Safe drinking water is our business. Nebraska Section American Water Works Association.
1998 meetings and training

Board meetings
All meetings, with the exception of the Fall Conference, will be held at 9:30 a.m., at the Johnson, Erickson, O’Brien Offices, 142 W. 11th St., Wahoo, NE. All members are invited to attend.

March 11
May 21
July 29
September 23
November 4-5 (Fall Conference)

Video teleconferences
March 12 "Maintaining Water Quality in the Distribution System," 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. CST, with down links in Ashland (Lincoln Water Plant); Gering Civic Center; Hastings Community College, and Wayne State College. Water operator recertification available.

October 22 "Risk Management," with tentative down links as noted in above teleconference.

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March 24 Chadron, Best Western, 1110 W. 10th St.
March 25 Kimball Library, 208 S. Walnut St.
March 26 North Platte, Stockman Inn, I-80 & Hwy. 83

April 7 Ainsworth
April 8 Neligh
April 9 Ashland

May 7 Sutton (Nebraska Rural Water)
June 23 Wausa (Nebraska Rural Water)
July 22 David City (Nebraska Rural Water)
August 11 Auburn (Nebraska Rural Water)
August 20 Sutherland (Nebraska Rural Water)

September 15 Imperial
September 16 Holdrege
September 17 Columbus

October 13 Broken Bow
October 14 Minden

(Continued on page 2, column 2)
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1998 meetings and training
(continued from inside front cover)

Water Operator training
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October 15  Seward
October 20  Greeley (Nebraska Rural Water)
November 9  Imperial (Nebraska Rural Water)
December 8  Norfolk
December 9  Wahoo
December 10  Nebraska City
December 15  St. Paul (Nebraska Rural Water)
December 16  Brunswick (Nebraska Rural Water)

Backflow and Cross-Connection Seminars
Sponsored by the Nebraska Section and League of Nebraska Municipalities, unless noted

April 8       Hemingford (Nebraska Rural Water)
April 9       Valentine (Nebraska Rural Water)
May 6        Broken Bow (Nebraska Rural Water)
May 20       Bayard (Nebraska Rural Water)
June 24      Albion (Nebraska Rural Water)
July 16       Atkinson (Nebraska Rural Water)
August 12    Wymore (Nebraska Rural Water)
September 8  Seward (Nebraska Rural Water)
September 9  Fremont (Nebraska Rural Water)
September 29 Beatrice
September 30 Grand Island
October 1    Ogallala
October 21   Hartington (Nebraska Rural Water)
November 10  Cozad (Nebraska Rural Water)
November 24  Clarkson (Nebraska Rural Water)
December 3   Gering (Nebraska Rural Water)
December 17  Tecumseh (Nebraska Rural Water)

Backflow and Cross-Connection Grade IV Certification
July 27-31  Norfolk Fire Training Center (Nebraska Rural Water)
November 30 through
December 4  Gering (Nebraska Rural Water)

1998 Nebraska Health & Human Services Water Operator training
Cost is $200 for a one-week class, $30 for text book and $10 for certification. To register, call Dawn or Jo Ann, 402.471.2541.

Grade 4
April 21-22  Norfolk
September 2-3  North Platte

Grade 3
May 11-15  Norfolk
August 17-21  Grand Island

Grade 2
December 7-11  Omaha
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Ductile Iron Pipe Research Associates  John C. Anderson
EA Engineer Science & Technology  Lee N. Gustafson
Eagle Plastics, Inc.  Jack Hibbs
Ehrhart Griffin & Associates  Robert G. Griffin
City of Elkhorn  Errol L. Hald
Elliott & Associates Consulting Group  Gene L. Spence
Village of Elm Creek  Harlan L. Zimmerman
Eriksen Construction Co., Inc.  John E. Eriksen
Farmland Foods, Inc.  Doug Rainforth
Ford Meter Box  Roy W. Keitel
City of Franklin  LeRoy Sweet
City of Fremont  Larry Andreasen, Jon K. McCafferty, Warren W. Sund
Garber & Work  Marvin L. Garber
City of Geneva  Robert D. Higel
Gerard Tank & Steel, Inc.  L.J. Gerard
Gilmore & Associates Inc.  Keith L. Gilmore
Global Industries  Bob Eversoll
City of Gordon  Fred Hlava
Grand Island Water & Light  Thomas W. Barnes, Timothy Luchsinger, Gary R. Mader, Robert H. Smith
City of Gretna  Norman A. Connelly
Griffith Pipe Products Co.  Breton Bleske, Jeff Van Osdal
Grimm Construction Co., Inc.  Peter V. Grimm
Groundwater Foundation  Susan S. Seacrest
Hach Co.  Herb Thies
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ARTICLE I—NAME

1. The name of this organization shall be the “NEBRASKA SECTION OF THE AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION,” hereinafter referred to as the “Section.”

2. In these Bylaws, the American Water Works Association is hereinafter referred to as the “Association.”

ARTICLE II—OBJECT

The objectives of this Section shall be the purpose of the Association as stated in the Articles of Incorporation as follows:

a. Advancing the knowledge of the design, construction, operation, water treatment, and management of water utilities and developing standards for procedures, equipment, and materials used by public water supply systems;

b. Advancing the knowledge of the problems involved in the development of resources, production, and distribution of safe and adequate water supplies;

c. Educating the public on the problems of water supply and promoting a spirit of cooperation between consumers and suppliers in solving these problems; and

d. Conducting research to determine the causes of problems of providing a safe and adequate water supply and proposing solutions thereto in an effort to improve the quality and quantity of the water supply provided to the public.

ARTICLE III—MEMBERSHIP

The membership of this Section shall consist of those members of the American Water Works Association residing in or having principal business activity in the Nebraska Section and those assigned to the Nebraska Section by the Executive Director of the American Water Works Association.

ARTICLE IV—DUES AND FEES

There shall be no dues assessed against members of the Section, except that the Section may apply for permission to levy an assessment in accordance with AWWA Governing Documents in order to increase its funds available for Section uses consistent with Association objectives and policies.

ARTICLE V—HEADQUARTERS

The headquarters of this Section shall be at the office of the Secretary except as some other location may be specifically designated by the Section Governing Board.

ARTICLE VI—SECTION OFFICERS AND GOVERNING BOARD

1. The Officers of the Section shall be as follows:

a. A Chair.

b. A Chair-Elect.

c. A Vice-Chair.

d. A Secretary.

e. A Treasurer.

f. A Representative on the Association’s Board of Directors, hereinafter called the “Director.”
Three Trustees—One of whom shall be the last living Past-Chair of the Section.

2. The above Officers shall constitute the Section Governing Board, hereinafter called the “Board,” which shall be the governing body of the Section.

3. The Officers of the Section shall execute its business in accordance with the Bylaws of the Section and the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Governing Documents of the American Water Works Association.

4. The term of each of the Officers shall be approximately one year, beginning and ending at the close of the Section Annual Conference, except in the case of the Director, whose term shall be approximately three years as provided for by the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Governing Documents of the American Water Works Association.

5. Any member of the Section shall be eligible to hold Section elective office except those who are Student Members of the Association or who are members of the Section via multi-section membership privileges.

ARTICLE VII—DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

1. The duties of the Chair shall be to: a) supervise and coordinate all of the affairs of the Section; b) preside at all meetings of the Section and of the Board; and c) appoint all Committees of the Section, except as may be otherwise specifically provided herein or directed by the Board.

2. The Chair-Elect shall: a) perform the duties of the Chair in the Chair’s absence; and b) perform other duties as may be assigned by the Chair or the Board.

3. The Vice-Chair shall: a) perform the duties of the Chair or Chair-Elect in their absence; b) perform other duties as may be assigned by the Chair or the Board.

4. The Secretary shall: a) attend all meetings of the Section and of the Board, duly recording the proceedings thereof; b) prepare such records, reports and correspondence as may be required by the Board or by the Association to properly record the Section activities; and c) perform other duties as the Board may direct. In the absence of the Secretary the duties of the Secretary shall be performed by the Treasurer.

