly know the state of mind of individuals we interact with – they can change daily and not just as a result of the virus. I hope everyone will be a little kinder and provide a little more understanding – especially during these trying times.

One point Mark mentioned that I would like to echo is the appreciation I have for everyone in the water and wastewater industry: you truly lie on the leading edge of health and safety. I thank our Section Board of Trustees and Chair Ronda Farmer as they navigate through some exceedingly difficult waters.

If there is an upside, however, fishing is a great form of social distancing and I love to fish. There is always something to help distract me from the news and relieve the stress this pandemic has wrought on all of us. I have done a ton of work on the boat and the shop – not to mention the number of flies and spinners I have made and added to the tackle box; my credit card statements are a testament to that. With that, I've got to run, I think Maura just opened my credit card statement. I hear yelling...

Thank you all for what you do and stay healthy! 

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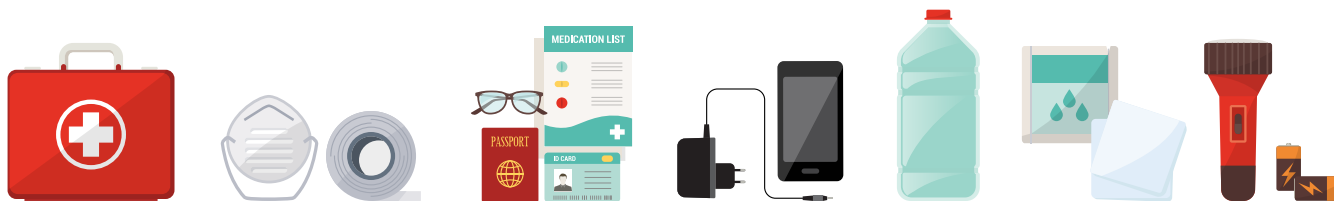


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# BE DISASTER RESILIENT AND READY

By Karen Edwards-Lindsey, [edwards-lindsey.karen@epa.gov](mailto:edwards-lindsey.karen@epa.gov), 202-564-3797

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water, Water Security Division – 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW (4608T) Washington, D.C. 20460

Water utilities today face unprecedented threats to the security and resilience of their systems. In Washington, drinking water services can be susceptible to natural disasters such as wildfires, floods, landslides, and severe storms. When disasters occur, they carry a risk of endangering people, property, and critical infrastructure. In these instances, rural water systems serve as a critical lifeline for public health and the community at large. While any natural disaster can be overwhelming, you can take steps to prepare your utility and community in advance.

## America's Water Infrastructure Act – Section 2013 Requirements

One of the first steps is to conduct a detailed assessment of your risks. If you have not completed or updated your risk assessment already, you may be required to do so under the America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA). Section 2013 of the Act requires Community (drinking) Water Systems (CWSs) serving more than 3,300 people to develop or update a Risk and Resilience Assessment (RA) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP). The law includes the components that the RAs and ERPs must address and establishes deadlines by which water systems must send a certification of completion to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

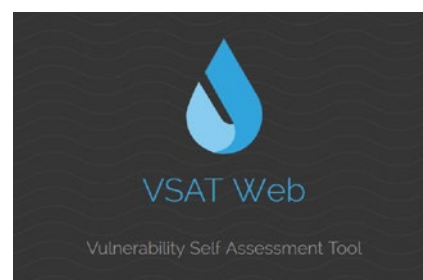
The certification deadlines are based on system population size reflected in the Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS) as of the law's date of enactment on October 23, 2018. Systems serving a population 100,000 or greater were

required to certify completion of the Risk and Resilience Assessment no later than March 31, 2020. Systems serving population sizes of 50,000 to 99,999 must certify completion no later than December 31, 2020, and systems serving populations of 3,301 to 49,999 must certify no later than June 30, 2021.

Within six months of certifying completion of the Risk and Resilience Assessment, water systems must also certify completion of the ERP. AWIA requires systems to consider factors such as monitoring practices, financial systems, chemical storage, and operations and maintenance in their RAs. For the ERP, AWIA requires utilities to include items such as strategies and resources to improve resilience and procedures to lessen the impact of malevolent acts or natural hazards. See the following webpage for more information and details about AWIA ([www.epa.gov/waterresilience/americas-water-infrastructure-act-risk-assessments-and-emergency-response-plans](http://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/americas-water-infrastructure-act-risk-assessments-and-emergency-response-plans)).

## AWIA Compliance Resources

The U.S. EPA has developed a suite of tools to help you comply with AWIA. The first tool is the Vulnerability Self-Assessment Tool (VSAT) Web 2.0. This Tool is a risk assessment application for water, wastewater, and combined utilities of all sizes. Using VSAT Web 2.0, water systems in Washington can assess their vulnerabilities to both man-made and natural hazards and evaluate potential improvement opportunities to enhance their



security and resilience. See [www.epa.gov/waterriskassessment/conduct-drinking-water-or-wastewater-utility-risk-assessment](http://www.epa.gov/waterriskassessment/conduct-drinking-water-or-wastewater-utility-risk-assessment). Small CWSs serving greater than 3,300 but less than 50,000 people can conduct a RA using the Small System Risk and Resilience Assessment Checklist ([www.epa.gov/waterresilience/small-system-risk-and-resilience-assessment-checklist](http://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/small-system-risk-and-resilience-assessment-checklist)). CWSs serving 3,300 or fewer people are not required to conduct risk and resilience assessments under AWIA. EPA recommends, however, that very small CWSs use the checklist or other guidance to learn how to conduct risk and resilience assessments and address threats from malevolent acts and natural hazards that threaten safe drinking water.

A second resource developed to help CWSs conduct a RA is the Baseline Information on Malevolent Acts for Community Water Systems. This document assists CWSs in identifying the types of malevolent acts that could impact them and assist with estimating the threat likelihood of such acts ([www.epa.gov/waterriskassessment/baseline-information-malevolent-acts-community-water-systems](http://www.epa.gov/waterriskassessment/baseline-information-malevolent-acts-community-water-systems)).

