



AMSA's 2005 Winter Conference

# Sustainable Systems

February 1-4, 2005

Westin La Cantera

San Antonio, Texas

(current to January 25, 2005)

♦ - Board of Directors Committee

*Note 1: All meeting rooms are on the Lobby Level of the hotel, except for the San Antonio Rooms, which are located on the Ballroom Level.*

## Monday, January 31

### Morning

8:30 – 5:00

AMSA/WERF Research Priorities Workshop

All AMSA members are invited to attend this Workshop click [here](#) for additional details (<http://www.amsa-cleanwater.org/meetings/05winter/werf.cfm>).

## Tuesday, February 1

### Morning

8:00 – 9:30

Strategic Planning Committee ♦

San Augustin A

9:00 – 4:30

Registration

Ballroom Foyer 2

9:30 – 10:45

SSO Workgroup

San Augustin B

9:45 – 10:45

Budget & Audit Committee ♦

San Augustin A

11:00 – 12:00

Membership Committee ♦

San Augustin A

11:00 – 12:15

Water Quality Committee

San Antonio B

11:00 – 12:15

Air Quality Committee

San Antonio C

### **Afternoon**

2:00 – 3:15           Wet Weather Issues Committee  
*San Antonio D*

2:00 – 3:00           Asset Management Workgroup  
*San Jacinto Boardroom*

3:15 – 4:30           Clean Water Funding Task Force  
*San Miguel*

3:30 – 4:30           Pretreatment & Hazardous Waste Committee  
*San Antonio B*

### **Evening**

6:00 – 7:00           *Welcoming Reception/Meet & Greet*  
*Ballroom Terrace*

## **Wednesday, February 2**

### **Morning**

7:30 – 8:45           Legislative Policy Committee  
*San Antonio D & E*

8:00 – 4:30           Registration  
*Ballroom Foyer 2*

9:00 – 12:00         Opening Remarks  
*San Antonio A, B & C*       William B. Schatz\*  
                                  AMSA President  
                                  General Counsel  
                                  Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District  
                                  Cleveland, OH

### **Welcoming Remarks**

## **GENERAL SESSION I – SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Keynote Address**

#### ***Sustainable Water Infrastructure for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century***

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has acknowledged that America's infrastructure is aging and deteriorating at a rapid pace, and the Agency has estimated that the infrastructure funding gap over the next 20 years will be \$300 – 600 billion. In efforts to address the challenge utilities face in addressing the funding shortfall and the mounting infrastructure needs, EPA developed the concept of *Four Pillars of Sustainable Water Infrastructure*. EPA's *Four Pillars* concept encompasses better management, full-cost pricing, efficient water use and

watershed approaches to protection. While there has been much debate in the clean water community on the ability to narrow the funding gap based upon the *Four Pillar* approach, this address will provide a high-level perspectives on EPA's plan to assist the nation's utilities meet the challenges ahead.

Benjamin Grumbles  
Assistant Administrator  
Office of Water  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington, DC

10:00– 10:15

**BREAK**

### **Roundtable Discussion**

#### ***Better Management -- Maintaining the Momentum***

Since the mid-1990's clean water utilities have done much to think, get and stay competitive. Today, practices like asset management and environmental management systems have the potential to increasingly improve utility management, as well as enhance planning for the future. A commitment to better management is essential — but whether these approaches offer either immediate or long-term cost savings is frequently the focus of debate. This provocative panel will take a close look at programs and practices that support improved management of public utilities.

#### *Moderator:*

Thomas R. Morgan\*  
AMSA Board Member  
General Manager  
Montgomery Water Works & Sanitary Sewer Board  
Montgomery, AL

#### *Speakers:*

##### *On the Pathway to Improved Asset Management*

John Batten\*  
Vice President  
Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.  
White Plains, NY

##### *Condition Assessments - A Key Component of Any Asset Management Program*

Antony Urquhart\*  
Director, Consulting Solutions  
TAG – The Asset Group  
Broomfield, CO

*Achieving Environmental Excellence Through  
Environmental Management Systems - New Handbook for  
Wastewater Utilities*

Christopher Toth\*  
Deputy Director  
Wastewater Collection Division  
City of San Diego  
San Diego, CA

*ISO and the Nation's Wastewater Utilities - An Update*  
Peter Ruffier\*  
Division Director  
City of Eugene Wastewater Division  
Eugene, OR

*WEF's Public Education Infrastructure Initiative*  
Robert McMillon\*  
Co-Chair, WEF Infrastructure Task Force  
CDM  
Euleless, TX

#### Closing Remarks/Announcements

William B. Schatz\*  
AMSA President

#### *Afternoon*

12:15 – 2:00

*San Antonio D*

Board of Directors Meeting

2:00 – 3:30

*San Antonio A, B & C*

#### GENERAL SESSION I – SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE (*continued*)

Opening Remarks  
William B. Schatz\*  
AMSA President

#### Roundtable Discussion

##### *Rates on the Rise – An Inside Look at Rate Setting Studies & Strategies*

While the concept of full-cost pricing has its appeal — many utilities find its real-world application daunting, if not impossible. Over the past few years, clean water utility rates have increased at pace above the annual rate of inflation. Can raising rates allow utilities to meet customer demand — and have a significant impact on our ability to sustain America's clean water infrastructure? This roundtable discussion will provide expert opinions and the latest thinking on utility rate studies and rate-setting strategies that can be employed by agencies across the country.

