Colleen Chlarson

From:

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Sent:

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 6:59 AM

To:

Jeff C Johnson

Cc:

Lou Palomo; Colleen Chlarson

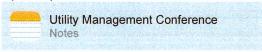
Subject:

"Utility Management Conference" travel report

Hafa Adai Jeff

By my oversight, forgot to send my travel report sooner. Senior moment. When I come to the office will have Colleen download the report and send to you. Thank you.

Open my shared note:



Senseramente

Si Doris Flores Brooks

Sent from my iPad

Utility Management Conference

American Water Works Association Sacramento California March 28-31, 2023

By Doris Flores Brooks
This was my first conference since my appointment in 2019 to the PUC.

Tuesday
Business of Cyber Risk Management Evolving our collective approach
Small group in attendance of under 30 people
CISA Water as priority
National cyber security
New reporting requirement:
CIRCIA Cyber Incident reports for critical infrastructure act of 2022
Mandates critical infrastructure systems to report cyber incident with 72 hours and 24 hours of ransomware. Implementation date expected reporting by 2025.

Cyber hygiene tool by federal government can be used to assessed utility Inquire if GWA has used this tool.

There is a national cybersecurity strategy

1. Defend critical infrastructure

There is a fiduciary obligation by the organization to manage cybersecurity risks.

EPA cyber rule March 2023

EPA checklist has 33 controls based on CISAs, CPGs, 16 are significant deficiencies if not implemented.

Cyber informed engineering CIE

Concept of using existing engineers in water organization to help address cyber security; be aware if processed cannot function how do you revert to manual operation. What happens if that function gets hacked?

Need to prioritize your cyber security risks

Protect the most crucial aspects of your processes

Can you function without SCADA?

What is the single point of failure?

Cyber security is a strategic issue Cyber champ STRIDE acronym Cyber insurance FM Global They insure the physical assets

After the pandemic not as many bond insurers accordingly municipal bond financing closer scrutiny

Cyber security risk starting in 2018 part of overall financing risk that rating agencies now look at general credit worthiness

Management of utility to mitigate risks and cyber risks one of those risks Emerging trends within cybersecurity for municipal financing

Ex. Brain drain unable to keep cybersecurity talent

AXIO co.

AWWA assessment good tool to use in your utility Make the assessment work for you How to quantify cyber risk 1 ransomware

- 1. Prioritize
- 2. For each scenario what is going to happen at the organization

Wrap up Legislative Coregulatory model sponsors Congressional action on SS approach

Regulatory
Comment on EPA guidance
Comment on ICR extension

For Wednesday attended 4 sessions

- 1. General session
- 2. Addressing Regulatory Concerns
- 3. Understanding affordability
- 4. Finance and affordability making an impact

The General session Approximately 1100 in attendance Chart the future of water what will it look like in 2050 Ifetayo Venner WEF President Challenges Workforce Digital transformation

Sarah Bromley Water for People non profit works outside the USA Universal access to water. What is that vision?

- 1. Joint vision
- 2. Political will
- 3. Joint plan
- 4. Action
- 5. Reflection

WED 04 Addressing Regulatory Concerns Deep Dive into PFAS Occurrence in California in Wastewater systems an implication for regulations

Uncertainties and blind spot Waste water is complex Outwed4 Inwed4

Addressing emerging regulatory concerns with federal funding programs Is Guam considered disadvantage community as funding maybe available What are SRF?

EPA

Integrated Risk management program rule amendments RMP rule
Know your hazard, respond to your hazard
140 different chemicals covered under this rule

Integrated EMERGENCY plan for various hazards What does an IPP look like RMP excessive program as part of an IPP

Understanding affordability
Discovering Harmful water pollutants, rules to address them
PFAS the forever chemical
Will new regulations water unaffordable?

What are the treatment options and their costs? CWSs = community water systems (UTILITIES)

Diagnosing affordability issues for your utility Plan, check, do, share

Finance and Affordability Making an impact

Making a difference with non rate Non fee revenue discretionary income not coming from fees up to \$7M set aside to fund community outreach projects. Any Fort Wayne participants? Just 363 employees with 300,000 customers by combining the outside district lower fees from \$122 plus to around \$85 a reduction of \$40 plus

Thursday

Sessions attended

- 1. Resilience/Emergency Preparedness
- 2. Transforming Utility Challenges to Business
- 3. Customer Service Engagement
- 4. Best Practices for Effective Asset Management

Resilience/Emergency Preparedness

Water Containment Information Tool (WCIT) A complementary reference tool on containments

Additional features: risk calculator, printable reports, access to on demand training versions

WCIT Eligible Users: water utilities, state and local agencies etc Inquire whether GWA has WICT Tool available to it

Governance is key to Developing an Integrated Flood Response Approach in Wash. DC. DC FLOOD TASK FORCE .org. GOVT agencies got together to address the flooding in WASH. DC 13 Agencies involved

3rd speaker When it pours: Organizational Learning in the Face of Extreme Rain Utilities have to plan for more climate intensity Workforce development

Transforming Utility Challenges to Business

Charlotte Water Return to Normal Delinquency Operations
During the pandemic Charlotte Water suspended disconnections for about 18 months. This was in part due to Governor's E.O.