5. The Treasurer shall: a) be responsible for Section funds and shall establish and keep accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in accordance with the Association Uniform System of Section Accounting; b) be responsible to collect all monies due the Section and shall promptly deposit the same to the credit of the Section in a depository approved by the Board; c) perform all the duties laid down in Article XI of the Governing Documents of the American Water Works Association; and 4) perform other duties as the Board may direct.

6. The Director shall be a member of the Section’s Board (and of the American Water Works Association’s Board of Directors) in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Governing Documents of the American Water Works Association and shall represent each one of those bodies in the deliberations of the other and shall act to coordinate and unify their actions.

7. The Trustees shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Chair and have equal voting rights with that of other members of the Board.

ARTICLE VIII—THE SECTION GOVERNING BOARD

1. Meetings of the Board shall be called by the Chair on his or her own initiative or at the request of any other member of the Board. There shall be at least one meeting of the Board during the annual meeting of the Section.

2. A quorum of the Board shall consist of at least five of its members.

3. The Board shall have general supervision over all of the affairs of the Section and shall be its legal representative in all matters except as this duty may be specifically delegated.

The Board shall prepare as needed, and enforce the conduct of the business of the Section regulations not in conflict with these Bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, or Governing Documents of the American Water Works Association, and shall amend same as required.

ARTICLE IX—ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. Nominating Committee

Not later than March 1 of each year, the Section Chair shall appoint a nominating committee of three members who are not officers of the Section. The nominating committee shall select one nominee for each of the following offices: Chair-Elect, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, three Trustees, one of whom shall be the last living Past-Chair of the Section who is a member of the Section; and, at three-year intervals, shall select one nominee for the office of the Director. The Section Chair-Elect shall automatically assume the office of Section Chair. The Committee’s nominations shall be in the hands of the Secretary not later than July 31. Upon receipt of the nominations, the Secretary shall, within twenty days, mail to each member a notice setting forth the nominations of the nominating committee and stating the date, time, and place of the next general meeting, at which the elections will be held. Should the nominating committee fail to act by July 31, the
Secretary shall notify the members by mail, stating that all nominations will be from the floor at the Section’s general meeting, the date, time, and place of which shall be included in the notice to the members.

2. Election

At the Section’s general meeting, the Chair shall read the notice as issued by the Secretary, after which he or she shall call for and receive additional nominations from the membership assembled. Separate balloting shall be conducted for each office. The Chair may accept a motion for a unanimous ballot for such nominee. A majority of the votes cast shall be required to elect. All members of the Section in good standing are eligible to vote, except for multi-section members.

3. Vacancies

Should the Chair of the Section be unable to complete the term of office, the duties of the office shall be performed by the Chair-Elect.

Should the Chair-Elect be unable to complete the term of office, the duties of the office shall be performed by the Vice-Chair.

Should the Trustee who serves by virtue of being the Past-Chair be unable to complete the term of office, the Board shall appoint a previous Past-Chair to serve as Trustee or, if there is none able or willing to serve, a qualified member of the Section to fill the vacancy.

Should the Secretary or Treasurer be unable to complete the term of office, the Board shall appoint either:

a. One of their number to perform the duties of Secretary or Treasurer for the balance of the term, or

b. A qualified member of the Section to fill the vacancy for the balance of the term.

Should the Director be unable to complete the term of office, the Board shall appoint a successor to serve the remainder of the term, and the Secretary shall notify the Executive Director of the Association of such selection.

ARTICLE IX—MEETINGS

1. The Section shall hold at least one general meeting in each calendar year for the purpose of conducting the Section’s business, electing officers, receiving reports of the various officers and committees, promoting the interests of the Association and advancing the technical and administrative knowledge of the members. The time and place of the general meeting shall be fixed by the Board.

2. The Section may hold other meetings from time to time for the purpose of presenting technical papers on a subject of special interest, workshops, educational seminars, etc. The time and place of these meetings may be set by the Board or by a committee appointed by the Board for this purpose subject to the other provisions of this article.

3. It is the policy of this Section to endeavor to cooperate with other Sections of the American Water Works Association to prevent conflict of meeting dates with those of other Sections’ meetings and especially with those of the adjoining Sections. The Section may, if deemed advisable by the Board, hold joint meetings with other adjoining Sections or with other organizations having mutual interests, such as the Nebraska Water Environment Association, Nebraska Section American Public Works Association or the Utilities Section of the Nebraska League of Municipalities.

If such joint meetings are held, any business meetings of the Section shall be open to all interested individuals, but only those holding membership in the Section shall have voting rights. Further, the Section’s participation in such joint meetings shall be clearly identified and publicized, and the Section shall have an approximately equal share of the program.

ARTICLE X—AMENDMENTS

1. Proposals for the amendment of these Bylaws may originate by the unanimous vote of the Section Governing Board or they may originate by the submission to the Secretary of a written petition signed by at least ten members of the Section. Upon an amendment being proposed in either of these two manners, the Secretary shall furnish each member a copy of the proposed amendment. The proposed amendment shall then be voted upon by the members at the next annual meeting in a manner similar to that provided for the election of officers (Article IX of these bylaws), or may at the discretion of the Board be voted upon by letter ballot, provided, however, in either case all members shall have at least thirty days in which to consider the proposed amendment prior to a vote upon it.

2. Upon favorable action having been taken as to an amendment in the foregoing manner, the Secretary of the Section shall then submit same to the Executive Director of the American Water Works Association for approval or disapproval by the Association’s Board of Directors. Upon notification by the Association’s Secretary that the amendment has been approved by the Board of Directors, it shall thereupon become effective.

3. Personal pronouns referring to either the masculine or to the feminine gender in the Bylaws shall be considered interchangeable where applicable and as the context requires or permits.
I. INTRODUCTION

The strategic plan is a definition of the Nebraska Section American Water Works Association’s (NSAWWA’s) role in meeting the challenges facing the water supply industry. The plan outlines the objectives and activities the Section should undertake.

The strategic plan is a statement of Section priorities. It must be integrated into the short-and long-term planning efforts of the committees. Each committee must determine how to prioritize and implement activities in support of the plan.

II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

A. NSAWWA recognizes the need for it’s officers, Board of Trustees, and membership to have well-established objectives to provide continuity and guidance for the volunteers who make up the working committees of the Section.

B. The objectives and resultant actions in this plan have been developed for the purpose of guiding Section activities to address the challenges to be faced by the water supply industry.

C. The committees must play a key role in implementing NSAWWA’s priorities as reflected in this plan.

III. MISSION STATEMENT

The Nebraska Section American Water Works Association is dedicated to the promotion of public health and welfare of assuring drinking water of unquestionable quality and sufficient quantity.

NSAWWA, as a leader for the drinking water industry, must be an effective instrument of change by advancing technology, sound science, and governmental policies and regulations relative to the drinking water industry’s role in stewardship of water resources.

IV. SUMMARY OF GOALS

A. Promote Communication and Understanding Between Consumers and Suppliers. To maintain effective communications and credibility with consumers.

B. Actively Respond to Environmental Concerns. To demonstrate NSAWWA’s commitment to responsible environmental protection and water supply management.

C. Achieve Technological Progress Through Knowledge. To maintain and enhance NSAWWA’s leadership in transferring timely technological information to assure drinking water of unquestionable quality and effective water system operations.

D. Promote Legislative/Regulatory Activities. To increase NSAWWA’s impact on legislative, regulatory, and policy issues at all levels of government and to assist in maintaining state primacy.

E. Improve Association’s Effectiveness. Provide activities and programs which will increase the effectiveness of the Section and maintain a high level of public confidence in water supplies.

F. Enhance Water Systems’ Viability. To implement compliance assistance and other assistance programs designed to allow small systems to continue improving independently and develop additional methods of management.
Implementation of Goals

A. PROMOTE COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CONSUMERS AND NEBRASKA WATER SUPPLIERS

Statement of Goal

NSAWWA recognizes the need for its officers, Board of Trustees, and membership to have well-established objectives to provide continuity and guidance for the volunteers who make up the working committees of the Section.

