



Missouri Water and Wastewater Conference

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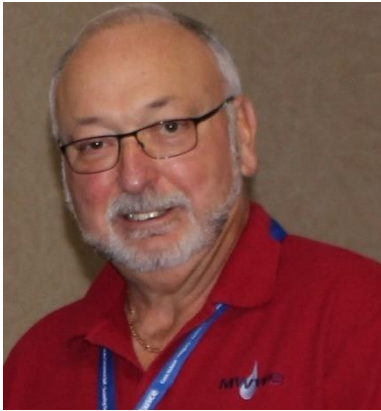
MWWC MAIN LINES

Training News and Information

ISSUE 120
No. 3

POST ANNUAL MEETING EDITION

NOVEMBER 2023



Chairman Verlon W Persinger's Address to the MWWC Membership:

I am excited to be serving as MWWC's chairman. I hope this message finds you in good health and willing to continue to serve your constituents in safely treating water for use and protection of our environment.

My background is of 32-years of service in the fields of water and wastewater with memberships in both MWWC's Northeast and Northwest Sections. I have served as vice-chair, chair and section board rep for the Northwest Section and continue to serve on the planning committee for their annual meeting. Through serving on MWWC's State Executive Board of Directors, I continue to dedicate time to serve the MWWC membership. As to that, I will attend as many of the Section Meetings this spring as possible. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

For the members that have agreed to serve their Sections and/or the Executive Board or are considering this for the future, please keep in mind that your attendance and vote is an integral part of carrying out the business of the MWWC.

In the coming days, months, and years the Board of Directors will be contemplating how to move forward with the future of the MWWC. Such items of concern will be where to hold the annual meeting, how to fund the annual meeting without continuing to raise registration rates, and how the overall makeup of organization will transition into the future.

Finally, I want to send out a B-I-G shout-out Sandi and Leslie for keeping the organization running on a daily basis, moving the annual meeting back to an in-person event, providing training for operators, and looking into the future of the MWWC organization. Thank you both, Sandi and Leslie, for what you have done and continue to do.

As a last thought, please consider serving the MWWC, as an officer or committee member, on either the state or section level if your time and dedication allows. Thanks to each of you for what you do, daily, to keep your communities safe.

Verlon W. Persinger
MWWC Chairman



2023 Annual Meeting

MWWC's first technical program and vendor show, since Covid 19, was a success. The one-day event was held at the Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center, in Columbia, on Wednesday, September 20. Approximately 175 water professionals, vendors, and guests attended the event. Certified operators were awarded 6.0 renewal training hours across the board for water treatment, distribution, and wastewater.

Many thanks to Curtis Hedrick for taking pictures at the event. Pix have been emailed to award recipients, are posted to our website, and appear in this newsletter.

Thank You Exhibitors!



Twenty-four companies were represented as traditional exhibitors at MWWC's annual vendor show. Four additional companies were represented as "Walking and Talking Exhibitors."

Thank you to Allstate Consultants (Jason Klemme), USA Blue Book (Philip Peaks), Cardinal Pump (Brian Shafter & Kevin Crooks), and Ressler & Associates (Michael Heitert & Jimmy Jackson) for taking advantage of the opportunity to be Walking/Talking Exhibitors. Like traditional vendor reps, Walking and Talking company reps received exhibitor ribbons to wear at the show. Walking and Talking exhibitor registration also included recognitions as break sponsors, at the show, on our webpage, in the annual meeting program booklet, and in this newsletter.

Please say thanks to all of our exhibitors throughout the year by utilizing their goods and services.

Traditional Exhibitors: Armour Equipment, Brotcke Well & Pump, C.K. Power, E.J. Equipment, Enviro-line Co., Flo-Systems, Flynn Drilling Co., Hydro-Kinetics Corp., Illinois Electric Corp., Smico Contracting Group, TNEMEC Co., Vandevanter Engineering, Industrial Sealing & Lubrication, Layne Christensen, Maguire Iron, Midwest Infrastructure Coatings, Missouri – Dental Health, Municipal Equipment Co., R.E. Pedrotti Co., Schulte Supply, Sidener Environmental Services, Victautic, MPUA, Westfall Company.

MWWC's 2023 annual business meeting was held on Tuesday, September 20, 2023, in conjunction with the 2023 Annual Technical Program and Vendor Show. Recognitions of award recipients were also made that day. Congratulations to all of the award recipients and honorees.