Customer Service Engagement New Measurements of Performance Advancing customer levels of service at the city of Calgary

Takeaways

Direct mail works simple black and while postcard in English only

Best practices for effective asset management

Interactive and dynamic online asset management Used share point web based by Microsoft Active Directory Microsoft security software All Microsoft ware software was used

Using Asset Management Analytics to Maximize Risk Reduction
Why Asset Management Analytics? To prioritize limited resources
Risk score consequence of failure of this asset likely hood of failure and consequence of
failure
Homegrown software versus COTS commercial of the shelf system.
They used homegrown situation as much cheaper
Involve key stakeholders, have a champion, start small

Leveraging legislative requirements to enhance sustainability Ex. Tarpin Springs FL used a consultant to develop asset management program

Friday was half day Sessions attended

- 1. Utility Sustainability
- 2. Risk Management: Planning for the Unpreventable

Utility sustainability focus on ESG (Environment social, governance) reporting Framework: ESG Strategy, ESG Objectives, Goals Metrics, projects, program's initiatives, ESG Report , Disclosure framework Show what you know and acknowledge what you don't know

Elements of RSG REPORT FORWARD from senior mgmt Upon reflection would have attended a different session rather than ESG

We never know the worth of water until we'll run dry, River is low etc In the middle lies opportunity Albert Einstein
Santa Monica water history
Santa Monica Sustainable
Santa Monica one water approach
Vision water self sufficient 18 from conservation
Pathways to water self sufficiency
Blueprint for sustainable infrastructure in civil infrastructure

Think beyond water one water call for action Thousands have lived without love, but not without water

How do sustainable intersect Methodology of assessing internal Assessing framework for risk and impact There a number of different ESG frameworks to choose from

Why should utilities leaders care about ESG.
ESG Risks starting to be incorporated in credit ratings evaluation
ESG still relatively new
No common standard
ESG legislation and anti legislation
Strategic plans
Focusing on resilience, equity to customers
New positions being created on equity, sustainability etc.
How do we get there?
Start with what and why
Identify and engage stakeholders
Assess your risk impact with metrics b
Complete an internal evaluation
Verify, validate and iterate

Friday

Planning the unpreventable

Resilient strategies to address chains risk

Framework of asset management has changed, mitigation of risk, not just repair cost but also asset replacement

Risky water marriage of risk management, data analysis, and environment sciences Risk framework develop likelihood of failure (LOF) and Consequence of failure (COF)

Final speaker Houston implements an automated risk basked capacity and condition evaluation model for its 6,000 miles of wastewater gravity pipes Real time expectation tell me what need to be done,

Houston 10 step process for wastewater planning

- 1. Existing data review
- 2. Assess condition summary
- 3. Etc.

GIS is used a lot

Probability of failure, consequence of failure

Combination of internal and external consultants in the development of the project over several years

Conclusion

The tour of GWA's northern district water sewer facility just before I left for the conference was most enlightening as aspects of sewer management were sprinkled some of the sessions that I attended. Accordingly I had a better understanding of what the speakers were saying when it came to waste management.

I came away from the conference knowing that GWA is holding its own when compared to other stateside facilities. The utility management conference was geared more to utility management and those working in the utilities and not necessarily to utility regulators. However for me the conference was most informative and gave me a better understanding of my role Vic a vie GWA on the PUC.

Thank you Lou and Colleen in getting me registered and processing my travel request and related administrative work of this travel request.

Thank you Chairman Jeff for approving my first conference. Hopefully I will be given the opportunity to attend future utility conferences for power and others.

Senseramente

Doris Flores Brooks

Summary of sessions attended

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of Hours # of Hours Spent in this Short Title Short Title Spent in this Session Session BUS, OF CYBER RA MONT EVOLVING COLLEGY OPENNING GEN. MECKNY CONCERS 90 20 90 120 90 THUR DZ ARGUBRY TO MUPDERNS 3 90 TRANZERANDE CHIL & SERVICE TE LUNG HELY 30 90 WELSO All FORM Please Print Legibly! 9 Attendee Name: (19/ 1464) Badge Number: PLANVING POCY (printed under barcode on your badge) IN PORO PATABLE Attendee Signature: Attesting to the accuracy of information presented on this form. See below for submission instructions.

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