Actions

1. Establish a Committee to encourage participation and innovation with “Drinking Water Week” by utilizing press releases/media coverage, special events and proclamations.

2. Distribute “Wise Water Words” to special interest groups, State Legislators and community leaders. Develop speaker’s bureau to discuss drinking water issues with wide range of audiences.

3. Offer library videos to schools and advertise availability through NSEA.


5. Establish a public relations award.

B. ACTIVELY RESPOND TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Statement of Goal

To demonstrate NSAWWA’s commitment to responsible environmental protection and water supply management. NSAWWA has long advocated responsible environmental protection programs as an integral part of sound water resource management. In particular, the protection of water supply sources is critical to the assurance of safe drinking water.

Actions

1. Promote and participate in the coordination of environmental programs at the State and local government levels. In particular, encourage the inclusion of drinking water concerns into those programs regulating the discharge of industrial, municipal and non-point source pollutants.
   a. Establish positions on impact of environmental programs on drinking water.
   b. Use positions with environmental agencies to insure drinking water impacts are considered.
   c. Work with the State and local legislative and regulatory agencies to urge consideration of drinking water impacts of environmental legislation.

2. Emphasize importance of utilities being responsible “stewards of water resources” through sound environmental management programs.
   a. Actively participate in shaping legislation concerning conservation and other resource issues.
   b. Establish positions on conservation and resource issues.
   c. Act as a forum for discussion of the need for conservation and the responsibility of the utility to endorse wise use of the resource.

3. Support and promote water supply source protection through best management practices such as watershed and well head protection.
   a. Stress the importance of pollution prevention in environmental legislation.
   b. Develop a policy on best management practices emphasizing it’s importance in maintaining adequate supplies of drinking water.

4. Develop coalitions with other water supply-oriented organizations for support of effective, responsible environmental protection programs.
   a. Work with interested groups to gain support for NSAWWA positions on environmental protection and relative risk assessment.

5. Support the concept that costs of pollution should be borne by those causing the pollution.
   a. Develop a policy on the principle that the polluter pays.
   b. Work with other groups to gain support for NSAWWA’s policy.

Actions

1. Develop an agenda outlining priority environmental programs and legislation.
   a. Using the legislative action plan as a basis, prioritize those areas where the NSAWWA will focus its efforts.
   b. Insure that the NSAWWA has clear positions or policies addressing identified priority issues.

2. Work with State regulatory agencies and other concerned organizations and institutions to insure drinking water concerns are factored into pollution control programs.
   a. Identify key issues which should be stressed with agencies.
   b. Develop policies outlining why drinking water should be factored into an agency’s program or decision.
3. Emphasize NSAWWA’s environmental activities in appropriate publications.
   a. Include NSAWWA’s positions and activities on environmental issues in publications by the Section.
   b. Encourage other organizations to include reports on NSAWWA’s activities in their publications.

C. ACHIEVE TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

Statement of Goal
One of the founding principles of AWWA and the Nebraska Section was the dissemination of technological information. As technology advances and regulations are promulgated at an accelerating pace, this function becomes increasing vital.

To support AWWA’s leadership role in the development and timely transfer of water supply technological information and to supplement this with Section sponsored conferences, workshops and other appropriate programs to assure effective water system operation and the production of drinking water of unquestionable quality.

Actions
1. Provide leadership in education programs.
   a. In cooperation with appropriate State agencies and organizations, or as a separate entity, identify existing and emerging needs within the State for training materials, courses, conferences, etc.
   b. In cooperation with appropriate State agencies and organizations, or as a separate entity, provide timely training programs to help meet the needs of the water utility personnel. Information designed to assist personnel in understanding and complying with new regulations will be included in the programs.
   c. Maintain and upgrade a loan library of videos and other appropriate publications for use by water utility personnel.
   d. Encourage water utility personnel and college students to pursue additional training/education in the challenging and rewarding water supply profession.

2. Support increased research in all areas of drinking water supply, treatment, distribution, and management to assure drinking water of unquestioned quality.
   a. Support the AWWA Research Foundation’s long-range funding and research plans to assure sound science is developed to provide information for setting standards.
   b. Support water supply oriented research within the State.

D. PROMOTE LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

Statement of Goal
To increase NSAWWA’s impact on legislative, regulatory, and policy issues at all levels of government.

Actions
1. Participate actively in legislative/regulatory activities.
   a. Keep Section members informed of issues, progress, and AWWA positions.
   b. Provide for coordination and information transfer.
   c. Coordinate implementation of AWWA’s legislative plan.

2. Work closely with members on SDWA and other regulatory actions.
   a. Keep membership informed of key issues as regulations proceed through adoption process.

3. Review strategy and implementation programs to provide effective participation in reauthorization of the SDWA.
   a. Review legislative action plan.
   b. Provide current information to membership on reauthorization issues as they develop.

4. Insure that AWWA provides effective, timely information on drinking water contaminants that are subject to the Environmental Protection Agency’s regulatory process.
   a. Review regulatory alerts on a timely basis.
   b. Prioritize legislative areas of AWWA action.
   c. Implement a legislative plan that focuses resources on priority areas.

5. Equip Section to impact legislative/regulatory process at the state level.

6. Building coalitions with other associations at national, state, and sectional level.
   a. Actively participate in liaison activities with key associations (i.e., the Nebraska League of Municipalities, Nebraska Rural Water Association) to gain support for AWWA positions.
   b. Attend roundtable discussions with associations to develop understanding of issues and areas of common interest.
c. Review joint statements on key issues whenever possible.

7. Work closely with local governments to make sure that water utility interests are protected in planning for and protection of water resources.
   a. Keep local government officials informed of important drinking water issues.
   b. Track local government actions that could impact water utilities.
   c. Propose actions that could help protect present and future water sources.

E. IMPROVE NSAWWA SECTION EFFECTIVENESS

Statement of Goal
Provide activities and programs which will increase the effectiveness of the Section and maintain a high level of public confidence in water supplies.

Actions
1. Develop/maintain adequate revenue balances to support Section programs and activities.
2. Develop/implement realistic but challenging annual and long-range membership goals to include utility memberships.
3. Promote Section Officer’s attendance at AWWA Regional Officers Meeting.
4. Develop and annually update an effective Section Strategic Plan with realistic measurable Annual Goals and Objectives.
5. Continued emphasis with Section Education and Training Programs especially responsive and sensitive to small systems needs.
6. Continued improvement and implementation of effective Fall Program training and related activities.
7. Continued publication and distribution of Section newsletter (Wise Water Words) on quarterly basis. Provide distribution of newsletter to State legislators, special interest groups and community officials and leaders.
8. Continue to develop/implement an effective Awards program to recognize Section members and other water industry employees or associates.
9. Develop/implement an effective Section Scholarship Endowment program to recognize and reward water system operators and college students.
10. Provide support to Nebraska Health & Human Services for increased activity within the Water Operator Certification Program.
11. Continued coordination and cooperation with other professional associations/groups, when appropriate, to avoid duplication of efforts.
12. Evaluate research needs to Section members and promote appropriate research with university, EPA and AWWA Research Foundation.
13. Actively review/provide testimony to State Legislature with water industry issues. Also, participate actively with National Water Utility Council regulatory and legislative issues.

F. ENHANCE WATER SYSTEMS’ VIABILITY

Statement of Goal
To provide NSAWWA compliance assistance, training programs and publications designed to allow water systems to continue improving and to provide additional modes of management to insure self-sufficiency. NSAWWA is committed to assisting and strengthening all aspects of the water industry.