Section Operators of the Year

Northwest Section	Bill Prussman City of Oregon
Southeast Section	Brian Williams (Water) PWSD #3 Butler Co.
Southeast Section	Kevin Ogden (Wastewater) City of Gideon

State Operator of the Year Kevin Ogden

Kevin Ogden is a seasoned water and wastewater professional with more than eight years of experience with the city of Oregon's Water and Street Departments. His expertise in the water and wastewater field is widely known and sought by communities outside of Gideon. Currently Kevin is providing water testing services for two additional communities and in the past has supported up to four: all in his free time. In short, Kevin set the standards for others to emulate. Kevin is personal, extremely humble, and exceedingly responsible. Kevin holds a C level certification in wastewater and a DS II in distribution.

Kramer Award

The Kramer Award was established in 1970 in memory of Dr. Warren A. Kramer. Warren A. Kramer was chief engineer of the Public Drinking Water Program of the Missouri Division of Health. He was devoted to upgrading the public water/wastewater supplies of Missouri, dedicating his life to that end. Dr. Kramer also served as the secretary for the Missouri Water and Sewerage Conference.

Northeast Section: Lance Lankford is a Utility Worker 1 for Alliance Water Resources

Northwest Section: Nathaniel (Nate) Jarrett is employed as a water operator for PWSD #2 Andrew County

Robert S. Miller Award

The recipient of the 2023 Robert S. Miller Award is Anthony J. Lamb. Tony is a lab technician and operator for the City of Fulton. Tony has 40 years of services (six with the city of Fulton) and holds an A level certification in wastewater, a C in water treatment, and a DSII in Distribution. Tony is a life member of the MWWC. He served on MWWC's State Board for seven years and was Chairman in 2012. Tony received MWWC's Kramer Award through the Midwest Section in 1986 and in 2004 he received MWWC's A.V. Graf Chairman's Appreciation Award.

John E. Betz Outstanding Trainer's Award

The John E. Betz Outstanding Trainer's Award was established in October 2011 to commemorate the contributions of John E. Betz as MWWC's lead trainer. The award is given in recognition of the recipient's knowledge and skills and his or her ability to convey that information to operators in a professional yet personable manner. Mark Wade, P.E. is this year's recipient of the John E. Betz Trainers Award. Mark is the president of BlueWater Solutions Group, Inc. and is an instructor for MWWC's training program.

W. Victor Weir Award

W. Victor Weir was respected and loved by all who knew him. He was skillful in his profession and was a scholar and a diplomat. The W. Victor Weir Award is given to commemorate Mr. Weir's memory and to recognize the accomplishments of the award recipient. **Homer Smith, Columbia Water and Light**, received this year's W. Victor Weir Award. Homer is a Water Distribution Crew Leader with fifty years of service.

MWWC David L. Williams Award of Merit

MWWC's David L. Williams Award of Merit is given to a member of the Missouri Water and Wastewater Conference in recognition of outstanding leadership in the field of waterworks and/or wastewater works practice and operations. **Kyra Mills**, membership coordinator for the United Water Partnership, is the recipient of the 2024 David L. Williams Award of Merit. Kyra has dedicated more than twenty years to the formation of the Great Northwest Wholesale Water Commission and the United Water Partnership (aka The Atchison County Wholesale Water Commission). Kyra worked very closely with David L. Williams on both of these projects.

Outstanding Young Operators of the Year Award

MWWC's Outstanding Young Operator of the Year Award is given in recognition of performance in the field of water and wastewater operations and for going the extra mile to get the job done efficiently and completely. The following six individuals were recognized as Outstanding Young Operators of the Year: Darrick Brumley, PWSD #12 Jefferson Co.; Matthew J. Reynolds, PWSD #1 Johnson Co.; Eric Thurman, City of Marceline; Adam Thurman, PWSD #3 Chariton-Linn Counties; Parker Maize, City of Farmington; Cody Borders, Sikeston Board of Municipal Utilities.

2023 New Life Members

Life membership may be awarded to any individual or associate member who has paid membership dues for 25 years.

Perry Thomas	PWSD #1 – Jackson Co.
Jesse Vineyard	City of Columbia
Michael Neal	City of Jackson
Carroll Fisher	City of Gower
Keith Morrow	City of Cape Girardeau
Chris West	PWSD #4 -- Boone County
Randall Holt	PWSD #1 – Andrew Co.
Floyd Shell, Jr.	Retired -- City of Fredericktown
Sylvia (Trudi) Burton	Retired -- City of Gallatin
Billy Arnett	Clarence Co. Wholesale Water
Todd Keller	Clarence Co. Wholesale Water
Homer Smith	City of Cape Girardeau
Hydro-Kinetics Corp.	

Vendor Awarded Door Prizes

In addition to cash door prizes awarded by the MWWC during the technical sessions, many of our exhibitors gave away door prizes inside the exhibit hall.