The U.S. EPA also developed a resource to help CWSs comply with the AWIA ERP requirement. The ERP

Template and Instructions describe strategies, resources, plans, and procedures utilities can use to prepare for and respond to an incident, natural or man-made, that could disrupt essential water services. The resource features a blank ERP template that can be easily accessed and modified by utility personnel to meet their own water system needs ([www.epa.gov/waterutilityresponse/develop-or-update-drinking-water-utility-emergency-response-plan](http://www.epa.gov/waterutilityresponse/develop-or-update-drinking-water-utility-emergency-response-plan)).


### Other Resources

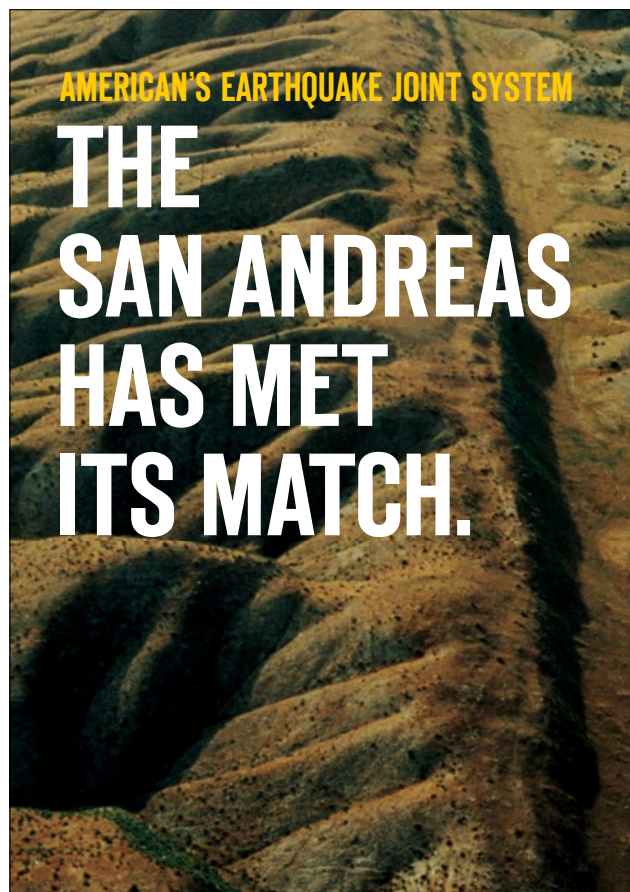
After completing an RA and ERP, utilities can further explore how to lower risks and increase efficiency of response with U.S. EPA's tools and resources. The Flood Resilience Guide provides practical solutions to help drinking water and wastewater utilities become more resilient to flooding. The guide is particularly useful for small and medium-size utilities in Washington and includes resources to assist utilities in examining the threat of flooding, determining the impact to utility assets and identifying cost-effective mitigation options.



The Water Utility Response On-The-Go (Response OTG) Application is an interactive tool allowing you to respond in real time from the field, track severe weather, contact response partners, identify actions to take and inform incident command. You can learn more about both tools at [www.epa.gov/waterutilityresponse](http://www.epa.gov/waterutilityresponse).

The U.S. EPA provides regular updates on water security and resilience

resources that will help water systems meet their requirements to comply with AWIA. To learn more, visit [www.epa.gov/waterresilience](http://www.epa.gov/waterresilience) or join the *What's Going On* newsletter email list by contacting [wsd-outreach@epa.gov](mailto:wsd-outreach@epa.gov). With the help of the additional free water resilience resources, you can continue working toward providing safe and reliable services to customers during emergencies. 



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# 2020 SECTION EDUCATION WINNER: PACIFIC NORTHWEST SECTION



In partnership with the Washington State Department of Health, Division of Drinking Water

## *Chlorine Residual Testing and Lab Skills Training*

A 2015 study of over 30 water treatment plants in northwest Washington by the Washington State Department of Health, Division of Drinking Water (WSDOH) found that measurements of critical water quality treatment parameters did not have the precision and accuracy necessary to provide consistent results. Operators identified the primary issue as a lack of instructions on the correct techniques needed to achieve testing standards. In looking at the study results and operator comments, WSDOH decided that the most important parameter and the one that might have the biggest impact on customer water quality was chlorine residual. WSDOH set about developing a hands-on workshop to allow operators to learn correct testing techniques and to practice and practice again.

The workshop was well received and WSDOH began to repeat it in the Northwest Region as utilities heard about and requested it, and as the WSDOH staff had time and materials. The workshops are set up for groups of 10 to 20 operators working in pairs, each operator having their own portable test kit. Samples of local water are prepared so all attendees are working from the same source and accuracy/ consistency comparisons can be made as part of the learning experience. The teaching kit contains flasks, pipettes, standards, reagent, wipes, gloves, and all other needed materials. The operators are only required to bring their portable chlorine test kit, a pen and a calculator.

Designed for up to 20 attendees, and running three and a half hours, the workshop includes five wet exercises to measure free and total chlorine, and for attendees to check their instrument calibration and refine techniques. The workshop kits are contained in three or four file boxes and cost \$1,500 to \$2,000 to set up. A packaged Power Point presentation and two or three trained speakers round out the kit of this high quality, consistent instruction and hands-on training. The workshop is approved for three Continuing Education Units for both water and wastewater operators in Washington.

While each initial workshop was a great learning experience, WSDOH ran into a few hurdles while reaching out to the operators. First, budgets limited development of new kits to allow other staff to reach more operators. Additionally, there was no income from these workshops (WSDOH had no mechanism to charge for training) so replacement of consumables was limited. Lastly, WSDOH mostly depended on being invited to a utility to do training.


