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**Vice-Chair**  
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**Secretary**  
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John S. Olsson \* 402-458-5661

**Past Chair**  
David Lathrop \* 402-641-4760

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Milo Rust \* 308-432-0506  
Brittany Travers \* 402-880-0321  
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Brian Gongol \* 515-223-4144

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Dr. Xu Li \* 402-472-6042

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**Young Professionals**  
Brittany Travers \* 402-880-0321  
Andrew Synhorst \* 402-540-3271

**By-laws Ad Hoc**  
Rick Melcher\* 402-694-6992

**TWS Ad Hoc**  
John Olsson\* 402-458-5661

**Wise Water Words Ad Hoc**  
Mary Poe\* 402-471-1003



# Nebraska Section American Water Works Association

PO Box 94791 • Lincoln, NE 68509-4791  
402-957-2482 • [awwaneb.org](http://awwaneb.org)

## NSAWWA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Meeting date, time and location: May 15, 2015 @ 0900, Woodland Hills Golf Course, Eagle, Nebraska (From Lincoln, go 10 miles East from the intersection of S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Old Cheney Road. From Eagle, go 3 miles South on 21<sup>th</sup> Street, then 1 mile East on "B" Road, then 1 mile South on N 6<sup>th</sup> Road, then 1/2 mile West on "C" Road (Old Cheney Road).

Call-in Number and Participation Code: (800)704-9804 code 83795334#

Roll Call @ 0900

Approval of March 16, 2015 Meeting Minutes (motion)

Chair's Report

Director's Report

Treasurer's Report (motion)

Committee Reports

Unfinished Business

BOD approval of Draft By-laws for membership consideration and National review.

On-line Training Grants (CEH)

NSAWWA Membership requirement for Committee Membership (Utility Membership representation)

Choose topic for Fall Conference (Angela Buzzard, KC Environmental Finance Center: Utility Finance and Rate Setting, Asset Management for Small Utilities\*, Water Conservation Strategies for Cities, Lessons Learned from the Last Drought, Customer Communication for Utilities, Communicating With Your Board\*, Utility Energy Efficiency or Energy Management)

New Business

Donation to "Water Buffaloes" organization

Ensure all board meeting minutes are transferred to the Archives & History Committee for retention (what do we want to keep how do we want to keep these records?).

NSAWWA Summer Retreat (Yes/No, location/date/time).

Next Meeting Date, Time and Location:

Conference Call or in-person?

Adjourn (motion)

## PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

May 12, 2015

Brian Gongol, chair - brian@gongol.net

### WEBSITE

Occasional updates have been made to the website as requested by the board and committees. These have included updates on the Water for People golf outing, the SDWA workshop for small systems, and the call for papers for the Fall Conference, among other items.

- *If you have committee updates or if you change your committee SOPs, please let me know so we can change your committee's page accordingly. Remember that all SOPs are listed alongside the committee names and chairs shown at <http://www.awwaneb.org/committees>.*

### MULTIMEDIA

Our YouTube channel has been viewed 8,954 times since its inception on September 7th, 2011 and currently has four subscribers. No new videos have been posted this year.

### E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST

The e-mail distribution list is steady at 208 members. If you have announcements worth sharing, please send them directly (exactly as you want them to appear to the recipients) to [awwaneb@gongol.net](mailto:awwaneb@gongol.net).

- *I would encourage the board and committee members to recruit their co-workers to join the mailing list for updates. It's open to everyone, including non-members, since it's intended to serve as both a news-delivery device and a recruitment tool.*

### WISE WATER WORDS

The spring edition of Wise Water Words was mailed out earlier this month. The total cost to print and distribute was \$2.01 per copy, which is under the \$2.46 per copy that the committee requested in our annual budget. It took some learning on the logistical end of things, but now we know how much to expect and how to keep our costs controlled for future editions.

Submissions for the summer edition were due on May 1st, but we're keeping it open until we can get the final reports from this board meeting. Please send in committee updates, reports, columns, and so forth whenever you have them to share. They'll go to the website first, and into Wise Water Words as the publication schedule permits. In other words, please do not feel constrained by the publication calendar; just send in news as you have it. We're re-distributing links to the articles via our Facebook and Twitter accounts, too. Thank you!

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# Nebraska Section American Water Works Association

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## Online Training Grants

I propose that \$500 be allocated every quarter to assist Nebraska Section AWWA members in obtaining online training from AWWA offerings. Unused allocations may roll-over to next quarter.