MWWC Awarded Cash Door Prizes

\$25.00 Kenneth Eads, Jesse Vineyard, Parker Maize, Chris Hunter, Richard Brockmire, Eric Perkins, Jacob Watson, Devear Redden

\$50.00 Tyler Spears, Jacob Weston, Leslie Diehl, Lyndon Marlatt, Shelby Perkins, Archie Hendren, Joshua Youngblood, Lindsay Bein

\$100.00 Sonny Clayborn, Jacob Ahlfield, Kent Spainhour, Bruce Lindback

\$250.00 Matthew Wilson

2023 – 2024 Board of Directors

Voting Board Members:

Chair	Verlon Persinger	Alliance Water Resources
Chair Elect	Bryan Evans	Springfield City Utilities
Vice Chair	Archie Hendren, Jr.	City of Columbia
Director 3	Curtis Hedrick	City of Tarkio
Director 2	Vacant	
Director 3	Mike McMillian	Alliance Water Resources
Immediate Past Chair	Floyd Shell, Jr.	Retired, City of Fredericktown
Board Member Emeritus	Ken Hogan	Retired, City of St. Louis
EC Section Board Rep	Don Rea	Retired, City of St. Louis
MW Section Board Rep	Rodney Slayton	City of Columbia
NE Section Board Rep	Matt Everts	City of Moberly
NW Section Board Rep	John Brown	City of Fairfax
SE Section Board Rep	Allen Taylor	Retired, City of Cape Girardeau
SW Section Board Rep	John Waitman	City of Springfield
Non-Voting Board Member	John Betz	Retired, City of Columbia
Non-Voting Board Member	Tony Lamb	City of Fulton

Attention: Retired A, B and DS III Operators and Vendor Reps Instructors Needed for MWWC’s Operator Training Program

MWWC is seeking individuals to teach operator training sessions through its training program. Ideal candidates would have knowledge and experience across the board in water treatment, water distribution, and wastewater. Most of MWWC’s training is held virtually; however, in-seat opportunities are available at Jefferson College in Hillsboro. For more information, contact Sandi Miller at 573/657-0266 or sandi.miller@mwwc.net

2024 Section Meetings

East Central	Tentative: April 17 or 23	St. Peters
Midwest	May 2	Columbia
Northeast	April 9	Macon
Northwest	April 4	St. Joseph
Southeast	April 25	Cape Girardeau
Southwest	May 6	Springfield

2023 East Central Section Meeting

The East Central Section of the MWWC held its annual section meeting on Wednesday, August 23, 2023. Attendance at the meeting was 87 including 65 individual registrants, 13 vendor reps, and nine guests. Section officers for the coming year are: Chair Shelley Lane, MO American Water; Vice Chair Tony Davis, MO American Water; Treasurer Bobby Nichols, Woodard & Curran; and Training Chair Jeremy Barron, Woodard & Curran. The East Central Section is planning their next meeting for Spring 2024. Tentative dates for that event are April 17 or April 23.

November and December Training

These classes and more are posted to our webpage, www.mwwc.net>training program

In-Seat:

November 7, 2023 Plant Safety, Emergency Planning, Safety Data Sheets (In-Seat Jefferson College/Hillsboro)
December 19, 2023 Fall Protection Review, Emergency Response, and Building a Safety Plan (Columbia)

Virtual:

November 15, 2023 Disinfection Technologies for Keeping Drinking Water Safe
December 5, 2023 Operating and Managing Water Production and Distribution Systems
December 13, 2023 Water Testing, Backflow, and Water Quality
December 20, 2023 Management of Water Conveyance Utilities

MWWC 2024 Annual Meeting

***MPUA Kincheloe Conference Center
2200 Maguire Boulevard
Columbia, MO 65201**

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Pre-Con:

Tuesday, September 17

01:00 p.m. – 04:30 p.m.
03:00 p.m.
05:30 p.m.

*Vendor Set Up
*Board Meeting
Board Member Appreciation Dinner

***Wednesday, September 18**

07:45 a.m. – 08:30 a.m.
07:45 a.m. – 08:30 a.m.
08:30 a.m. – 09:00 a.m.
09:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.
10:55 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.
11:55 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.
12:35 p.m. – 01:35 p.m.
01:35 p.m. – 02:00 p.m.
02:00 p.m. – 04:45 p.m.

Registration
Bob Evans Hot Breakfast -- Vendor/Operator Interaction
Business Meeting and Awards and Recognitions
Joint Technical Sessions (Cash Door Prizes)
Vendor/Operator Interaction & Refreshments
Split Technical Sessions (Cash Door Prizes)
Fried Chicken Dinner & Vendor/Operator Interaction
Split Technical Sessions (Cash Door Prizes)
Vendor/Operator Interaction, Door Prizes, Refreshments
Joint Technical Session (Cash Door Prizes)

Details on this schedule are tentative and are subject to change.