In June 2019, at a workshop in Anacortes, Washington, the training coordinator for the Northwest Washington Subsection (NWWA) of Pacific Northwest Section (PNWS) heard the concerns and limitations of the program and NWWA offered to help. By allowing NWWA to arrange the workshops (location, advertising, registration accounting, and fees)

WSDOH could concentrate on their strengths, program and instruction. NWWA, which generally runs more than a dozen operator workshops a year, would take over workshop logistics, which was its strength. The Subsection was able to charge for the half-day workshops (typically \$50) which provided income for building new training kits, restocking consumables and spreading the opportunity to a wider audience in the state.

In the following nine months (before the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown in-person training) NWWA and two other PNWS Subsections arranged 13 workshops at eight locations in six counties. Over 180 operators representing more than 50 utilities and water districts attended the training. When in-person training is again allowed, new workshops will be scheduled throughout Western Washington. At this time NWWA is developing a training kit for the WSDOH Eastern Regional office and, with the local Subsections, can begin training operators at workshops.

The efforts to produce and organize these workshops emphasizes the added value of AWWA Sections working with local health authorities in providing high quality and consistent training to the largest number of operators.

For more information regarding the program, please contact:

- Jeff Lundt – [jeff.lundt@kingcounty.gov](mailto:jeff.lundt@kingcounty.gov)
- Steve Deem – [steve.deem@doh.wa.gov](mailto:steve.deem@doh.wa.gov)
- Nancy Feagin  
– [nancy.feagin@doh.wa.gov](mailto:nancy.feagin@doh.wa.gov) 



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*Typical workshop set-up.*



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# 2021 CANDIDATES FOR OFFICERS >>>

The Pacific Northwest Section Nominating Committee presents the following candidates for 2021. You will vote for one of the three candidates for Chair and one of the candidates in each of the three Trustee categories: Oregon/Idaho, Washington, and Trustee-At-Large. Each of the three Trustee positions is for a two-year term. The Chair will serve one year as Chair-Elect, one year as Chair, and one year as Past Chair.

The successful candidates will take their place on the Pacific Northwest Section (PNWS) of the AWWA Board of Trustees in May 2021. They will vote on many issues that AWWA will face over the coming years. Please take the time to cast your vote for the candidates that you feel are most qualified to represent you on the PNWS-AWWA Board of Directors.

## Chair-Elect

- **Michelle Cheek** from Portland Water Bureau
- **Dan Sleeth** from Covington Water District
- **Marshall Thompson** from Suez, Boise

## Washington Trustee

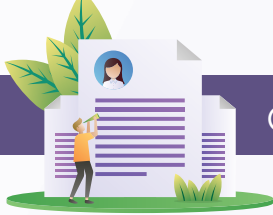
- **Mike Pleasants** from Silverdale Water District
- **Loren Searl** from City of Spokane
- **Tyler Clary** from City of Vancouver

## Trustee-At-Large

- **Nick Belmont** from DN Tanks
- **Katie Dillon** from HDR, Inc.
- **Charlie Sovacool** from Consolidated Supply Co.

## Oregon/Idaho Trustee

- **Jill Hoyenga** from City of The Dalles
- **Jamie Porter** from Rainbow Water District
- **Kristina Gillespie-Jaques** from Mountain Waterworks, Inc.



## CHAIR-ELECT



### MICHELLE CHEEK Engineering Supervisor, Portland Water Bureau

It is a great honor to run for Chair of our awesome Section.

I am excited (and quite nervous) about the prospect of leading our Section, but what a great opportunity to work with our Board of Trustees, committees, and members to shape the future of the Section and water industry.

Wow, what a weird year it has been. A pandemic was absolutely the last thing I thought we'd be dealing with as water professionals and as a Section. I think we've all learned something new about ourselves and

have demonstrated our resilience and reliability by continuing to deliver water to our communities during COVID-19. Y'all should be so proud of yourselves! Due to COVID-19, our Section has had to make some difficult decisions to ensure our safety and our Section's financial stability. Canceling two in-person conferences has hit us hard financially and we will likely be dealing with the impacts for a few years. Multiple fundraising and networking events were also canceled, which has certainly gotten me down at times. I look forward to getting back to in-person conferences and other events, but we've also been

given some unique opportunities that we probably wouldn't have embraced if it weren't for this unexpected pandemic. Our new 'normal' – virtual meetings and trainings – are an opportunity to reach operators in rural areas or small utilities that historically may not have had the opportunity to attend our conference or in-person training. Leveraging technology also gives us new ways to connect with and engage our members and supports some of the strategic goals and objectives identified in AWWA's 2025 Strategic Plan. When 2020 is over, we'll be experts at virtual meetings and trainings (if we're not already).



### DANIEL SLEETH Operations Manager, Covington Water District

It is my honor to be presented with the opportunity to run for PNWS-AWWA

Chair and feel blessed to have received the nomination. Over the past 20 years volunteering for PNWS-AWWA, I have been exposed to some of the most extraordinary people who share the same passion that I do for providing safe, reliable drinking water to our communities. During that time, I found myself developing a true passion towards Leadership, Succession Planning and Workplace Culture.

#### AWWA Background

- Washington Trustee
- Distribution Committee Chair
- Small Systems Chair
- Utility Management Chair
- Sub-Section Advisory Council Secretary
- King County Sub Section 2-year Director
- PNWS Competitions Coordinator
- Tapping Team Competitor
- Top Ops Competitor
- Meter Madness Competitor
- Hydrant Hysteria Coach

#### Personal Life

In addition to my volunteer work, I have three lovely children – Mason, 17;

Madison, 13; and Morgan, 11. My family and I enjoy Seahawks and Husky Football, Mariner Baseball, camping and visiting family in the Tri-Cities. My passion for golf is secondary to my family but is a very strong passion, nonetheless. You will find me at nearly all of the Subsection golf tournaments throughout the year, spending time with my colleagues and supporting the PNWS-AWWA philanthropic efforts.

