



Districts Conference South Padre Island October 3-4, 2018

Topics Geared Toward Water District
Managers and Board Members



(512) 472-8591
meetings@TRWA.org

2018 DISTRICTS CONFERENCE

HILTON GARDEN INN SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, OCTOBER 3-4

Join us in South Padre for our 2018 Districts Conference, designed to serve TRWA's district members. Although water and wastewater districts face a lot of the same issues as any other business entity, they operate under a distinct legal and regulatory environment. This conference focuses on business and management issues and issues unique to water districts. This is an excellent opportunity to network with fellow districts while gaining valuable information directly related to you and your profession. Continuing Education Credit: TCEQ operator certification renewal credit will be requested for attendance at this conference; and continuing legal education credit will be requested from the State Bar of Texas.

The Districts Conference will be held in conjunction with the TRWA Fall Management Conference. Registrants attending this conference have the added benefit of attending any Fall Management Conference sessions that may be of interest for no added cost!

We will also be offering a 6-hour Public Funds Investment Act initial and renewal course the Tuesday prior to the conference on **October 2nd**.

WEDNESDAY

- 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. **Registration and Breakfast**
- 8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
- 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. **Legislative Preview:** State Representative Eddie Lucio will discuss activities and conversations that have occurred over the interim and potential hot topics in the upcoming legislative session.
- 9:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. ... **Break**
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m... **Public Utility Commission of Texas Agency Update:** Learn the latest policy decisions, regulatory changes and the agency's approach to water utility matters.
- 11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m... **Break**
- 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m... **Hiring and Firing — What You Need to Know:** This session will cover practical tips for hiring and firing, including interview best practices, onboarding, use of a probationary period, corrective action plans and taking the right steps to terminate employment.
- 12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. ... **Lunch — Provided by TRWA**
- 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. **What Documents and Plans Should a District Have in Place? — Part 1:** This session will describe the various policies and plans a district should have in place and readily available for best practices, checks and balances, loaning agencies, and state or federal mandates (i.e. Emergency Preparedness, Capitol Improvement, Drought Contingency, Board Policy, Investment Policy, Conflict of Interest, etc.).
- 2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Break**
- 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **What Documents and Plans Should a District Have in Place? — Part 2:** This session will describe the various operational documents a district is required to have and implement to maintain compliance and operational efficiency (i.e. Monitoring Plan, Nitrification Action Plan, O&M Manual, etc.).
- 3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. **Break**
- 3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. **TCEQ vs. PUC: Roles and Authority:** Come to this session for a better understanding of the different authorities of the two regulating entities over water districts.

THURSDAY

- 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. **Registration and Breakfast**
- 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. **District Board Ethics:** This session will discuss ethical obligations and best practices for district board members, including principles such as trustworthiness, respect, fairness and responsibility to promote public trust in the district. The discussion will also include what constitutes a conflict of interest under the law and how to address conflicts when they arise.
- 9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. **Break**
- 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. ... **Your Role in Delivering the Vision:** This session will discuss strategies for public relations and public outreach to promote the water system and to be engaged and have a presence in the community. Promoting the system and maintaining key relationships with community leaders is an important role for both the general manager and board members.
- 10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m... **Break**
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m... **Securing Future Water Supply:** This session will discuss the importance of planning for the future water supply of your district given the growing needs of our state. New approaches may include regional investment pools/organizations, brackish desal, and reuse.

THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. SEE TRWA.ORG FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE AGENDA.

REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

*E-mail: _____ Phone: () _____
(*required to send registration confirmation)

Dietary Restrictions: ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten Free ☐ No Dairy ☐ No Pork ☐ Other

Please Describe: _____

REFUND POLICY

TRWA will not issue a refund for a registration fee or event ticket if the cancellation is made within 30 days prior to the date of the start of the conference or the event. Refunds will be permitted at any time if the request is made 30 days or more.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE: *Registration fee includes admission to conference sessions, refreshment breaks and lunch on Wednesday.*

Early Bird

After Sept. 17

TRWA Utility Member \$345 \$375 \$ _____

Non-Member \$395 \$425 \$ _____

PUBLIC FUNDS INVESTMENT ACT TRAINING:

Initial Course (6-hr).....\$135 (member)..... \$145 (non-member) \$ _____

Renewal Course (4-hr)\$125 (member)..... \$135 (non-member) \$ _____

PAYMENT:

☐ Check enclosed (payable to TRWA)

☐ Charge \$ _____ to my: ☐ AmEx ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card

Acct. #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ CSV #: _____

Cardholder's Name: _____

Billing Address: _____

HOTEL INFORMATION

Hilton Garden Inn South Padre Island
Room rate: \$90 standard/ \$150 suite
Reservations: (956) 761-8700

For reservations, please contact the hotel directly. To ensure you receive the discounted group rate, please book before **September 17** and mention Texas Rural Water Association.

There are a limited number of rooms at the TRWA rate, so make your room reservations as early as possible. Hotel accommodations are the responsibility of each attendee; conference registration does not secure your room. Should the room block become full before the cut off date(s), reservations will be accepted on rate/space availability.

Please return completed registration form and payment to:

Texas Rural Water Association • 1616 Rio Grande • Austin, TX 78701-1122
phone: (512) 472-8591 • fax: (512) 472-5186
Registration is also available online at www.trwa.org.

In accordance with Title III of the **Americans with Disabilities Act**, we invite any registrant to advise us of any disability and request for accommodations necessary for the disability.

Please indicate any special needs on an additional sheet of paper.

Districts Conference

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