



## **AEA 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting and Conference November 12 – 13**

### **CEUs Pending**

(DCA is reviewing the program. Upon approval credits will be issued retroactively)

**Thursday 2.5 w tchs / 3 ww tchs**

**Friday 1.5 w tchs / 2 ww tchs**

*(Attendance each day for the entire day required in order to receive credit)*

### **Thursday, November 12**

9:00 a.m.

#### **Annual Meeting and Election of 2021 Slate**

Immediately Following the Business Meeting

#### **AEA Develops a Strategic Plan**

**Bernie Bujak**, South Monmouth RSA

**Christine Ballard**, CDM Smith

**Brian Brach**, Manasquan River RSA

**Brian Valentino**, Western Monmouth UA

This committee was tasked to develop a strategic plan for AEA. The speakers will discuss the planning process and how it was pursued, present the vision and mission, introduce and explain the goals the committee developed, invite participant feedback and discuss the next steps and beyond.

11:00 a.m.

#### **Break Before Conference Opens**

12:00 p.m.

#### **Conference Opens**

**Peggy Gallos**, AEA Executive Director

Welcome to AEA Inaugural Virtual Conference

#### **Zoom Master of Ceremonies**

Delivers the housekeeping and helpful instructions

12:15 p.m.

Welcome

**Justin Flancbaum**, AEA President

#### **State of Affairs**

More than ever before, AEA plays an even more important role in addressing the significant issues our members will have to confront in the future; the social, economic and political challenges that face them, us, New Jersey and the nation.

12:30 p.m.

**Keynote**

**Introduction to the Water Coop: a Non-profit Model of Water and Wastewater Service Delivery**

**William Senft**, EJ Water Trust, Inc.

William Senft, one of the Founders of EJ Water Trust, will describe this national 501c3 nonprofit model of service delivery which leverages the strengths of government-run systems and corporate systems. EJ Water Trust identifies regional target markets in rural, suburban and urban areas and provides a way for them to collaborate on regional water treatment plants. While this approach is being more widely applied on the drinking water side, Mr. Senft will describe how it can be applied on the wastewater side as well.

*.5 w/ww tch*

1:00 p.m.

**Wastewater Surveillance for COVID-19 Mitigation: What We Do and Don't Know**

**Anna Mehrotra**, CDM Smith

Wastewater surveillance has received increasing attention as a tool for tracking and anticipating COVID-19 outbreaks at the country, city, community and campus scale. The speaker will discuss how the implementation of surveillance programs requires systematic selection of sampling locations, reliable detection of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in the complex wastewater matrix, and careful interpretation of the viral signal within the context of site-specific conditions as well as the implications for water reuse.

*.5 w/ww tch*

1:30 p.m.

**Old Tool, New Use: Using Wastewater Epidemiology as a Strategy to Fight SARS-CoV-2**

**Rob Newby**, NJ DEP Division of Science and Research

Dr. Robert Newby, a research scientist with the NJDEP, will discuss new efforts to monitor the transmission of COVID-19 in the community by analysing wastewater. He will discuss the science behind this new epidemiological effort, its possibilities and its limitations.

*.5 ww tch*

2:00 p.m.

**BREAK TIME to Check-In with Office**

2:20 p.m.

**COVID-19 Effects in the Bond Market - New COVID Related Borrowing**

**Robert Beinfield**, Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP

**Robbi Acampora**, Phoenix Advisors

The presenters will review the 2020 municipal bond market relative to the effects of COVID-19. They will also discuss the market volatility and its subsequent impact on the municipal market including new and existing State law relative to COVID-related borrowings.

*.5 w/ww tch*

2:50 p.m.

**Selected Initiatives that Utilities Can Implement to Bolster their Financial Health and Resilience**

**Alan Karnovitz**, Hazen and Sawyer

Business shutdowns and stay-at-home orders resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic have significantly contracted America's economy and reshaped the demand for potable water and wastewater treatment at many utilities. The short-term financial impacts to Drinking Water and Wastewater Utilities is projected to reach more than \$27 billion. Longer-term financial impacts are uncertain but could remain substantial.

*.5 w/ww tch*

3:20 p.m.

**The Hidden Value of Collaboration and Networking**

**Kyle Redican**, PhD student at Michigan State University

**Brian Valentino**, Western Monmouth Utilities Authority

**Andy Kricun**, Moonshot Missions

Across the water/wastewater/solid waste sector, professionals collaborate everyday. Translated into dollars, time spent in collaboration and networking likely has huge value. Mr. Redican will discuss his research into the value of networking. Mr. Valentino will discuss how the cohort-based learning model of the Environmental Professional Development Academy leverages networking to enrich careers and create professionalism, and Mr. Kricun will explain how these concepts are the foundation of the new NJ Peer-to-Peer program created by AEA and Moonshot Missions.

*.5 w/ww tch*

3:50 p.m.

**BREAK TIME to get Cocktail or Mocktail of Choice**

4:00 p.m.

**Breakout Networking Virtual Cocktail Time**

**Friday, November 13**

9:00 a.m.

Peggy Gallos

**Day Two Welcome Remarks**

**Zoom Master of Cermonies**

Recap on Instructions

9:15 a.m.

**Current Topics in Water Resources Management**

**John Gray**, NJDEP

Regulatory officer John Gray of the NJDEP will discuss a variety of timely and important issues being addressed at the Division of Water Resources Management.

*.5 w/ww tch*

9:45 a.m.

**Environmental Justice Legislation**

**Margaret Carmeli**, Offit Kurman

**George Tyler**, The Law Office of George J. Tyler, P.C.

**Dennis Palmer**, Landis SA

**Sean Moriarty**, NJDEP

The presenters will discuss the recently passed Environmental Justice legislation and focus on the Issues affecting “facilities” locating or expanding in “burdened communities”. Facilities as defined in the law include wastewater treatment plants with a capacity of 50 million gallons per day, sludge incinerators, any major source of air pollution as defined by the federal Clean Air Act and most solid waste facilities.

*.5 ww tch*

10:30 a.m.

**Developing Cyber Risk Awareness and Mitigation: Be Prepared!**

**David Brearley** and **Jim Schultz**, HDR

Current events have emphasized the value of being prepared to respond to risk. For instance, some did not identify the ramifications of COVID as a risk, and others dismissed the extent of its impact. This session will review the potential depth and breadth of attacks on our water and wastewater operational technology (OT / SCADA / Process Controls) network infrastructures.

*.5 w/ww tch*

11:00 a.m.

**Policies, Politics and Pandemics**

**David A. Smith**, Princeton Public Affairs Group, Inc.

AEA’s strategic advisor and lobbyist David Smith will be providing attendees with a political update, election analysis and expert insights on both the federal and state level. He will also discuss Administrative action affecting environmental authorities, with specific focus on AEA’s top public policy and legislative priorities during this Pandemic.

*.5 w/ww tch*

11:30 a.m.

**Closing Remarks**

**Peggy Gallos**, AEA Executive Director

**Zoom Master of Ceremonies** Question and Answer, and closing