



**AEA 2020
Virtual Annual Meeting
and Conference**

November 12 – 13





Welcome to the AEA 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting and Conference

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 & Election of Officers and Directors

2021 Slate of Officers and Directors

President Justin Flanchbaum, Lakewood Township MUA

1st Vice President Richard Brand, East Windsor MUA

2nd Vice President Steve Specht, Brick Township MUA

Treasurer Brian Brach, Manasquan River RSA

Past President Dave Harpell, Jackson Township MUA

Authority Member Director Bernie Bujak, South Monmouth RSA

Authority Member Director Mike Wynne, Hanover SA

Associate Member Director John Scheri, Mott MacDonald

Immediately Following the Annual Meeting | AEA Develops a Strategic Plan



*Brian Brach,
Manasquan
River RSA*



*Brian Valentino,
Western
Monmouth UA*



*Christine
Ballard,
CDM Smith*



*Bernie Bujak,
South Monmouth
RSA*

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.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, CONTINUED



**12:00 p.m. | Conference Opens
Welcome to AEA Inaugural Virtual Conference**



*Welcome by
Peggy Gallos
AEA Executive Director*

*Ryan Neal, Zoom Master of Ceremonies
Delivers the housekeeping and helpful
instructions.*



12:15 p.m. | Welcome | State of Affairs

Justin Flancbaum, AEA President

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, CONTINUED

**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 w/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**



*Robbi Acampora,
Phoenix Advisors*



*Robert Beinfeld,
Hawkins
Delafield &
Wood LLP*

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, CONTINUED

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

Friday, November 13

9:00 a.m. | Day Two Welcome Remarks



Welcome by
Peggy Gallos,
AEA Executive Director



Welcome by
Justin Flancbaum,
AEA President



Matthew Caballero,
Zoom Master of Ceremonies
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



Sean Moriarty,
NJDEP



Margaret
Carmeli,
Offit Kurman



Dennis Palmer,
Landis SA



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

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 w/ww tch

**10:30 a.m. | Developing Cyber Risk Awareness and Mitigation:
Be Prepared!**



*David Brearley,
HDR*



*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

Question and answer, and closing.

About the Presenters

Robbi Acampora has extensive work experience in the budget, comptroller and county administrator's offices of a New Jersey county. Previous to her present position, she worked with Sustainable Jersey, assisting schools and municipalities with energy savings projects. Prior to that, Robbi was president at Capital Financial Advisors. She has a bachelor's degree in accounting from Rutgers University.

Christine Ballard, PE is a Principal Engineer with CDM Smith in Edison, New Jersey. She holds a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Clemson University and Masters of Science Degrees in Systems Engineering and Engineering Management from Stevens Institute of Technology. She is currently on the AEA Board and serves on several AEA committees including the strategic planning committee.

Bob Beinfield serves as bond counsel, underwriters' counsel, disclosure counsel and trustee's counsel. Bob's practice for more than 30 years has included a variety of financings for many types of state and local government issuers, particularly in New Jersey. Bob joined the firm as an associate upon graduating law school and has practiced his entire career at the firm. Bob has extensive experience with short-term financings, cash flow borrowings, general obligation bonds, appropriation bonds, lease revenue bonds, certificates of participation, revenue bonds for water, wastewater and transportation, pension obligation bonds, redevelopment area bonds, assessment bonds, industrial.

Brian Brach currently serves as Executive Director for the Manasquan River Regional Sewerage Authority and has over 16-years of experience in the water resources industry. Leading the day-to-day operation of a regional sewerage authority, in combination with a decade's worth of

consulting engineering experience, has provided Mr. Brach with valuable exposure to all facets of water utility operations and administration. Mr. Brach is a licensed Professional Engineer (NJ PE), Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) and Certified Municipal Engineer (CME). Mr. Brach leverages his passion for the industry in an effort to address challenges in an efficient and innovative manner.