Every quarter I suggest an email be sent out with latest available online training offerings going out six months to all NSAWWA members. *(Who would do this email? A member of education committee, e.g. Mike Wentink or John Keith?... or David Lathrop for first year?)*

Requests will be accepted for two weeks from notification.

Requests may be made for any online trainings up to six months in advance.

All the requests will be honored until the \$500 allocation is exhausted. Training requests will be prioritized based on the following criteria in order of precedence.

- 1) Individuals who have received an approval memo for training in the past year will be given lowest priority and put at the end of the request list.
- 2) Groups of three or more will be given higher priority than individuals. All group requests must agree to host at least six individuals. The host must agree to notify water operators (AWWA members or non-members) in surrounding area.
- 3) Individuals or groups will not be awarded more than one training grant each quarter.
- 4) Requests will then be prioritized based on a first come first serve basis.

Requests will be officially approved by NSAWWA by a memo.

Training must be paid up front and it will be reimbursed with a record of attendance and receipt of the invoice.

If a group watches an online offering the group must register at the group AWWA rate.

# Small System Operator Training to Achieve/Maintain Compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act



**When: May 7, 2015**

**Where: Carol Joy Holling Center**

Registration begins at 8:30 am

27416 Ranch Road

**Preregister Early** – Seating is Limited

Ashland, Nebraska

**Continuing Education Hours:** 6.0 hours for Nebraska water operator grades I - IV

**Directions to Carol Joy Holling Center** - From I-80 exit 426, turn North onto Hwy 66 and travel toward Ashland. Prior to Ashland, turn East onto Ranch Road. Continue on Ranch Road to the end.

Your utility faces daily-to-day challenges providing reliable, safe drinking water for your customers while avoiding costly violations. The Nebraska Section AWWA is offering a **FREE** one-day workshop to help your utility learn about compliance with drinking water regulations and steps to avoid costly violations.

This workshop is designed for operators of water systems serving less than 10,000 people, and not intended for regulators, consultants or vendors/manufacturers.

## AGENDA

<b>Registration</b>	8:30 am to 8:55 am
<b>Introduction (Housekeeping details)</b> David Lathrop, Nebraska DEQ	8:55 am to 9:00 am
<b>Water Treatment - Microbial Contaminants</b> David Lathrop, Nebraska DEQ; John Keith, LWS	9:00 am to 10:30 am
Break	10:30 am to 10:45 am
<b>Disinfection By-Products Reduction and Control</b> Mary Poe, Nebraska DHHS; Mike Wentink, Nebraska DHHS	10:45 am to 12:15 am
<b>Lunch (Free - provided by Nebraska Section AWWA)</b>	12:15 pm to 1:15 pm
<b>Distribution System Operation and Maintenance</b> Brian Gongol, DJ Gongol & Associates, Inc.	1:15 pm to 2:45 pm
Break	2:45 pm to 3:00 pm
<b>Regulatory Review – Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR), Lead/Copper, Groundwater Rule</b> Howard Isaacs, Nebraska DHHS; Sherry Wirth, Nebraska DHHS	3:00 pm to 4:30 pm



## Workshop Registration Form

Submit completed registration form by email to David Lathrop at [david.lathrop@nebraska.gov](mailto:david.lathrop@nebraska.gov), or it can be mailed to:

John Keith, Lincoln Water System, PO Box 144, 401 Hwy 6, Ashland, NE 68003

Workshop Title: **Small System Operator Training**

Date: **May 7, 2015**

Location: **Carol Joy Holling Center near Ashland, NE** Website: <http://cjhcenter.org/>

Registration: **FREE**

A registration form is required for each individual attendee

<b>REQUIRED Information</b>	
First name	
Last name	
Job title	
Public Water System name	
Mailing address	
City	
State	
Zip code	
Phone number	
Population served by water system	<input type="checkbox"/> 0-500 <input type="checkbox"/> 501-3,300 <input type="checkbox"/> 3,301-10,000
Email address (if available)	
<b>OPTIONAL Information</b>	
Public Water System ID Number	NE31 -
AWWA Customer ID #	
How did you hear about the training?	<input type="checkbox"/> NSAWWA Website <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Other

To cancel your registration at any time, contact David Lathrop at 402-471-4252, or John Keith at 402-441-1622

*This workshop is made possible by funding through the USEPA and AWWA's partner, the Rural Community Assistance Partnership*

**A complimentary RTCR eLearning course is also available - Secure your spot early!** Register at <http://www.awwa.org/resources-tools/water-knowledge/small-systems/2015-small-systems-training.aspx>



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Jim Shields \* 402-504-7457  
Eric Lehman \* 605-593-1241