**THE 2023 SUMMIT
OZARK EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS
3001 N. GRANT AVE
SPRINGFIELD, MO**

**DECEMBER 6, 2023
www.mocommonground.org**

Hosted by Missouri Common Ground Alliance

**MISSOURI COMMON GROUND ALLIANCE
INTERNATIONAL LOCATE RODEO
SPRINGFIELD, MO
DECEMBER 7, 2023**

**DON'T MISS THIS CHANCE
TO CASH IN ON YOUR SKILLS!**

LOCATERODEO.NET

SAFETY RULES

To prevent injuries, it's recommended that employers develop safety rules that are written, communicated, monitored, and enforced. Even when a business hasn't experienced an injury, safety rules will continue to keep your employees injury free. This document provides a pathway for employers to develop and effectively manage safety rules.

Effective safety rules address injury risks through specific and clear language. MEM does not encourage businesses to use boilerplate, hard-to-understand safety program documents that don't correctly address the hazards in your work. MEM simply encourages employers to implement specific safety rules that are:

- ✓ **Written** in plain language, provide specific direction, and address top injury and fatality types.
- ✓ **Communicated** to employees through employee meetings or safety meetings.
- ✓ **Monitored** through management walk-throughs of work areas or through employee observations.
- ✓ **Enforced** through follow up or corrective action when your safety rules aren't followed.

The term "safety rules" is a simple and achievable concept that is encouraged by OSHA, (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) workers compensation insurance carriers and statutes in many states. For example:

- OSHA's "General Duty Clause" (29 US Code 654) requires employees to follow safety rules.
- Missouri workers compensation law (RSMo Chapter 287.120.5) supports known and enforced safety rules.
- During a possible citation, OSHA recognizes properly managed safety rules and considers misconduct. Unsafe employee actions must be unknown to the employer and safety rules are proven to be communicated and enforced.

Your safety rules must address the most common causes of work-related injuries and death. These are:

- ✓ Slip, trip, and fall injuries: cluttered workspaces, wet floors, falls from roofs, falls from ladders.
- ✓ Overexertion, orthopedic, strain-sprain injuries: excessively heavy lifting, repetitive work, jerking or yanking.
- ✓ Motor vehicle crashes: Lack of seat belt use, speeding, impaired driving, fatigued driving, distracted driving.
- ✓ Struck-by object / hazardous contact with an object: sharp edges, pinch points, gears, chains, or saw blades.

Step 1: Identify the most dangerous jobs and tasks performed by your employees, or dangerous tools in use. Use safety rules found in machine owner's manuals or instructions. Be direct. Avoid general statements like "follow all safe driving laws" or "follow all OSHA regulations". Examples include:

- ✓ Residential roofing, carpentry, and near leading edges: Requiring employees to use personal fall arrest systems.
- ✓ Residential carpentry crews: Requiring safe & proper use of scaffolds, extension, and step ladders.
- ✓ Driving a vehicle for work-related purposes: Requiring the use of seat belts and prohibiting distracted driving.
- ✓ Inflating tires at a tire shop: Requiring the use of eye protection and a tire inflation safety cage.
- ✓ Using table saws: Maintaining guards, shields & kickback devices. Also, use push sticks to prevent hand injuries.

Step 2: Educate employees about your safety rules through some form of documented safety meetings. Get signatures on sign-in sheets or on the rules themselves. No matter how you do these meetings, make sure employees know that they're expected to follow the rules. **New hires** make up 40% of MEM injuries each year, so make sure all new hires understand your safety, drug-free workplace, and injury reporting expectations.

Step 3: Perform documented observations (inspections) of work areas or jobsites. Are safety rules being followed? Watch for personal protective equipment utilization, seat belt use, distracted driving, proper ladder use, etc.

Step 4: Perform corrective action when safety rules are not followed. The point of safety rules is to prevent injuries and when they're not followed, the rules are of no value. Document each time you perform corrective action.

In review, employee safety matters. The success of your business matters. MEM encourages all employers – no matter the size of your business or organization – to put safety rules in place that are:

- ✓ **Written** in plain language, provide specific direction, and address top injury and fatality types.
- ✓ **Communicated** to employees through employee meetings or safety meetings.
- ✓ **Monitored** through management walk-throughs of work areas or through employee observations.
- ✓ **Enforced** through follow up or corrective action when your safety rules aren't followed.