David Brearley (GICSP, PMP) has 17+ years of international experience in providing design, assessment, planning and consulting services covering the comprehensive control system lifecycle. David is responsible for HDR's growing international OT cybersecurity services program providing consulting, assessment, design and compliance review services in support of HDR's critical infrastructure projects.

Bernie Bujak has been employed by the South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority since 2005 and now serves as its Chief Financial Officer and Director of Human Resources where he is responsible for implementing all financial, investment and administrative strategies. Bernie is a New Jersey Qualified Purchasing Agent and in addition to his employment, is a member of the AEA Board of Directors, Education and Conference Committee, Finance and Human Resource Committees as well as a member of the DLGS-QPA Exam committee representing the interests of the AEA.

Margaret B. Carmeli, Esq. was also a founding member of Tyler & Carmeli, P.C. and is now a Principal Attorney at Offit Kurman. She has been involved in providing representation to public and private clients on a broad spectrum of matters including environmental, redevelopment, community relations, labor, land use, general, business matters, insurance coverage and related litigation.

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About the Presenters

John Gray is a Regulatory Officer in the Division of Water Quality at the NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). In 19 years of service at NJDEP, John has held positions as Deputy Chief of Staff, Legislative Liaison, and Environmental Justice Coordinator. John also managed NJDEP's Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review, which facilitated the cross-program reviews of complex projects like energy generation and transmission, and major redevelopments. Following Superstorm Sandy, John also served as an agency liaison to the Governor's Office of Recovery and Rebuilding, focusing on New Jersey's comprehensive shore protection system working with the US Army Corps of Engineers. While working full-time at NJDEP, John earned a Juris Doctorate from Seton Hall University School of Law as an evening student and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science and English from the University of Scranton.

Alan Karnovitz has performed economic, financial, and environmental assessments for infrastructure projects in the water, sanitation, transportation, and energy sectors in 20 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. He has also led numerous feasibility studies and cost-benefit analyses and has extensive experience in regional input-output modeling. He holds an MPP Degree in Public Policy from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and a B.S Degree in Biology of Natural Resource Science from the University of California, Berkeley.

Andrew Kricun is a Managing Director with Moonshot Missions, a non-profit focused on providing technical assistance to water utilities in underserved communities. He is also a Senior Fellow with the US Water Alliance working on their national water equity initiative. He is also working as a

Senior Advisor at the Water Center at the University of Pennsylvania on various projects related to the Delaware River watershed. Prior to that, he served as Executive Director and Chief Engineer of the Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority, operators of an 80 million gallon per day wastewater treatment plant in Camden, NJ. He has 35 years of wastewater and biosolids management experience. He graduated with honors from Princeton University with a degree in chemical engineering. He also holds a professional engineer's license in civil engineering and is a board-certified environmental engineer as well.

Anna Mehrotra is a technical leader in CDM Smith's wastewater process engineering practice. With more than 15 years of experience, she is currently spearheading the firm's COVID-19 wastewater-based epidemiology efforts. Dr. Mehrotra is a licensed PE with a PhD in civil and environmental engineering from UC Berkeley.

Sean Moriarty serves as Chief Advisor for Regulatory Affairs to Commissioner McCabe. Mr. Moriarty leads and manages the DEP's internal legal team and serves as its general counsel on all matters of regulatory compliance and rulemaking. He also is a member of the Commissioner's executive team, providing input on priority initiatives that include climate change and environmental justice. Sean received both his undergraduate and law degrees from Rutgers University. He lives with his wife and daughter in Haddon Township.

Rob Newby is a Research Scientist with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection - Division of Science and Research. Rob is a trained microbiologist with an emphasis on molecular biology and its use in environmental tracking. A lifelong NJ resident, Rob has dedicated his scientific studies in understanding the microbial community and the various roles that

Continues on next page

About the Presenters

microbes play in key ecological processes. In the advent of COVID-19 Rob has followed closely the use of the concept of Wastewater Based Epidemiology, both as a potential short-term tool for tracking SARS-CoV-2 in sewer sheds, but also in utilizing the technique for a long-term strategy for emerging threats.