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Jon Zellars \* 402-504-7913

**Small Systems**  
Eric Melcher \* 402-694-6992

**Water for People**  
Christian New \* 402-330-2202

**Water Utility Council**  
Jim Shields \* 402-504-7457

**Young Professionals**  
Justin Stine \* 402-435-3080  
Craig Reinsch \* 402-458-5671



# Nebraska Section American Water Works Association

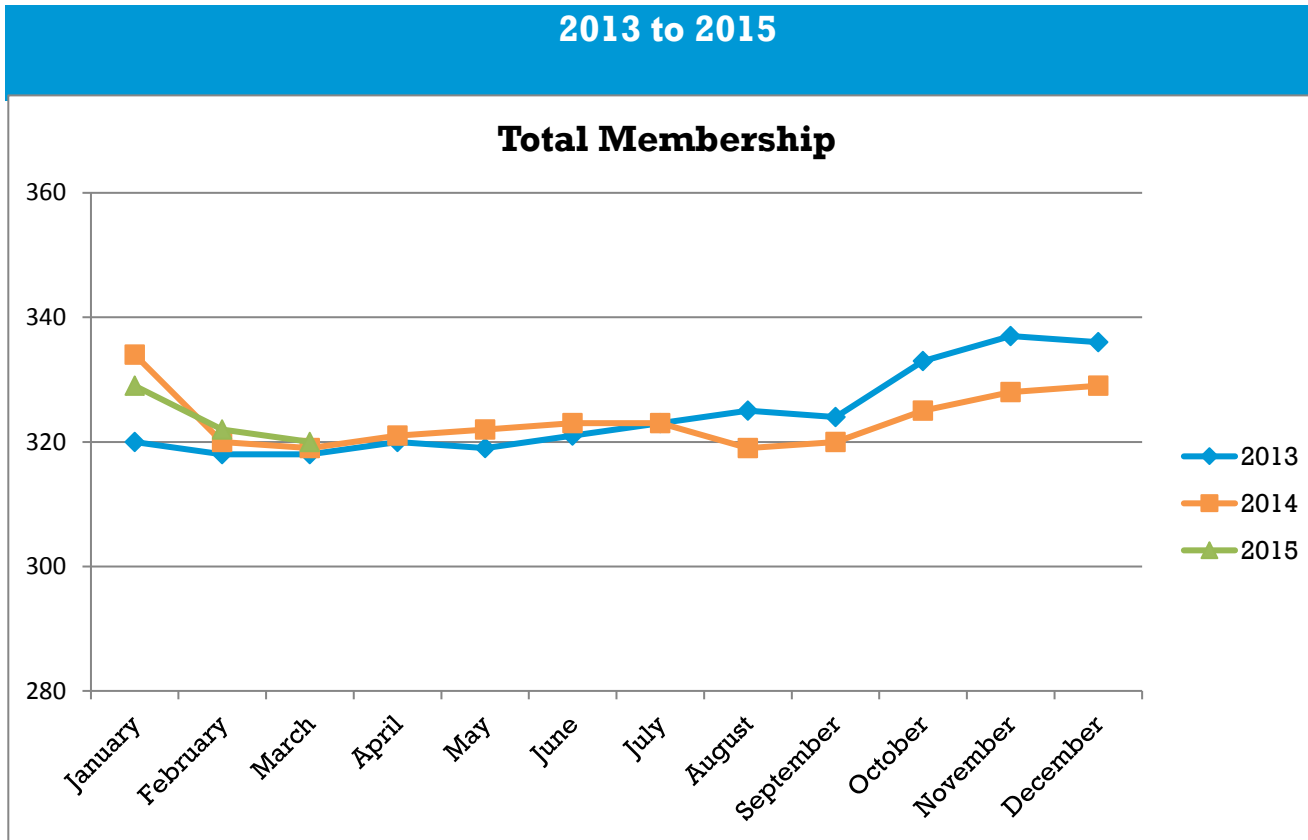
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May 15, 2015  
Board of Directors Memorandum  
Board Meeting, Woodland Hills GC

We currently have 341 active members with 8 late. Our section recently rose back to #2 in retention which was a nice change after being the middle of the Section pack in late 2014. Attached is the most current membership tracking report. Generally we are following the past few years. In the first week of April and May we contacted late members to regain their membership. We are beginning to plan for Fall Conference and more details of that membership drive will be available at the next Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc E. Rosso, PE  
Nebraska Section AWWA Membership Committee Chair



## **AWWA Directors Report – May 2015**

### **Strategic Initiatives (partial)**

- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Membership Model – work is ongoing. Conducting interviews with utilities to gauge perception issues. The Association is being very deliberate and cautious so as to minimize unintended consequences. More details to be provided at ACE.
- AWWA India – Planned opening date of July 1, 2015 in Mumbai.
- CE Corps – 26 projects in motion, including seven new ones in 2015.
- Federal and Regulatory – *2015 Water Matters Fly In* is in the books. Main messages include **repeal the prohibition on using tax exempt debt in combination with WIFIA loans and fully fund both SRF's and WIFIA.**
- Total Water Solutions – Work is beginning on two new standards, including one intended for stormwater. Fall conference technical programs include presentations by professionals working on wastewater, water, reuse and stormwater.