Actions
1. Develop coalitions with other organizations, such as Nebraska League of Municipalities and Nebraska Rural Water Association, active in the water systems field to achieve maximum effectiveness of available resources.
2. Encourage development and application of appropriate technologies for water systems.
3. Provide effective and timely information input to the Nebraska Health & Human Services regulatory process.
4. Assist AWWA in developing a way to more effectively disseminate AWWA publications and services to water systems.
1998 Committees and goals

**Audit**

Terry O’Brian, Johnson, Erickson, O’Brien Associates  
142 W. 11th St., P.O. Box 207, Wahoo, NE 68066-0207  
Tel: 402.443.4661  Fax: 402.443.3508

John G. Mirovsky, Lincoln Water System  
2021 N. 27th St., Lincoln, NE 68503-1025  
Tel: 402.441.5932  Fax: 402.441.8493  
E-Mail: jmirovsky@lanejesz.ci.lincoln.ne.us

**Awards**

M. Kent Prior, Olsson Associates  
P.O. Box 84608, Lincoln, NE 68501-4608  
Tel: 402.474.6311  Fax: 402.474.5160  
E-Mail: kprior@olsson.net

Thomas O. Michels, Nebraska Health & Human Services  
220 W. 30th St., Kearney, NE 68847-3439  
Tel: 402.471.0521  Fax: 402.471.0383

Chris Miller, Charles Wright Engineering  
P.O. Box 800, McCook, NE 69001  
Tel: 308.345.3710  Fax: 308.345.7370

1. Develop a list of awards, eligibility requirements, plus deadlines for submitting nominations for national and state awards.

2. Publish in Section newsletter a call for nominations, if applicable.

3. Coordinate water operator awards with Nebraska Health & Human Services.

4. Actively pursue awards for eligible individuals or groups.

**Budget**

Chris Koenig, HGM Associates, Inc.  
P.O. Box 919, Council Bluffs, IA 51502-0919  
Tel: 712.323.0530  Fax: 402.323.0779  
E-Mail: hgm@radiks.net

Joel Christensen, Metropolitan Utilities District  
1723 Harney St., Omaha, NE 68102-1960  
Office: 3100 S. 61st Ave.  
Tel: 402.554.7774  Fax: 402.554.7773  
E-Mail: mud@radiks.net

**Cross Connection**

Leroy Kramer, City of North Platte  
P.O. Box 394, Hershey, NE 69143  
Tel: 308.535.6740  Fax: 308.535.6740

Rich Koenig, Nebraska Health & Human Services  
304 N. 5th St., #C, Norfolk, NE 68701-4093  
Tel: 402.370.3114  Fax: 402.370.3493

Rob Pierce, League of Nebraska Municipalities  
1335 L St., Lincoln, NE 68508  
Tel: 402.476.2829  Fax: 402.476.7052

1. Review Nebraska Health & Human Services Cross Connection Control regulations.

2. Conduct or cosponsor, as needed, cross connection control workshop(s).

3. Work with other committees, organizations and groups on training and transfer of information.

**Education & Training**

Michael L. Wentink, Nebraska Health & Human Services  
200 S. Silber St., North Platte, NE 69101-4200  
Tel: 308.535.8134  Fax: 308.535.8175

Bob Elston, City of Plainview  
P.O. Box 757, 207 W. Locust St., Plainview, NE 68769  
Tel: 402.582.4928  Fax: 402.582.3939  
E-Mail: plains@plvwtelco.net

Dick Hawes  
9220 N. 52nd St., Omaha, NE 68152; 402.571.6512

Nick McElvain, Lincoln Water Systems  
2021 N. 27th St., Lincoln, NE 68503-1025  
Tel: 402.441.5931  Fax: 402.441.8493  
E-Mail: nmcelvain@ci.lincoln.ne.us

Thomas O. Michels, Nebraska Health & Human Services  
220 W. 30th St., Kearney, NE 68847-3439  
Tel: 402.471.0521  Fax: 402.471.0383

Rob Pierce, League of Nebraska Municipalities  
1335 L St., Lincoln, NE 68508  
Tel: 402.476.2829  Fax: 402.476.7052

Jerry Radek, Metropolitan Utilities District  
1723 Harney St., Omaha, NE 68102-1960  
Tel: 402.449.8155  Fax: 402.449.8166  
E-Mail: mud@radiks.net

Lonnie Rech, Lincoln Water System  
2021 N. 27th St., Lincoln, NE 68503-1025  
Tel: 402.473.5923  Fax: 402.441.8493  
E-Mail: lrech@ci.lincoln.ne.us

1. Conduct an effective annual fall conference for the entire membership.

2. Develop long-range goals for education and training activities.

3. Develop one workshop or other training activity during the year.

4. Provide AWWA education material display at the annual fall conference.

5. Work with other committees, organizations and groups on training and transfer of information, such as the Children’s Groundwater Festival.

**Fall Conference**

Richard A. Koenig, Nebraska Health & Human Services  
P.O. Box 919, Council Bluffs, IA 51502-0919  
Tel: 712.323.0530  Fax: 402.323.0779  
E-Mail: hgm@radiks.net

Joel Christensen, Metropolitan Utilities District  
1723 Harney St., Omaha, NE 68102-1960  
Office: 3100 S. 61st Ave.  
Tel: 402.554.7774  Fax: 402.554.7773  
E-Mail: mud@radiks.net

1. Conduct an effective annual fall conference for the entire membership.

2. Develop interesting, effective programs with variety for all members at each meeting.

3. Encourage potential members to attend programs by direct program mailings to selected nonmembers.

**Fuller Award**

Merlin E. Lindahl, Columbus Water Department  
2424 14th St., Columbus, NE 68601-1667  
Tel: 402.564.8584  Fax: 402.563.1380

1. Develop a list of awards, eligibility requirements, plus deadlines for submitting nominations for national and state awards.

2. Publish in Section newsletter a call for nominations, if applicable.

3. Coordinate water operator awards with Nebraska Health & Human Services.

4. Actively pursue awards for eligible individuals or groups.
Membership

Rich Robinson, Kirkham Michael & Associates
P.O. Box 24129, 9111 W. Dodge Rd.
Omaha, NE 68124-0129
Tel: 402.255.3840  Fax: 402.255.3850

Bruce Dvorak, UNL Department of Civil Engineering
W348 Nebraska Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0531
Tel: 402.472.3431  Fax: 402.472.8934
E-Mail: bdvorak@unlinfox.unl.edu

Don Franklin, Bert Gurney & Associates
P.O. Box 6255, Omaha, NE 68106
Tel: 402.551.7995  Fax: 402.553.5879

Ralph Naber, Nebraska Health & Human Services
105 E. First St., Grand Island, NE 68801
Tel: 308.385.5180

Rob Pierce, League of Nebraska Municipalities
1335 L St., Lincoln, NE 68508
Tel: 402.476.2829  Fax: 402.476.7052

Dennis Watts, City of Norfolk Water Department
300 S. 49th St., Norfolk, NE 68701
Tel: 402.644.8712  Fax: 402.644-8762

Michael L. Wentink, Nebraska Health & Human Services
200 S. Silber St., North Platte, NE 69101-4200
Tel: 308.353.8184  Fax: 308.353.8175
1. Develop membership promotion program.
2. Complete prospective membership lists, including non-members who regularly attend conferences.
3. Identify prospective members from public and private water suppliers, consulting engineers and equipment suppliers.
4. Provide article or information for each issue of Wise Water Words.
5. Retain existing members.
6. Secure a utility membership for every water utility system with more than 10,000 customers.
7. Secure a minimum of one membership in every Nebraska county.
8. Welcome new members and introduce them at the annual fall conference.

Nominations

John G. Miriovsky, Lincoln Water System
2021 N. 27th St., Lincoln, NE 68503-1025
Tel: 402.441.5932  Fax: 402.441.8493
E-Mail: jmiriovsky@lanejesz.ci.lincoln.ne.us

Don Franklin, Bert Gurney & Associates
P.O. Box 6255, Omaha, NE 68106
Tel: 402.551.7995  Fax: 402.553.5879
1. Actively pursue nominations for 1998 officers according to Section Bylaws, and submit a written report of nominations to the Board of Governors and Publications chairperson prior to the annual fall conference.