#### Professional Life

After 25 years as a Water Professional, I earned my Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and currently work as the Operations Manager for the Covington Water District in southeast King County.



### MARSHALL THOMPSON General Manager, SUEZ Water Idaho

I am honored to run for Chair of our Section. I am the Vice President and General

Manager for SUEZ Water Idaho. Our local water company serves almost a quarter million people in areas of Boise and the Treasure Valley of Southwest Idaho.

I have been a longtime member of AWWA and an active participant in the Pacific Northwest Section. From Subsection and committee roles to PNWS Board participation, as both Trustee and Treasurer, I have demonstrated a long commitment to helping our Section be one of the best in the nation. Earlier this year, I also had the honor to completing a three-year term as Director-at-large on the AWWA Board of Trustees.

The PNWS has played an important role in the careers of many members. As Chair, I would be committed to paying it forward for future members with a clear focus on three main things.

- reward members with great local and online training options,
- strengthen our community with new professional development and networking events, and



In her Chair's Message, Ronda Farmer put forth a plan to create a subcommittee, under the Section's Membership Engagement Committee, to help us further the mission of AWWA's Diversity and Member Inclusion Committee. I fully support this plan and am excited to see how this subcommittee's work challenges and ultimately improves our Section.

### Professional and Personal Life

I am a licensed professional engineer in Oregon and have spent my entire career working in the water industry. In 1999, I graduated from Auburn University, moved to Portland, and started my

engineering career at Black & Veatch. I spent 11 years at Black & Veatch before making the jump to the public sector and the Portland Water Bureau, where I've been since 2011.

I've been a member of the PNWS-AWWA since 2001. My active participation in the PNWS began with the Water Treatment Committee where I served for six years as a committee officer. I also served as the Local Host Committee Chair for the 2017 Water Quality Technology Conference (WQTC) held in Portland. I currently have the honor of serving the Section as an OR/ID Trustee.

As for my hobbies, 2020 has had some good and bad. I snowboarded a grand total of zero days but my mountain bike has racked up some miles. Art (my husband) and I have also started enough home improvement projects to start our own TV show. It would be exceptionally boring though because we're always changing our minds and rarely finish any projects. So, I won't be leaving this water gig anytime soon. Our dog Lola Jean loves the new normal of having me at home every day.

Thanks again for your consideration. I would love the opportunity to serve y'all as our Section Chair. Fingers crossed we'll see each other in person real soon!

### Section Vision

It's only been six months since my term on the Board of Trustees ended, and what a difficult time it has been for our Section. The global pandemic has changed all of our lives in one form or another – working from home, teaching from home, living in isolation, and having so much uncertainty. The cancelation of back-to-back Section Conferences has put an extreme amount of stress and uncertainty on our Section and will force the Board to make significant changes moving forward. The Board of Trustees is responsible for making tough decisions as the PNWS works its way through this pandemic

while maintaining the Section's vision and responsibilities to members.

Training and education have always been at the forefront of our Section and its members, with the Annual Spring Conference being the showcase event of our training offerings. Back to back cancelations have resulted in many obstacles for our Section: financially the impact is substantial, socially the impact is substantial, and educationally the impact is substantial.

If the membership sees fit to elect me to the position of Chair, it will be duty to help facilitate crucial changes that can immediately impact the Section to ensure our long-term

survival. Changes need to be made and they need to be made with certainty and a vision. My conductor style of leadership – efficient, effective and motivational – is exactly what I believe the Section needs as it re-invents itself. Together we can be the leader in education and training within our industry, we can be the leader in our communities providing much needed philanthropic endeavors, but we must pivot and make changes.

It would be an honor and with tremendous humility to be entrusted with facilitating these tough decisions for our Section and I respectfully thank you for this opportunity.

- ensure the PNWS maintains its healthy financial position to make all of this possible.

### Marshall's Past AWWA Involvement

- Past AWWA Director-at-Large
- AWWA Veterans Committee
- Past PNWS-AWWA Board Trustee
- Past PNWS-AWWA Board Treasurer
- PNWS-AWWA Heart and Soul Award Winner

- Various Committee and Subsection Roles

### More about Marshall

Marshall is father to three trained assassins, ages nine, 12, and 14. He has degrees in geography and earth science and a master's degree in engineering and technology management. He is a licensed operator, for both drinking

water distribution and water treatment, and holds a graduate-level certification in design-build construction. His shotgun approach to education may have had less to do with strategy than an attempt to emulate MacGyver. Whatever the motivation, he's a useful guy to have around if you are stranded in budget discussions or on a desert island with nothing but a volleyball.



## TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE



### NICK BELMONT Pacific Northwest Regional Manager, DN Tanks

First off, I would like to say what an honor it has been to be considered for the

Trustee-At-Large position. The members of the Pacific Northwest Section are some of the most inspirational and passionate people I have had the pleasure of knowing. I am truly thankful for the opportunity to work with so many of you as colleagues, but more importantly as friends.

For those of you who don't know me, I am the Pacific Northwest Regional Manager for DN Tanks. When I'm not working, you'll often find my wife Maureen; our daughter Natalie, who just recently turned one; and our faithful companion Bailey and I at the Oregon coast or on a hike. I am an avid golfer, skier, fisherman, and hunter.

I began my involvement in the Pacific Northwest Section as a Young Professional. Over the last 10 years, I have always done whatever I can to stay

involved within the Section – helping with events, committees and whatever is needed. Most recently, I have been serving as Chair of the Philanthropic Advisory Committee and am a past Board Member on the E&T Board. Through these experiences, I have gained a unique perspective as to how to help better serve, grow and educate our community. I have also been able to gain invaluable knowledge from my interactions with our Trustee Liaisons and other Board members over the years.



