
Association of Idaho Cities 2018 Water Academy



Academies – Summary

1. October 29: Eastern (Chubbuck)
 2. November 2: Southwest (Boise)
 3. November 5: South-Central (Twin Falls)
 4. November 7: Northern (Coeur d'Alene)
 5. November 8: North-Central (Lewiston)
- Over 150 attendees
 - Representatives from 60 Idaho cities
 - Elected officials, technical staff, attorneys, consultants, Idaho agency staff, and students



AIC Water Academy: Partners

AIC – Johanna Bell, Policy Analyst

ICRMP – Jim McNall, Risk Management Coordinator

IRWA – Adrianna Hummer, Source Protection Specialist and Trainer

USDA RD – Dave Flesher, Community Program Director

Other Policy and Technical Resources in the Audience



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THANK YOU!



Topics

- **Introductions & Regional Overview**
- **Statewide Support and Services**
- **Evaluating Your Utility Priorities**
- **Working Lunch: Regional Legislative Forum**
- **Regional Challenges and Current Projects**
- **Best Practices and Tools for Delivering Safe, Affordable Drinking Water Over the Long Term**
- **Best Practices and Tools for Ensuring IPDES Permit Compliance**
- **Current Efforts and Future Needs**



Resources: Evaluations



Evaluation: Drinking Water Utility

City/System Name and Water System ID:

Date:

MANAGERIAL CAPACITY	Comments/Notes
Water System Rules, Regulations or Ordinances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Idaho Rules For Public Drinking Water Systems: https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/58/580108.pdf Ordinance Templates: www.idahoruralwater.com/resources/ordinances/ Questions on ordinance process: AIC
Future Capital Needs or Strategic Plan (Facility Plan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engineering Firm https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience
Emergency Planning (Service, Drought, Flood)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Idaho Office of Emergency Management: https://ioem.idaho.gov/ https://ioem.idaho.gov/Pages/AboutUs/Contact/CountyCoordinators.aspx

- Additional resources and links are posted on the AIC website; along with copies of these presentations.
- “AIC 2018 Water Academies Report” prior to the Annual Water Summit on January 23, 2019.



Developing Priorities: Utility “Evaluations”

- Evaluations:
 - Broken into three broad categories; and,
 - Address the capacity of managerial, financial, and technical aspects of your utility
- Each category is critical for long-term success and sustainability
- MANY topics require resources and further analysis



Water Supply Best Practices

- New water rights
- Purchase and/or transfer of existing water rights
- Integration of municipal wells
- Annexation and retention of water rights
- Mitigation agreements (avoiding curtailment)
- Eminent domain
- Investing in new storage projects

Protecting Water Rights

- Best option is to efficiently use the water
- Preserve parcel water rights during development via ordinance or rule
- Improve Infrastructure
 - Surface water for irrigation
 - Fire protection pressure
 - **Metering**
- Water Right Marketing
 - Idaho Water Supply Bank
 - Idaho Rental Pool

Water Quality Best Practices

- Re-use or reclaim water supplies
- Preserve floodplains and riparian areas via ordinance and acquisition
- Protect utility sources via ordinance or rule
- Protect water quality for surface and groundwater
 - Adopt well drilling standards and/or seek “area of drilling concern” designation
 - Infiltrate stormwater via green infrastructure
 - Fully fund asset management for distribution system replacements and improvements
 - Look for opportunities to “stack” benefits (examples: wastewater energy co-generation, industrial use incentives, pollutant trading with agricultural neighbors)

2019 “Water Infrastructure Improvement Act”

- Codifies “Integrated Planning”
- Allows for “schedules of compliance” implementation for over more than one, 5-year permit cycle as authorized by the State, TMDLs and/or TMDL implementation plans
- Establishes a “Municipal Ombudsman” within the EPA
- Supports integration of “green infrastructure” throughout Clean Water Act compliance programs



Collaborations and Coalition Building

- A coalition for each issue vs. forums that target more than one issue
- Opportunities:
 - Pollutant trading with industrial and agricultural partners
 - Equipment and personnel sharing
 - Watershed Advisory Groups, Basin Advisory Groups
 - Other examples: site specific criteria; fish tissue



Cost-Share Opportunities: Data

- New copper and selenium criteria require receiving water body monitoring
- Method to develop background arsenic loads should be sought from the IDEQ
- Other watershed assessment data, including TMDL plan implementation data are needed for water bodies with multiple dischargers

IPDES: Lessons Learned

- Many permits in Idaho have been administratively extended:
 - Monitoring data for existing facility and operations are needed
 - New water quality based effluent limits (WQBELs) and/or TMDLs are likely to influence permit monitoring and effluent limits
- Recommendation is to reach out to IDEQ staff to develop a “high priority” data collection and reasonable potential to exceed (RPE) analysis
- Current rate review, community affordability, and water quality criteria/TMDLs can help inform the need for variance or schedule of compliance

AIC Municipal Water Users Group

Region 1 (AIC District 1 and 2):

- Councilor Shannon Williamson, Sandpoint
- VACANT (2-year term; 1/2021)

Region 2 (AIC District 3 and 3a):

- Councilor Sandi Levi, Nampa
- VACANT (2-year term; 1/2021)

Region 3 (AIC District 4):

- Councilor Robert (Bob) Culver, Jerome
- VACANT (2-year term; 1/2021)

Region 4 (AIC District 5 and 6):

- Mayor Rebecca Casper, Idaho Falls
- Councilor Terry Larson, Preston (1/2021)

- “At Large:” VACANT (1-year term; 1/2020)