Publications

Mari Matulka, Metropolitan Utilities District
1723 Harney St., Omaha, NE 68102-1960
Tel: 402.449.8154  Fax: 402.449.8166
E-Mail: mari@radiks.net

Jack L. Daniel, Nebraska Health & Human Services
301 Centennial Mall S., P.O. Box 95007
Lincoln, NE 68509-5007
Tel: 402.471.0510  Fax: 402.471.6426
E-Mail: jdaniel@hhs.state.ne.us

Orville R. Davidson, City of York Water Department
P.O. Box 507, 100 E. 4th St., York, NE 68467-0507
Tel: 402.363.2600  Fax: 402.363.2601

Don Franklin, Bert Gurney & Associates
P.O. Box 6255, Omaha, NE 68106
Tel: 402.551.7995  Fax: 402.553.5879
1. Publish three issues of the Section newsletter per calendar year.
2. Exchange newsletters with other AWWA sections and similar organizations.
3. Update membership directory.
4. Implement advertisement program for membership directory and newsletter.

Public Information

Mari Matulka, Metropolitan Utilities District
(See phone, address on this page)
1. Promote National Drinking Water Week with media coverage.
2. Provide timely information to national AWWA.
3. Develop news releases and media coverage prior to and during the annual conference.
4. Provide press releases/media coverage regarding AWWA Nebraska Section Award recipients.

Research

Mohamed F. Dahab, UNL Department of Civil Engineering
W348 Nebraska Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0531
Tel: 402.472.5020 or 402.472.8094    Fax: 402.472.8934
E-Mail: mdahab@unl.edu
1. Evaluate research needs of members and report to the Board of Governors.
2. Continue to promote an effective working relationship with UNL and UNO on any research projects related to the water industry.

Safety

Rob Pierce, League of Nebraska Municipalities
1335 L St., Lincoln, NE 68508
Tel: 402.476.2829

D. Scott Borman, City of Chadron
234 Main St., P.O. Box 390, Chadron, NE 69337-0390
Tel: 308.432.0522  Fax: 308.432.0503
E-Mail: chadron@prairieweb.com

Brad A. Hucke, Hastings Central Community College/NETA
P.O. Box 1024, Hastings, NE 68902-1024
Tel: 800.742.7872, extension 326; Fax: 402.461.2454
E-Mail: huchins@ccadm.gi.ccneb.edu

Nominations

John G. Miriovsky, Lincoln Water System
2021 N. 27th St., Lincoln, NE 68503-1025
Tel: 402.441.5932  Fax: 402.441.8493
E-Mail: jmiriovsky@lanejesz.ci.lincoln.ne.us

Don Franklin, Bert Gurney & Associates
P.O. Box 6255, Omaha, NE 68106
Tel: 402.551.7995  Fax: 402.553.5879
1. Actively pursue nominations for 1998 officers according to Section Bylaws, and submit a written report of nominations to the Board of Governors and Publications chairperson prior to the annual fall conference.
1. Coordinate a safety workshop with the League of Nebraska Municipalities and the Nebraska Water Environment Association.

2. Work with the Nebraska Health & Human Services to accept safety workshop credit hours for application towards water operator recertification.

3. Work with other committees, organizations and groups for training and transfer of information.

Scholarship

Lynn Wegehaupt, Metropolitan Utilities District
1723 Harney St., Omaha, NE 68102-1960
Office: 3100 S. 61st Ave.
Tel: 402.554.7700 Fax: 402.554.7709
E-Mail: mud@radiks.net

1. Award $1,000 in training grants to Section members and/or members of their families in 1998.

Small Systems

Bob Elston, City of Plainview
P.O. Box 757, 207 W. Locust St., Plainview, NE 68769
Tel: 402.582.4928 Fax: 402.582.3939
E-Mail: plains@plvwtelco.net

Steve Dolesh, Pierce Utilities
P.O. Box 757, 207 W. Locust St., Plainview, NE 68769
Tel: 402.582.4928 Fax: 402.582.3939
E-Mail: plains@plvwtelco.net

Steve Henk, City of Superior Utilities
P.O. Box 160, Superior, NE 68978
Tel: 402.879.4711 Fax: 402.879.4907
E-Mail: plains@plvwtelco.net

David Jundt, City of Creighton
P.O. Box 188, 708 State St., Creighton, NE 68729-0188
Tel: 402.358.3557 Fax: 402.358.3715

Paul Markowski, City of Ord Light & Water
P.O. Box 96, Ord, NE 68862
Tel: 308.728.3595 Fax: 308.738.5120

Art May, Midwest Assistance Program
P.O. Box 4-D, Walthill, NE 68067-0564
Tel: 402.846.5123 Fax: 402.846.5152
E-Mail: map@huntel.net

1. Develop committee goals and objectives.

2. Work with other committees, organizations and groups, including the Nebraska Rural Water Association, on training and transfer of information.

Student Activities

Dr. Jennifer A. Miller, UNL Department of Civil Engineering
W348 Nebraska Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0531
Tel: 402.472.1578 Fax: 402.472.8934
E-Mail: jamiller@unlinfo.unl.edu

1. Provide for student paper presentations at the annual conference.
The Nebraska Section maintains a library at the Lincoln Water System, 2021 N. 27th St., Lincoln, NE. If you’d like to borrow any of these resources, call Lonnie Rech, 402.441.5923. These resources also may be purchased from national AWWA. See AWWA Publications Catalog for complete descriptions.

**Videos**
1. Big Fears, Little Risks
2. Always Pure, Never Runs Dry
3. Electrical Safety
4. Minimizing Back Strain on the Job
5. Five S’s of Excavation Safety
7. Off the Record: Insiders’ Techniques for Working with the Media
8. Consumer Attitude Survey on Water Quality Issues
9. Public Affairs for Water Utilities
10. Distribution Systems Overview: A Case Study
11. Satellite Teleconference: Benchmarking for the Water Industry
14. Public Affairs for Water Utilities

**Handbooks**
1. Distribution System Maintenance Techniques
2. Maintenance Management
3. Cross Connection and Backflow Prevention
4. Basic Management Principles for Small Water Systems

**Training materials**
1. Water Supply Operation Series—complete set
2. Water Distribution Operator Training Handbook

**National conferences**
1. Distribution System Symposium—1989
2. Distribution System Symposium—1990

**AWWA manual sets**
- **M1** Water Rates, 1991
- **M2** Automation and Instrumentation, 1990
- **M3** Safety Practices for Water Utilities, 1990
- **M4** Water Fluoridation Principles and Practices, 1988
- **M5** Water Utility Management Practices, 1980
- **M6** Water Meters: Selection, Installation, Testing, Maintenance, 1986
- **M9** Concrete Pressure Pipe, 1979
- **M11** Steel Pipe: Guide for Design and Installation, 1989
- **M12** Simplified Procedures for Water Examination, 1978
- **M14** Recommended Practices for Backflow Prevention, 1990
- **M16** Work Practices for Asbestos: Cement Pipe, 1978
- **M17** Installation, Field Testing and Maintenance of Fire, 1989
- **M19** Emergency Planning
- **M20** Water Chlorination Principles and Practices, 1973
- **M21** Groundwater, 1989
- **M22** Sizing Water Service Lines and Meters, 1975
- **M23** PVC Pipe: Design and Installation, 1980
- **M24** Dual Water Systems, 1983
- **M25** Flexible Membrane Covers and Linings for Potable Water Reservoirs, 1985
- **M26** Water Rates and Related Charges, 1986
- **M27** External Corrosion: Introduction to Chemistry and Control, 1986
- **M28** Cleaning and Lining Water Mains, 1987
- **M29** Water Utility Capital Financing, 1988
- **M30** Pre-Coat Filtration, 1988
- **M31** Distribution System Requirements for Fire Protection, 1992
- **M32** Distribution Network Analysis for Water Utilities, 1989
- **M33** Flow Meters in Water Supply, 1989
- **M35** Revenue Requirements, 1990
- **M36** Water Audits and Leak Detection, 1990