### KATIE DILLON HDR Engineering, Inc.

Being nominated to run for a PNWS-AWWA Trustee position is a privilege I don't

take for granted and something I never would have dreamed of when I started my career in this industry 13 years ago. The path I've traveled has had a few twists and turns, starting at and returning to HDR. Through various career moves, including working as an independent marketing consultant for the A/E/C industry, I've stayed active with PNWS-AWWA. The prospect of focusing exclusively on water drew me back to HDR, where I have been since late 2018. In my current role,

I represent HDR with clients and in professional organizations, track water industry drivers and initiatives in the Northwest, and lead strategic client and pursuit development. This means that one part of my 'day job' is to stay on top of the challenges, opportunities, and legislative impacts to the water industry in the same region serviced by PNWS-AWWA.

#### AWWA Service

My experience with PNWS-AWWA includes various leadership activities, including:

- Water For People committee:
  - Serving as a member since 2015.
  - Began serving as Chair in May 2020.

- Running the Silent Auction at our section's conference annually since 2016.
- Winning the 2020 Kenneth J. Miller Award.
- Philanthropic Advisory Council (PAC): Serving as Vice Chair and helping shape implementation of this council.
- Local Arrangement Committees (LACs): In my role as Vice Chair/Silent Auction planner for Water For People, serving on every conference LAC since 2015.
- Philanthropic fundraiser planning: Summer Sipping and Wine for Water.
- Presenting at the First Annual Leadership Symposium.



### CHARLIE SOVACOO Consolidated Supply Co.

It is an honor to be nominated for the position of Trustee for the PNWS-AWWA. I have

been a member of the King County AWWA Subsection for over ten years and am the current Chair. It has

been a pleasure to work with current and former Board members of our Subsection and, because of my job as an outside salesperson, I have got to know and work with many wonderful people in other Subsections all over Washington and North Idaho. I have been involved in Waterworks sales in

Washington and North Idaho for over 18 years as a manufacturer's rep and municipal distributor salesman. I am fortunate to work for a company that has one of its stated missions to bring clean drinking water to families of the Pacific Northwest. I really enjoy teaching various waterworks classes



As an E&T Board Member, I was able to gain experience and understanding of the importance of growing our industry's future leaders in both Operations and Engineering. As the Chair of the Philanthropic Advisory Committee, I have been able to help use that knowledge to help the Section's Philanthropic leaders and events thrive to better both our community, as well abroad. As a Trustee, I hope to use my past experience to help bring forth new ideas to our Board, provide the support the initiatives we need

to succeed, and continue to grow this great community of leaders in our Section and, in doing so, the water industry.

In closing, I feel like I would be remiss if I didn't address the elephant in the room that is the year 2020... it's been interesting to say the least. This year has forced our leadership to make tough decisions and lead us into uncharted waters – at times having to not only rewrite the playbook but being asked to reinvent it all together – as we move into a virtually-focused world. And for

that, I would like to sincerely applaud them for their efforts. Moving into 2021 and beyond, there will continue to be hurdles in regards to COVID-19.

As someone who is involved in multiple Sections of AWWA and other water and wastewater associations, I have had the privilege to gain a unique perspective from seeing how each Association has worked to address this issue. My hope is that I can carry this perspective into the role of Trustee-At-Large to help bring the best of the best ideas to PNWS.

### Vision

When I first joined PNWS-AWWA, I didn't know quite how I would fit in. Luckily, I quickly found my calling on the Water For People committee. Joining that Committee opened up further opportunities for me and strengthened my relationships around the Section. My work on the Water For People Committee and now the PAC has given me a deeper appreciation for PNWS-AWWA and made me even more passionate about the water industry. One of my missions as a Board member will be to help members who aren't sure where they fit in to find avenues (committees, Subsections, etc.) where they can become more involved.

Creating deeper roots of involvement has kept me actively engaged in the section and propelled me to leadership positions. I hope to help others have the same experience.

My experience across philanthropic efforts, and my work on LACs, has given me exposure to a multitude of members throughout the Section and a solid understanding of the needs and desires of many of them. And while I'm passionate about our Section's philanthropic efforts, I'd also like to help the Section find a greater balance between training, networking, and fundraising. While we often think of these as separate functions, I think it's possible to have events that

encompass two, if not all three, of them. As a member of the Board I'd like to push us to think outside the box, especially during this time of virtual connection, on how we can do this better.

### Personal

My husband, Kevin, and I have two children, Alton (6) and Stella (3), who are wonderful balls of energy who keep us on our toes. We enjoy travel, food and wine, and staying active through spinning, running, and generally chasing our kids around. Kevin and I are part owners of our family-owned Italian restaurant in Snoqualmie, Washington.

that provide me the opportunity to interact with our members and provide them with CEUs. I am proud to be affiliated with an organization that provides resources to the professionals in our industry and would appreciate the opportunity to continue working with AWWA at the Section level.



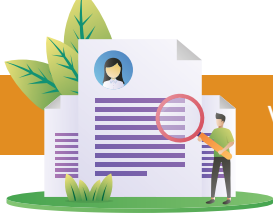
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### MICHAEL W. PLEASANTS, P.E. Silverdale Water District, District Engineer

It is a privilege to be nominated for the position of Washington Trustee for the PNWS-AWWA.