Dennis Palmer serves as the Executive Director and Chief Engineer for the Landis Sewerage Authority located in Vineland, NJ since 1993. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in NJ and PA and Licensed Professional Planner in NJ. Mr. Palmer holds both S-4 and C-4 operator licenses in NJ as well as a Certified Public Works Manager. He graduated from Trenton State College (now College of NJ) with a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from NJ Institute of Technology. He is past president of AEA and currently serves as chairman of the legislative committee.

Kyle Redican is currently a Ph.D. Candidate at Michigan State University in the Department of Geography, Environment, and Spatial Sciences. His dissertation work explores the role of knowledge transfers between Michigan community water operators. Knowledge transfers between unrelated community operators is explored in two main ways: 1) understanding the role that knowledge transfers between operators have on water system SDWA compliance or system performance, and 2) exploration of the spatial extents of knowledge transfers between operators. Other water related research has focused on creating indices of water system stressors and development of ownership classification scheme for community water systems. Before MSU, Kyle received a BA in Political Science from Christopher Newport University (2012) and a MS in Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Tech (2016).

Jim Schultz is a Cybersecurity Network

Engineer at HDR with 30+ years of industrial control system and information technology experience in the water, wastewater, manufacturing, and electric industries. Jim has experience in cybersecurity, industrial network design, control system engineering, master planning, data modeling, database development, and application development.

William Senft is currently engaged in an effort to solve water system challenges through a national nonprofit dedicated to serving water system ratepayers - finding regional wholesale solutions for better service & lower rates with efficiency, local transparency & accountability. A career working with business owners and entrepreneurs in a variety of situations and industries including bankruptcy reorganizations, M&A, venture capital, managing IT projects, and ventures of many types in both the nonprofit and for-profit sectors.

David Smith is a veteran of the public affairs arena and has expertly managed public affairs campaigns impacting auto insurance, life insurance, financial services, tort reform and environmental legislative initiatives. He was a member of Governor Murphy's Transition2018 Environment & Energy Committee and has appeared on television and radio stations representing clients' interests and authoring dozens of articles on politics/policy issues in New Jersey. Mr. Smith is also a frequent guest speaker/lecturer at national and state conferences, legislative hearings, meetings and seminars.

George J. Tyler, Esq. was a founding member of the law firm of Tyler & Carmeli, P.C. now known as The Law Office of George J. Tyler, P.C. He is the managing attorney at that firm. He has an extensive practice before municipal, county, state and federal courts and agencies in a wide variety of business, corporate, environmental, redevelopment, labor,

Continues on next page

About the Presenters

insurance coverage and real estate matters as well as related litigation.

Brian Valentino is executive director of the Western Monmouth Utilities Authority. He holds a bachelor's degree from Marymount University and a masters from American University. He spent nearly 20 years as a local government administrator in New Jersey municipalities. He is the founding

director of the AEA Environmental Professional Development Academy and a member of the AEA professional development and education and conference committees. He is one of nine local government professionals in New Jersey to have earned an ICMA-credentialed Manager designation from the International City/County Management Association. ♦

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Thank you to the AEA Education and Conference Committee for putting together a timely and informative conference program.

The committee members are:

Bill Gettings, chair,
Bernie Bujak, Rick Dovey, Rick Eustace, Dollie Hamlin,
Tom Horn, Jill Plesnarski, Manuel Ponte, Apryl Roach,
John Scheri, and Brian Valentino.

The committee was supported by AEA staff,
Peggy Gallos, executive director, and Karen Burris, office manager,
and by Lorna O'Hara and Milly Diaz from Princeton Public Affairs.

Conference Chairs
Richard Brand, 1st Vice President
Stephen Specht, 2nd Vice President