**AWWA Standards**

1. **Treatment**
   **Source:**
   - A100 Water Wells
   - B100 Filtering Material
   - B200 Sodium Chloride
   - B201 Soda Ash
   - B202 Quicklime and Hydrated Lime
   - B302 Ammonium Sulfate
   - B303 Sodium Chlorite
   **Disinfection:**
   - B402 Ferrous Sulfate
   - B403 Aluminum Sulfate—Liquid, Ground or Lump
   - B405 Sodium Aluminate
   - B406 Ferric Sulfate
   - B407 Liquid Ferric Chloride
   - B408 Liquid Polyaluminum Chloride
   - B451 Poly (Diallyldimethylammonium Chloride)
   - B452 EPI-DMA Polyamines
   **Scale and Corrosion Control:**
   - B501 Sodium Hydroxide
   - B502 Sodium Polyphosphate
   - B510 Carbon Dioxide
   - B511 Potassium Hydroxide
   - B512 Sulfur Dioxide
   - B550 Calcium Chloride

2. **Pipes and Accessories**
   **Ductile Iron Pipe and Fittings:**
   - C104 ANSI-Cement Lining-DIP
   - C105 ANS-Polyethylene Encasement-DIP
   - C110 ANSI-D.I. and G.I. Fittings (3–48 inches)-DIP
   - C111 ANS-Rubber Gasket Joints-DIP
Steel Pipe:
- C200 Steel Water Pipe, 6 inches and larger
- C203 Coat Tar Protective Coatings and Linings for Steel Water Pipelines: Enamel and Tape-Hot Applied
- C205 Cement Mortar Lining and Coating for Steel Water Pipe (4 inches and larger): Shop Applied
- C206 Field Welding of Steel Water Pipe
- C208 Dimensions for Fabricated Steel Water Pipe Fittings
- C209 Cold Applied Tape Coatings for the Exterior of Special Sections, Connections and Fittings for Steel Water Pipelines
- C210 Liquid Epoxy Coating Systems for Interior and Exterior of Steel Water Pipelines
- C214 Tape Coating Systems for Exterior of Steel Water Lines
- C215 Extruded Polyolefin Coatings for Exterior of Steel Water Pipelines
- C216 Heat Shrinkable Cross-Linked Polyolefin Coatings for Exterior of Special Sections, Connections and Fittings for Steel Water Pipelines
- C217 Cold Applied Petrolatum Tape and Petroleum Wax Tape Coatings for Exterior of Special Sections, Connections and Fittings on Buried Steel Water Pipelines
- C218 Coating the Exterior of Aboveground Steel Water Pipelines and Fittings
- C220 Stainless Steel Pipe (4 inches—100 mm and larger)

Concrete Pipe:
- C300 Reinforced Concrete Pressure Pipe, Steel-Cylinder Type, for Water and Other Liquids
- C301 Prestressed Concrete Pressure Pipe, Steel-Cylinder Type, for Water and Other Liquids
- C304 Design of Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe

Asbestos—Cement Pipe:
- C400 Asbestos-Cement Pressure Pipe (4-16 inches—100-400 mm) for Water Distribution Systems
- C401 Selection of Asbestos-Cement Pressure Pipe (4-16 inches—100-400 mm) for Water Distribution Systems
- C402 Asbestos-Cement Transmission Pipe (18-42 inches—450-1,050 mm) for Potable Water and Other Liquids
- C403 Practice for the Selection of Asbestos-Cement Transmission and Feeder Main Pipe (18-42 inches—450-1,050 mm)

Valves and Hydrants:
- C500 Metal Seated Gate Valves for Water Supply Service
- C503 Wet Barrel Fire Hydrants
- C507 Ball Valves (5-48 inches—150-1,200 mm)

Pipe Installation:
- C602 Cement Mortar Lining or Water Pipelines (4 inches or 100 mm and larger), in place
- C603 Installation of Asbestos-Cement Pressure Pipe

Meters:
- C700 Cold Water Meters—Displacement Type, Bronze Main Case
- C701 Cold Water Meters—Turbine Type for Customer Service
- C702 Cold Water Meters—Compound Type
- C703 Cold Water Meters—Fire Service Type
- C704 Propeller-Type Meters for Waterworks Applications
- C706 Direct Reading, Remote Registration Systems for Cold Water Meters
- C707 Encoder Type Remote Registration Systems for Cold Water Meters
- C708 Cold Water Meters—Multi-Jet Type
- C710 Cold Water Meters—Displacement Type, Plastic Main Case

Service Lines:
- C800 Underground Service Line Valves and Fittings

Plastic Pipe:
- C900 Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Pressure Pipe (4-12 inches) for Water Distribution
- C905 Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Water Transmission Pipe (nominal diameters, 14-36 inches)
- C906 Polyethylene (PE) Pressure Pipe and Fittings (4-63 inches) for Water Distribution
- C907 Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Pressure Fittings for Water (4-8 inches—100-200 mm)
- C950 Fiberglass Pressure Pipe

Storage:
- D104 Automatically Controlled, Impressed Current Cathodic Protection for the Interior of Steel Water Tanks
- D120 Thermosetting Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic Tanks

Plant Equipment:
- F101 Contact Molded, Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic Wash Water Troughs and Launders
- F102 Matched Die-Molded, Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic Weir Plates, Scum Baffles and Mounting Brackets
Off the Record: Insiders’ techniques for working with the media

Who are the media?

The media include local and national magazines, newspapers, radio and television networks, wire services, and even computer networks. Each medium has a different angle on the news, different deadlines and different contacts.

Just in terms of contact, you can deal with various people—including reporters, anchors, producers, editors, assignment editors, managing editors and planning directors.

Pay attention to the differences in media. Print and television reporters have different needs; a print journalist might want a good map of the facility to illustrate a story, while a television reporter might want to videotape pictures of the plant.

If you haven’t already done so, contact print or broadcast newsrooms in your community to find out which journalists to deal with on daily stories, press conferences and emergencies. Keep those names and telephone and fax numbers with your media plan.

Be aware that all journalists work with uncompromising deadlines. If you’re working with a reporter, find out when he or she needs the information to meet a deadline.

Also, journalists have a rule you need to understand. It is called talking “off the record.” Unless you tell the reporter in advance your conversation is “off the record,” and get his or her agreement, anything and everything you disclose may be used. You should avoid speaking off the record.

What do the media want?

Whether journalists work for television, radio or print, they want the same questions answered: Who, What, When, Where and Why.

1. **Don’t go off half-cocked.** Everything you say to a reporter can be quoted, so don’t start speaking until you know what you’re really talking about and what you want to say. Make sure you know your agenda before you open your mouth.

2. **Be honest.** You don’t have to tell everything you know, however whatever you do say must be the truth.

3. **Show compassion.** If deaths or injuries are involved, express your sorrow. Show sensitivity. You certainly don’t want to admit liability, however you do want to demonstrate humanity.

4. **Don’t be defensive.** Defensiveness implies guilt. Avoid it.

5. **Be aware of body language.** Your face and your body telegraph your emotions. Be relaxed, but lean a bit forward. Maintain direct eye contact with the reporter and keep the expression on your face pleasant no matter how provocative the questions are. Remember that in most stories, the reporter’s questions are never used.

6. **Keep your cool.** If you lose your temper, you will see it on the news. Reporters are neither your best friend nor your worst enemy; they’re just trying to get information and beat the competition.

7. **Don’t be afraid of silence.** If you need to pause and gather your thoughts, say so and go right ahead. A brief silence is better than a damaging quote.

8. **Be human.** People don’t believe or trust corporations, however they do have empathy for individual human beings.

9. **Show people you care.** First impressions count, and they’re almost impossible to change, so make sure you show that you care and are taking whatever positive action is possible.

10. **Think like the public and your customers.** If you just paid top dollar for the fanciest computer chip and then heard it made mistakes and the company wouldn’t replace it, how would you feel? The impression you give the public is more important than being right.

11. **Stick to your values.** What does your company believe in and stand for? Make sure those principles are known and followed by all employees. Let them guide you through tough times. Johnson & Johnson, widely praised for its handling of the Tylenol crisis, has a company credo that begins, “We believe our first responsibility is to the doctors, nurses and patients, to mothers and fathers and all others who use our products and services.”