I've been a member of AWWA for over ten years and was a South Sound Subsection Board member during much of that time. I am still active with the Subsection but, having now gone through the full board rotation and made another change in my career, I've been able to get more involved in a few PNWS committees, including

Utility Management and the Washington Water Utility Council. It continues to be a pleasure to work with the local Association members and those from across the Northwest. I entered the water industry over 25 years ago, when I was given the chance to intern for RH2 Engineering. After graduating in 1999 from the University of Washington, I continued to work for RH2 as a staff engineer, construction administrator, project manager, regional manager and other roles. This presented many opportunities to work with agencies

across the State – both as clients and peers in several associations. In addition to my positions with PNWS-AWWA, I was on the Board of Directors for the Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts from 2011 to 2015. In 2017, I left RH2 to take the position of Assistant City Engineer for the City of Port Orchard. While it was a significant change to my career, it brought me closer to my home and family. At the City I was active in all aspects of public works. My involvement included leading the public works review of all private



### LOREN SEARL Superintendent City of Spokane Water Department

This has been a very unusual year for us all as we deal with the additional restrictions

and economic challenges in our business, with employees, and within our families. Our great Section is no different. Our current leadership has made very difficult decisions to keep the Section operational while providing the members the support we have all come

to know. This challenge will take time to recover from but I am confident that our members will elect a Board that is capable of setting a path for the section to become operationally and financially stable. I am honored to be considered for this role and excited to have the opportunity to serve the members. With careful planning and new, unusual ideas we will be able to gather together again.

In 1995, I began my career as a laborer with the City of Spokane and have

work my way up, through almost every aspect of the department, and gained a lot of experience and friends across the region. I began to participate in AWWA when the department wanted to start a Tapping Team. This introduction has led to many years of volunteering with some great people. This experience, and the knowledge I have gained from AWWA, contributed to my successful career. I have served on the Inland Empire Subsection Board for eight years.



### TYLER CLARY City of Vancouver

I remember the first time I met former City of Vancouver employee Ed Heidt,

shortly after I had joined the City's Water Department. A couple of minutes into the conversation he asked, "Are you an AWWA member?" To which I quickly replied, "What's AWWA?" He then promptly handed me an AWWA membership application and told me all about the benefits of AWWA. I was soon a member with little knowledge of how to get involved or the benefits of involvement.

Since that first meeting with Ed over 16 years ago, I have been involved in various aspects of the Northwest Section and met many passionate water professionals that I respect and who have become my friends. After a couple of years of membership, I became involved with the Engineering Committee, where I became Vice Chair and then Chair, with a focus on providing worthwhile training to section members. It wasn't until my involvement with the Engineering Committee that I truly began to recognize the networking opportunities that the Section provides and the work

that goes on by the Board behind the scenes. Through the years, I have continued involvement with the engineering committee and helped organize numerous trainings at the City of Vancouver Water Resource Education Center. Further Section involvement has included Local Arrangements Committee Co-Chair for the 2019 Vancouver Conference and current Administrative Committee Chair of the Washington Water Utilities Council.

Motivating Section members and providing an easy-to-follow path to get members involved at the Section and Subsection levels is key to a successful



development, management of capital improvement project construction, and many other obligations.

Late last year, I left the City to take my current role as District Engineer at Silverdale Water District. This was a great opportunity to continue to stay close to home and be able to put more focus on the water industry. Water is what I've been the most passionate about in my career with the projects I get to be a part of and the people I get to work with locally and across the region.

My wife Leslie and I moved to Port Orchard in 2005. We have a fourteen-year-old daughter and a twelve-year-old son. We were heavily involved in pee-wee football for a few years. Our evenings have been spent on the fields for soccer, cheer, football, baseball, golf and on the basketball court. We spent this last winter traveling the State for my son's basketball tournaments. This year we are preparing for the first year of high school for our oldest. There may be no Friday night-lights for us this fall, but she's hoping her cheer squad can

perform later in the school year. The kids might also be ready to hit the golf course competitively again. My wife and I enjoy helping them prepare by playing alongside them.

Throughout my career, I've been passionate about public works and more specifically, the water sector. I look forward to continuing to support the water industry as part of AWWA. If elected as Washington Trustee, I would be honored and fully dedicated to helping with the ongoing improvements being made in the PNWS-AWWA.

I received the SAC Activity award last year and the Heart and Soul award this year. For the Section, I have served as the Chair for the Training Coordination Committee, Vice Chair of the Subsection Advisory Council, Tapping Competition Coordinator, and participated in conference coordination and training events. I am a veteran and I believe in the quality of our military members and what they can contribute to our industry. With this belief and the desire to continue

to contribute, I am also involved with the AWWA Veterans Liaison Network.

AWWA is important to me, as a source of education for our members, and has done an excellent job providing training across the Section. This has not only been great training but it is where we reach many of the local operators that have not been exposed to the organization. The Section has also provided a community of professionals that have been mentors for me, who have given me insight on

ways for me to improve and to better the system I work for. I am extremely proud to be a member of the PNWS section, and the work that is done every day by its members, and I am always eager to give back to this community.

My wife Sheri and I have three kids: our oldest son, who is now becoming active in AWWA as well, is 26; another son, who is 24; and our daughter, who is 10. I enjoy being outdoors, building or fixing things, and helping others.

Section and provides professional growth of the individual members. With the high rate of retirements headed our way within the profession, getting young members involved is key to ensuring the success of not only the Section but the drinking water industry as a whole.

Through the years, I have attended numerous Trustee meetings and gained a high-level understanding of how the Board functions while also gaining an appreciation for the strategies developed by the Trustees. I am excited to dive into the details and learn more about the inner-workings of the

section in a collaborative way with the current and future Board members.

I have been with the City of Vancouver for 16 years in the water engineering department, where I started as a civil engineer for six years and then took over as the engineering manager ten years ago. In addition to being an engineer, I received my Water Distribution Manager 4 certification several years ago. I take pride in the strong working relationship that I have with our water operations staff, as I understand and respect the high level of knowledge and skill that operators in this field require.

On a personal note, I have been married for 22 years and have two boys, ages 12 and 15. We enjoy many outdoor activities together, including camping, hiking, rafting, snow and water skiing, and most importantly for me, fishing. I have also coached youth basketball for eight years and although time consuming, I find it very rewarding teaching kids about a sport I enjoy. I also enjoy watching my kids participate in a multitude of other activities. I appreciate the opportunity that the nominating committee and the board has given me to run for Washington Trustee and I look forward to future involvement in the Section.