### **Strategic Goals**

#### Member Engagement and Development

- Current membership is up over 2013 and 2014 @ 50,275.

#### Knowledge Creation and Exchange

- Registration at ACE 15 is slightly behind 2014, but not by much.

#### Organizational Stewardship

#### Leadership and Advocacy

### **Miscellaneous**

- Visiting AWWA Dignitary for Fall Conference: Tom Moulton - Ontario Water Works Association.
- President Elect Candidates: Brenda Lennox – Pacific Northwest Section; Sandy Smith – Georgia Section.
- Region IV Section Services Manager – Terry Walters, 303.347.6215; Email: [twalters@awwa.org](mailto:twalters@awwa.org).

Respectfully Submitted,

John S. Olsson  
Nebraska Section Director



To: NSAWWA Board  
From: John Keith, Chair  
Education Committee  
Date: May 15, 2015

Education Committee Report

**Committee Members**

John Keith, Chair      Mike Wentink  
Brian Gongol          Rob Pierce              Steve Kelley

**Happenings**

1. Rob indicates there have been 11 water workshops events including 154 paid operators/registrants in attendance. Ten (10) more training sessions are scheduled in 2015.
2. The EPA Small System Grant “Area 1” training was held May 7, 2015 at Camp Carol Joy Holling Center outside Ashland Nebraska. This workshop was required to be provided at no costs to attendees per the Grant requirements. There were twenty-three (23) attendees representing 18 small systems. We did get total \$300 donations from Black & Veatch, JEO and Olsson’s to “sponsor” donuts, snacks and beverages. Costs for the workshop included:

<b>Expense</b>	<b>Cost (\$)</b>
Facility	\$270
Meals	\$645
Supplies	\$215
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,130</b>

3. Next up is the the EPA Small System Grant “Area 2” training to be held as part of The NSAWWA Fall Conference. The Section will team with the Environmental Financial Center Network and AWWA to provide the training focused on small system ability to improve financial and managerial capacity.



## **Ad-Hoc Committee Report – Total Water Solutions May 12, 2015**

*The committee has continued to dialogue via email over the last couple months. We have developed a list of water professionals representing a variety of sectors within the state. We intended to meet with/interview each of them to get their thoughts on a number of issues and seek ideas for collaboration. The contact list and possible discussion questions are below. We are planning to have the conversations completed by July 31, 2015.*

### **Conversation and Discussion Assignments**

- Jay Rempe, Vice President/Gov't Relations - Farm Bureau - **Brian**
- Lee Orton, NE Well Drillers and State Irrigation Association – **Steve**
- Dean Edson, Nebraska Association of Resource Districts – **Joel**
- Rohric Pohlman, NE Water Balance Alliance – **Joel**
- Dr. Bruce Dvorak, Former Interim Director of NE Water Center and UNL Civil Eng. Professor – **Mike**
- Jack Daniel, Retired Health and Human Services – **Tony**
- Bill Sydow, Director of the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission – John
- Dr. Chittaranian Ray, NE Water Center – Ben
- Don Blankenau, Water Law Attorney – Brian, Mike
- Jay Ringenberg or Jim Macy, Deputy Director or Director for NDEQ – Dale

### **Possible Conversation Starter's**

- What concept related to water do you feel is least understood by the general public and what methods can be used to improve the public's understanding?
- What collaborative stakeholder approaches to water quality and quantity issues are currently in place?
- How do we best bring the various stake-holders together to discuss solutions to water quantity and quality issues that build upon approaches that are now in place?
- What do you think are the two most important water issues in Nebraska?
- What is the current DEQ thinking in Nebraska with regard to indirect potable reuse or direct potable reuse of treated wastewater effluent?
- How do you think NE is doing regarding a holistic approach to water management? Any thoughts on what could be done to improve the situation or existing roadblocks that are in the way?

Respectfully Submitted,

John S. Olsson  
Committee Chair