That kind of credo will lay the foundation for all communication in a crisis. You must do the right thing before you can talk about it. If you want positive publicity, make sure your actions warrant it. And, once you take action, show reporters what you’re doing. Remember the power of an image. While viewers watched birds and otters die in a river of thick, black oil, the Exxon Company was silent. Don’t make the same mistake.
Crisis management

If you have a media plan, an emergency won’t be the first time you deal with reporters, but it will be the most important. During a crisis, it is absolutely necessary to communicate with journalists, and to do so only through your designated spokesperson.

Types of crisis include natural disasters, explosions, burst pipes, accidents, boil water orders, and waterborne disease outbreaks.

Reporters want the basic questions answered during a crisis—who, what, when, where, why. Because this information can become sensitive, be careful not to speculate, sensationalize or minimize. Also, do not guess at answers. Further, if anyone is injured, only the hospital or police should release their names—not the utility.

Express empathy for those affected by the situation. Additional crisis recommendations:

• Be the first source for information.
• Provide facts before reporters find the information elsewhere.
• Assign a spokesperson round the clock and release home and work phone numbers.
• Help reporters set up interviews with workers or those affected by a crisis.
• Provide regularly scheduled information updates with press releases or press conferences.
• Post an information board with pertinent facts and background information.
• Have experts available to answer complex questions.

Above all, follow two important rules when giving information to journalists:

1. Be honest (and accurate).

2. Be first.

Remember, journalists need you as much as you need them. Don’t be afraid to cultivate the relationship. Use these recommendations to enhance that link, and it will pay off for you and your utility.

—Catalog #65086—American Water Works Association

How should I work with the media?

Your media interaction should be well-planned and organized. The only way to achieve that goal is to have a comprehensive media plan, written with the help from the Public Affairs Department (if your utility has one), or with help from outside public relations consultants.

Such a plan includes your utility’s goals, its desired position in the community, and its crisis communication plan. Of course, energy utilities should have a crisis plan outlining internal actions and media interaction.

The plan also should include the name of a designated media spokesperson. In smaller utilities, that person might be the Utility Manager; in larger facilities the spokesperson might be the Public Affairs or Public Relations Director.

It is important to have one spokesperson to ensure information is accurate and consistent. The spokesperson should be poised, have good language and people skills, and be well-informed about water issues.

Everyone at the utility must know who the spokesperson is. All information should be funneled through him or her.

Press releases

Press releases are an effective, efficient way of communicating, if used properly. Before writing a press release, decide whether it is being used to announce news or to request coverage of an event.

Informational releases are used when the facts speak for themselves, such as the announcement of a new utility manager or the issuing of new rules on summer watering restrictions. It is written inverted pyramid narrative style, which means the most important facts are in the first paragraph.

A request-for-coverage-release should answer the basic questions—who, what, when, where, why. This type of press release also will have a short narrative section explaining why the media will want to cover the event, what angles they might consider covering, and what video opportunities are available.

Both types of releases are short, informative and answer the basic questions. They can be mailed or faxed to newsrooms or other media departments.

A longer form of release is called a media kit. Such releases are packets of information, possibly including pictures and diagrams. They can be used to give reporters background information or to augment a press conference.

Personal interviews

Before agreeing to an interview, find out what subject the reporter wants to cover. Allow time to prepare and do research if necessary. Then, use the following guidelines:

• Know the facts and be accurate.
• Practice what you’re going to say and why.
• Practice to avoid mistakes.
• Explain complex issues using everyday language.
• Dress appropriately.
• Be aware of body language.
• Maintain good eye contact.
Awards

Listed below are awards given by national AWWA to recognize outstanding Section members. If you would like detailed information about these awards or know of someone who may be a candidate, please contact Kent Prior, Olsson Associates, P.O. Box 84608, Lincoln, NE 68501.4608; phone: 402.474.6311; E-Mail: kprior@olsson.inetnebr.com.

- Abel Wolman Award of Excellence
- Academic Achievement Award
- A.P. Black Research Award
- Archie E. Becher, Jr. Award
- American/Canadian/Mexican Water Landmarks Award
- Award of Merit
- Distinguished Public Service Award
- Division Best Paper Award
- Education Award
- Friendship Medal (by AWWA)
- Friendship Medal (by IWEM)
- George Warren Fuller Award
- Gimmicks & Gadgets Award
- Heroism Award
- Honorary Member Award
- Memberships Awards
- Operator’s Meritorious Service Award
- Opflow Publications Award
- Outstanding Service to AWWA Award
- Publications Award
- Research Division Best Poster Award
- Recognition for Service to the Water Industry
- Safety Award
- Section Education Award
- Service to the Water Industry Award
- Water Industry Hall of Fame

George Warren Fuller Award

The George Warren Fuller Award is the highest national honor given by AWWA to recognize individuals with outstanding service to the water industry. Listed below are Nebraska recipients.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>D.L. Erickson</td>
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<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>John C. Detweiler</td>
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<td>1951</td>
<td>Lorenzo D. Wright</td>
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<td>1951</td>
<td>H.E. Morris</td>
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<td>1954</td>
<td>John W. Cramer</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>Bert Gurney</td>
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<td>1957</td>
<td>John W. Kruse</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>William J. Sommers</td>
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<td>1960</td>
<td>Ralph H. Lancmers</td>
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<td>1961</td>
<td>M.L. Sievers</td>
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<td>Lowell Edward</td>
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<td>1963</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>Emil C. Wagner</td>
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<td>1965</td>
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<td>1966</td>
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<td>E. Bruce Meier</td>
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<td>R.H. McLeod</td>
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<td>1971</td>
<td>Joseph P. Laferla</td>
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<td>Floyd Sanks</td>
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<td>1975</td>
<td>Robert D. Catton</td>
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<td>1993</td>
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<td>1994</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Paul E. Dammamn</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Lynn A. Wegehaupt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Don A. Franklin</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
As an individual member, you’ll enjoy:

Journal AWWA: The world’s leading technical publication on drinking water issues.

Opflow: A monthly newsletter with how-to articles and instruction-al features on all aspects of the water system materials, construction, management, operations and maintenance.

MainStream: A monthly newspaper featuring news of the water industry, member achievements and conferences.

AWWA Bookstore Catalog: Includes more than 400 books, videos, software and manuals on the water industry.

AWWA Sourcebook: The official resource guide to water industry products and services.

Discounts: At least 30% on more than 400 books, manuals, software and training videos from the AWWA Bookstore Catalog; plus reduced member rates on all seminars, teleconferences, and in-service training events.

Membership: In one of 43 local AWWA sections in the U.S.

Employee Services: Free “position wanted” listings in AWWA’s membership newspaper.

Group Insurance: Access to low cost, group insurance programs for members residing in the U.S.

Government Relations: Assistance from AWWA’s government affairs division to help you with compliance issues and put you in touch with key contacts at state and federal agencies.

Technical Library: Includes the WATERNET database with more than 33,000 citations and abstracts of articles available online and on CD-ROM, WaterWiser conservation database, and WATERSTATS, the water utility database.

Individual Grades

Active Member (Grade 02) and International Active Member (Grade 03): An individual, such as a water utility employee, municipal official, public health worker, engineer, scientist, educator, consultant or other person interested or serving in the field of water supply.

Additional Active Member (Grade 04): Some grades of utility and organization memberships allow for additional members who receive the benefits of individual membership without dues.

Operations Member (Grade 06): An individual employed by a water utility that has 1,000 or fewer connections, or an employee below the supervisory level of a utility that has more than 1,000 connections.

Retiree Member (Grades 08 and 09) and International Retiree Member (Grades 07 and 11): A member with 10 years of AWWA membership, who is 60 years of age and substantially retired from active employment. Must complete an “Affidavit for Retirees” available from Headquarters—call 303.347.6149.

Life Member (Grade 10): An individual who has been an active member or named representative or an organization member for 30 years.

Honorary Member (Grade 12): An individual whose knowledge and accomplishments in the field of water supply entitle him/her to special recognition and exemption from paying dues.

Student Member (Grade 14): A regularly-enrolled college or university student.

Utility and Organization Grades

Small Water System Member (Grade 18): Water systems that supply to less than 1,000 public taps. Annual dues are based on number of taps.