## OREGON/IDAHO TRUSTEE



**JILL HOYENGA** City of The Dalles

It is an honor to be nominated for Trustee of the Pacific Northwest Section AWWA.

My participation in PNWS-AWWA has been a substantial contributor to my professional success. I feel like I am no longer in the building phase of my career and entering the mentorship phase; I am saying 'yes' to opportunities that allow me to serve in that capacity. The invitation to serve as Trustee is such an opportunity.

### **PNWS-AWWA Leadership Experience**

- Water Conservation Committee Leadership Team (1999-2003)
- Water Conservation Technician Sub-committee (2005-2010)
- Local Arrangements Chair for Eugene 2013 Conference
- Public Information Leadership Team 2016 to the present as Past Chair

### **Related Industry Experience**

- Irrigation Association Smart Water Application Technology (2002-2010): served as Initial Chair

- Alliance for Water Efficiency WaterSense and Water Efficient Products Committee (2007-2016): served as a member, then as Co-chair
- International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials Green Code Supplement (2009-2014): served as a member, then as Irrigation Task Group Chair
- American Water Works Association Standards Committee (2013-2016): served as a member
- PNWS-AWWA Water Resources Committee (2014-2016): served as a member



**JAMIE PORTER, P.E.** Rainbow Water District, Superintendent

It is both an honor and a privilege to be considered for the position of Oregon/Idaho Trustee.

I have great respect for AWWA and the amazing members of the PNWS Section, and I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute and give back to our Association.

My career has revolved around water. I served six years in the U.S. Navy, towards the end of the Cold War, operating a nuclear submarine steam plant and treating industrial process water. I attended Portland State University and worked for consultants

supporting groundwater remediation projects as a young engineer. I sampled digester sludge and worked with the business community to maintain the health of Wilsonville's storm and wastewater systems. I took a detour and served eight years as a non-profit business administrator, managing church volunteers, facilities and finances. For the last 10 years, I have managed a proud mid-sized groundwater utility in Springfield that is both a wholesale provider to the city's water utility and contracts to provide support to five rural water utilities in the county around us. Due to my utility's size, my duties are diverse. I work with

multiple volunteer Boards and perform engineering and planning, public affairs, finances and administration. One day, I am the CEO or CFO, the next day I may be checking wells and reading meters as a water operator.

I actively support both the Section and Subsection. My involvement has included:

- Cascade to Coast Subsection Treasurer (2012-2019)
- PNWS Audit Committee Member (2013-2014)
- Eugene Local Arrangements Committee Member (2013-2014)
- Subsection Advisory Council Activities Award (2014)



**KRISTINA GILLESPIE-JAQUES** Business Manager, Mountain Waterworks, Inc.

I am honored to be nominated for the Oregon/Idaho Trustee of the Pacific Northwest

Section of the American Waterworks Association. In the past 10 years, I have been privileged to be a part of this wonderful industry. I always tell people that if you love this industry, it will love you back. Both in my personal and professional life, I have gleaned from

the experiences I've had in serving as a leader in the water industry. I've performed numerous financial impact studies for water and wastewater utilities throughout the Northwest; utilized my education and skillset to build strategic relationships between state and federal regulatory and funding agencies – along with local, state, and national legislative bodies – to broaden the ability for utilities to create and maintain sustainable

infrastructure; and, most importantly, have assisted in supporting initiatives in the water industry to work towards a sustainable future for our communities. My work has allowed me to assist in strengthening the capacity of local and regional decision-makers to analyze infrastructure replacement issues and educate communities about the role of financing infrastructure.

In addition to supporting the mission of the Pacific Northwest Section of



- Lane Community College Water Conservation Technician Degree Program Advisory Committee, served as initial member and still presently serving
- Lane Community College Adjunct Professor for Water Conservation Technician Degree Program (2017 to present)

After 27 years of service at Eugene Water & Electric Board, I moved to the City of The Dalles, OR, to be closer to my son's growing family. I currently serve as Regulatory Compliance

Manager, responsible for ensuring that the City is in compliance with water, wastewater, stormwater and transportation regulations. I also serve as the Public Works Department's Public Information Officer. I am thankful for the City's support for my continued involvement in the Section.

My goal in service as your Trustee will be to maintain the health of PNWS so that this valuable resource is available to the next generation of professionals. To this end I would like to sustain recent initiatives rather

than start up a new effort (e.g. 2020 Vision Initiative).

I believe that a great strength of PNWS-AWWA is that committee work supports the diverse skill sets needed to manage and operate water utilities. I believe that fostering cooperative efforts between committees can create synergy that can drive innovation within our organization and utilities. If elected as your Trustee I hope to continue to foster a climate of success based on the diverse resources and potential synergy of our dedicated committee members.

- PNWS Distribution Committee Member (2015-2016)
- PNWS Budget Committee Member (2015-2020)
- Excellence in Communications Award (2016 & 2017)
- PNWS History Committee Member (2017-2018)
- PNWS Budget Committee Chair (2017-2019)
- Cascade to Coast President and Past-President (2019-2021)

I have been married to Cheryl for 33 years. We have five kids: three boys and two girls. We have a son, daughter and son-in-law serving in the U.S.

Air Force, a son working as a Mechanical Engineer for a defense and aerospace contractor, and a son just starting college to study business. Cheryl cares for a relative and continues to raise and homeschool our youngest daughter on our small farm.

With my involvement in the finances of both the Subsection and Section, I have a good understanding of how our volunteer organization operates. I have been able to interact with many of you over the last several years and appreciate the wealth of knowledge and experience that is provided by our members. COVID-19 has disrupted life as we know it.