Small Water System Municipal Service Subscriber (Grade 19): Water systems that supply to less than 1,000 public taps but are prohibited by local policy from acquiring “memberships.” Annual dues are based on number of taps.

Utility Member (Grades 20-44, even numbers): Water supply organizations which continuously supply, directly or indirectly, water to the public. Annual dues are based on number of customer service connections.

Municipal Service Subscriber (Grades 21-45, odd numbers): Municipal water departments, boards or commissions who seek the benefits of utility membership, but are prevented by local policy from taking “memberships.” Annual dues are based on number of customer service connections.

Associate Member (Grades 50-57): Organizations engaged in the manufacturing of products or the furnishing of products or services in connection with public water supply. Dues are based on sales to the water industry, defined as the annual gross dollar value of all water-related products, materials and services provided to the water industry.

Consultant Member (Grades 62-68): Engineering or other firms or individuals engaged primarily in consulting practice. Dues are based on the yearly average number of employees engaged in services to the water industry.

Technical Service Member (Grade 74): Organizations, such as libraries, industrial water systems or government departments who are interested in water supply, but do not come under any of the other categories of organization membership.

(For more information, call Rich Robinson, Kirkham Michael, 402.255.3840)
AWWA
Individual
Membership
Application
Nebraska Section American Water Works Association
Leisen Memorial Education and Training Grant Application

Unless indicated otherwise, please type or print legibly in ink.

PERSONAL AND EMPLOYMENT BACKGROUND

Name: ___________________________________________________________
      Home phone: __________________________

Home address: ___________________________________________________________
      Office phone: __________________________

Current position: ___________________________________________________________
      Years in water industry: ________________

(A_attach a copy of your job description)

Years in current position: ________________

AWWA membership number: ___________________________________________________________
      Type of membership: ________________

Employer: ___________________________________________________________

Address of employer: ___________________________________________________________

Is your employer a member of AWWA? _______  If yes, indicate membership number: ___________
      Type of membership: ________________

Your activities in the Nebraska Section AWWA (committees, positions held, etc.):

Membership in other professional organizations and your activities:

Other significant contributions to your community, etc.:

TRAINING GRANT INFORMATION

Use of grant funds: ___________________________________________________________
      Amount requested: ________________

Dates of workshop, courses: ___________________________________________________________
      Employer contribution: ________________

Location of training: ___________________________________________________________

Please indicate in the space below the value to you of the proposed training for your current position and/or other water industry-related positions.

Unless self-employed, please attach a letter of support from your employer.

I declare that all information supplied on this application is true and accurate.

Applicant’s signature: _____________________________________________________________________ Date: ________________

Send completed application by September 1 to: Joel Christensen, Metropolitan Utilities District, 1723 Harney St., Omaha, NE 68102

Please make copies of this order form as needed
The Nebraska Section publishes a newsletter, *Wise Water Words*, three times a calendar year. The newsletter is the primary tool to communicate with members, informing them of water industry issues and activities of the section. Circulation is more than 470. Advertisers are solicited for all three issues of the newsletter and a *Membership Directory*, published every other year (see rates and order form on next page).

**Advertisement contract and copy regulations**

1. Placement of advertisements generally will be at the back of each issue, and will be on a random basis, based on space and layout of each issue.

2. Advertisements must be provided 30 days before publication. A one time $50 fee is charged to setup an ad. Artwork suitable for scanning must be provided by the advertiser. No allowance is made to advertisers for furnishing complete plates or camera-ready text and illustrations for their advertisements.

3. Cost per ad is on a per issue basis. Same copy and artwork may be used for each issue, however any change in copy and artwork will result in a $50 setup fee. Advertising agency commissions are not deductible from advertising rates.

4. When change of copy, covered by an uncanceled insertion order, is not received by the closing date, copy run in previous issue will be inserted.

5. Halftones (pictures) are accepted only for full-page ads. It is the advertiser’s or advertising agency’s responsibility to obtain appropriate releases on any items or individuals pictured in the ad. Ads will not be published without a release.

6. All advertising is subject to approval by the Nebraska Section AWWA. The Nebraska Section AWWA and publisher reserve the right to reject advertising which is not in keeping with the publication standard.

7. The forwarding of an order is construed as an acceptance of all the rate and conditions under which advertising is sold at the time. Advertisements must be prepaid before publication.

8. No conditions, printed or otherwise, appearing on the space order, billing instructions or copy instructions which conflict with the Nebraska Section AWWA’s stated policies, is binding on the Section or publisher.

9. Failure to make the order correspond in price otherwise with the rate schedule is regarded only as a clerical error and publication is made and charged for upon the terms of the schedule in force without further notice.

10. Any deliberate attempt to simulate a publication’s format is not permitted. The Nebraska Section AWWA reserves the right to place the word “advertisement” with copy which in the publisher’s opinion resembles editorial matter.

11. Advertising agencies are entitled to only one copy of an issue regardless of the number of advertisements placed by the agency in the publication.

12. No fee will be charged to “announcement” type advertising. i.e., job opening announcements (job wanted announcements will be limited to available space).

13. No fee is charged for used or surplus equipment for sale (not applicable to vendors).

14. Fees are not be charged for professional training seminar announcements sponsored by AWWA or an AWWA Section, the League of Nebraska Municipalities, Nebraska Water Environment Association or Nebraska Rural Water Association.

15. Advertiser and advertising agency assume liability for all content (including text and illustrations) of advertisements printed, and also assume responsibility for any claims arising therefrom made against the Nebraska Section AWWA and the publisher.

16. Every publication with advertisements will carry the following disclaimer: “The Nebraska Section AWWA and this publication do not accept responsibility for statements or claims made by advertisers for their products or services.”

17. The Nebraska Section AWWA and publisher’s liability for any error does not exceed the charge for the advertisement in question.

18. The Nebraska Section AWWA and publisher assume no liability if for any reason it becomes necessary to omit an ad.

19. All advertising agreements are subject to strikes, accidents, fires, acts of God or other contingencies beyond the Nebraska Section AWWA and publisher’s control.

20. Contracts may be discontinued by either party on a 60-day written notice prior to closing date of affected issue.

21. Verbal agreements are not recognized.
Advertisement Rates

**Newsletter**—Price is for one issue only. Include $50 setup fee for first-time run. No setup fee charged if the same copy and artwork is run in all issues. Black and Pantone 293 Blue are only colors of ink printed.

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<th>Size</th>
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</table>

**Directory**—The directory is published every other year. Advertisement contract and copy regulations are the same as for the newsletter. $50 setup fee is waived if the copy and artwork is the same as ordered for the newsletter. Fee is not waived for ads with halftones. Only one color of ink is available.

<table>
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**Advertisement order form**

- [ ] Wise Water Words, Summer issue, 1998 (deadline for copy, etc. April 1, 1998)
- [ ] Wise Water Words, Fall/Winter issue, 1998 (deadline for copy, etc. August 1, 1998)
- [ ] Wise Water Words, Spring issue, 1999 (deadline for copy, etc. January 15, 1999)
- [ ] Use same copy, artwork and design for publications I marked above.
- [ ] I will send new copy, artwork and design for __________________________________________

(Please print)

My name: _______________________________________________________________________________________

My company: _______________________________________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________________________

City, state, zip: _______________________________________________________________________________________

Phone: ( ________ ) _____________________ Fax: ( ________ ) _____________________

Amount enclosed: $50 setup fee + $ ________________  =  $ ________________

Please make a copy of completed order form for your files. Send with ad copy, artwork and dummy layout to:

**Mari Matulka**, Metropolitan Utilities District, 1723 Harney St., Omaha, NE 68102; phone: 402/449-8154; fax: 402/449-8166

or **Don Franklin**, Bert Gurney & Associates, P.O. Box 6255, Omaha, NE 68106; phone: 402/551-7995; fax: 402/553-5879.

Ads must be prepaid. Make check payable to the Nebraska Section AWWA.

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Acceptance of advertising by the Nebraska Section AWWA does not constitute endorsements of the advertiser, its products or services, nor does Wise Water Words make any claims or guarantees as to the accuracy or validity of the advertiser’s offer.