Virtual meetings are not the same, and we miss the ability to meet as human beings and connect in person. We count on conferences and training events to generate income, and we have taken some hits from all the events canceled in 2020. I am at a good point in my career and my previous Subsection commitments are ending. I am excited for the chance to serve you as a Trustee, eager to help guide our Section's recovery and make us stronger as we move into the future. I thank each of you for what you do, and for taking the time to learn a little more about me.

AWWA, I am particularly interested in developing further philanthropic efforts for *Water For People*. It is my strong belief that delivery of safe, clean water is vital in the prevention of many ailments plaguing developing countries. I am also interested in assisting with the Government Relations Division, which supports public policy efforts to ensure sustainable, potable water delivery to all communities in the Northwest is achieved.

#### Education


- Boise State University, B.A. Political Science
- American Water Works Associations (AWWA) Utility Management

#### Professional Affiliations

- Board President, American Water Works Association (AWWA) Southwest Idaho Subsection
- Idaho Economic Development Association (IEDA)

#### Professional Profile

- [https://mountainwtr.com/staff\\_members/kristina-gillespie/](https://mountainwtr.com/staff_members/kristina-gillespie/)
- <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kristina-gillespie-jaques-827510b8/>

Thank you for your consideration of my nomination. 

### Northwest Oregon Subsection Update

#### Website Updates

Take a minute to visit the Northwest Oregon (NWOR) Subsection website (<https://sites.google.com/a/pnws-awwa.org/northwest-oregon/home>). We are making improvements to the site. The home page includes an improved overview of the Subsection, list of upcoming events, and links to become a member and view our Instagram, Facebook, and calendar.

The website includes announcements and downloadable copies of the Subsection Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, and monthly meeting minutes.

The 'Officers' page has been updated to include pictures, contact information, and position descriptions. The 'Committees' page will be updated soon and in a similar fashion.

#### NWOR Officers



##### **President – Matt Kaatz**

City of West Linn

[mkaatz@westlinnoregon.gov](mailto:mkaatz@westlinnoregon.gov) | 503-742-6083

##### **Officer Position Description**

Conducts the regular monthly meetings and ensures that the duties of the other three officers are being performed. Assists the other officers when needed and

answers any concerns from the members. Works closely with the Subsection's Committee Chairs and facilitates the goal setting and spending plan meetings of the Subsection. Ensures that the Subsection goals are in line with the Section's strategic plan and national goals and policies set by AWWA. Prepares, delivers and presents the Subsection's annual report to the PNWS-AWWA Board at the Winter Trustees Meeting.



##### **Vice President – Laura Oxsen**

3J Consulting, Inc.

[laura.oxsen@3j-consulting.com](mailto:laura.oxsen@3j-consulting.com) | 503-819-3028

##### **Officer Position Description**

Schedules monthly meetings for the year and confirms meetings at least two months prior to the meeting date. Assists the Secretary and Treasurer, as needed, at the regular monthly meetings. Arranges for continuing education units (CEUs) through ESAC for the regular monthly meetings through the Subsection Education Committee. Works with the staff of the local host utility/entity on logistics of the regular monthly meeting (including program content and meal). Assists with the preparation and presentation of the Subsection's annual report.



##### **Treasurer – Kyle Arnhart**

City of Tigard

[kylea@tigard-or.gov](mailto:kylea@tigard-or.gov) | 503-209-4476

##### **Officer Position Description**

Receives the revenue from the monthly meetings, registration/event fees and other donations. Records and deposits said revenue into the Subsection bank account. Maintains a current and balanced account record. Enters the financial transactions of the Subsection into an accounting program. Reports the Subsection's account balance information at the regular meetings. Assists the other officers and sub-committee chairs with the Subsection's work plan and spending plan development and oversees the implementation of the approved spending plan. Also assists with preparation of the Subsection's annual report.



##### **Secretary – Brooke Barry**

West Yost

[bbarry@westyost.com](mailto:bbarry@westyost.com) | 503-451-2146

##### **Officer Position Description**

Prepares monthly meeting minutes and submits them to the appropriate person to be included in the announcements for upcoming meetings. Takes meeting minutes at Subsection Board meetings and compiles them for occasional submittal to the bank. Assists the Treasurer with the collection of money at regular monthly meetings and may also assist the other officers with the preparation of the Subsection's annual report.

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### 2020 Holiday Party

Get wild, it's at the ZOO.  
Holiday Party 2020 will be  
Friday, December 18  
from 11-2.



It's never too early to be hunting for that perfect Ugly Sweater.

### Sponsorship for Holiday Party 2020

The NWOR Subsection is excited to reconnect with everyone after a long period of social isolation and event cancellations. We are thrilled to have the 2020 Holiday Party at a new venue: the Oregon Zoo. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic has not allowed us to collect our typical revenue through various events throughout the year. In order to make this event a success, we need your support.

Sponsorship of the 2020 Holiday Party is an opportunity for companies and individuals to show support of the Northwest Oregon Subsection. If you are interested in being a sponsor for this year's holiday party, please contact Laura Oxsen at [laura.oxsen@3j-consulting.com](mailto:laura.oxsen@3j-consulting.com).

### Thanks to the 2019 Holiday Party Sponsors:

Ferguson, Century West, Core and Main, Consolidated Supply, DN Tanks, WSC, West Yost Associates, McWane Ductile, General Pacific, MurrySmith, Stantec and Pace.

### Opportunities

We're currently looking for an energetic Young Professional (YP) Chair. A YP is anyone under the age of 35 and/or who has less than 10 years of experience in the water industry. We're also looking for the next incoming NWOR Subsection Officer. If interested, please contact Brooke Barry at [bbarry@westyost.com](mailto:bbarry@westyost.com).

Send us your photos: we'd love to see what your city or company is doing. Visit us on our social media accounts.



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