#### *Moderator:*

Jon Schellpfeffer\*  
Co-Chair, AMSA Utility Management Committee  
Engineer-Director  
Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District  
Madison, WI

*Panelists:*

George Raftelis\*  
President  
Raftelis Environmental Consulting Group  
Charlotte, NC

Eric Rothstein\*  
Vice President, Utility Management Solutions  
CH2M HILL  
Atlanta, GA

Dianne Mills\*  
Financial Management Consultant  
CDM  
Charlotte, NC

Clyde Wilber\*  
Principal  
Greeley and Hansen  
Upper Marlboro, MD

Jeff Rexhausen\*  
Associate Director of Research  
University of Cincinnati  
Cincinnati, OH

**Panel Presentation**

***Sustaining Our Nation's Infrastructure —  
The Case for a Clean & Safe Water Trust Fund***

Many would argue that federal funding is a critical component in sustaining our nation's clean water infrastructure. As costs to maintain and improve the nation's critical clean water infrastructure continue to spiral, AMSA, in collaboration with a wide range of organizations, is leading the way toward a dedicated trust fund for clean and safe water. *The Clean & Safe Water Trust Fund Act of 2005* has the potential to make the dream of closing the infrastructure funding gap, a reality. Through this panel presentation, conference attendees will learn more about this important legislation and the role they can play in its journey through Congress.

*Moderator:*

Ken Kirk\*  
Executive Director  
AMSA  
Washington, DC

*Panelists:*

Paul Pinault\*  
AMSA Board Member  
Chair, Clean Water Funding Task Force  
Executive Director  
Narragansett Bay Commission  
Providence, RI

Suzanne Goss\*  
Vice Chair, Clean Water Funding Task Force  
Government Relations Specialist  
JEA (Electric, Water & Sewer)  
Jacksonville, FL

**Closing Remarks/Announcements**

William B. Schatz\*  
AMSA President

3:45 – 4:45                      Biosolids Management Committee  
*San Antonio D*

3:45 – 4:45                      Utility Management Committee  
*San Antonio E*

**Evening**

6:00 – 7:30                      *Excellence in Management Recognition Reception*  
*Palo Duro Pavillion*

**Thursday, February 3**

**Morning**

7:30 – 8:45                      Regulatory Policy Committee  
*San Antonio D*

8:00 – 4:30                      Registration  
*Ballroom Foyer 2*

9:00 – 12:30                      **Opening Remarks**  
*San Antonio A, B & C*                      William Schatz\*  
AMSA President

**Association Business Meeting**

◆ Consideration of Amendments to *AMSA Bylaws*

**Keynote Address**  
***Attitude is Everything***

The nation's clean water utilities serve on front lines of environmental protection. It is time for agencies which have long been identified with the untreated sewage coming into their facilities to directly and assertively associate themselves with the significant resource they create -- clean water. AMSA has identified renowned motivational speaker, Keith Harrell, as the ideal person to focus both attention and energy on the need for clean water agencies to embrace their role in protecting the environment. Through humorous and engaging remarks, Harrell will address the need to develop and maintain a positive organizational culture to support the key role utilities play in protecting and sustaining America's water resources.

Keith Harrell\*  
Motivational Speaker and Change Expert  
Atlanta, GA

10:30 – 10:45

**BREAK**

## **GENERAL SESSION II – SUSTAINABLE WORKFORCE**

### ***Managing Your Utility's Workforce and Knowledge Assets as if Tomorrow Mattered***

AMSA's 2005 Winter Conference now shifts its attention to the sustainable workforce. Strategic human and knowledge resources management is critically necessary for organizations to succeed. Today's workforce must be efficiently managed — each employee must be a learner and every supervisor must be an adept teacher. Over the next decade, utilities will see many baby-boomers leave the workforce, and with them will go a huge amount of organizational knowledge. This presentation will explore strategies to manage the outflow and ongoing retention efforts of employees and knowledge; examine workplace trends and succession planning approaches; and focus on managing “knowledge” assets and the need to capture, index, manage and store institutional knowledge.

#### *Speaker/Moderator:*

John Maniscalco\*  
Director of Finance & Administration  
Hampton Roads Sanitation District  
Virginia Beach, VA

#### *Speakers:*

##### *Building an Organization Based on Talent, Learning, and Knowledge*

Charlyne Meinhard\*  
Practice Leader, Leadership & Organizational Development  
The Organizational Effectiveness Group  
Richmond, VA

Norman LeBlanc\*  
Chair, AMSA Water Quality Committee  
Chief, Technical Services  
Hampton Roads Sanitation District

Virginia Beach, VA

*Utility-Wide Knowledge Management Systems*

Gary Fujita\*

Deputy Director

Detroit Water & Sewerage Department

Detroit, MI

Thomas J. DeLaura\*

Vice President

Westin Engineering, Inc.

Detroit, MI

**Closing Remarks/Announcements**

Donnie Wheeler\*

AMSA Vice President

General Manager

Hampton Roads Sanitation District

Virginia Beach, VA

12:30 – 2:00

*San Miguel*

Awards Committee ♦

2:00 – 3:30

*San Antonio A, B & C*

**GENERAL SESSION III – SUSTAINABLE SECURITY**

**Opening Remarks**

Donnie Wheeler\*

AMSA Vice President

**Panel Presentation —**

***Sustainable Security. . .Common Challenges -- New Resources***

Thursday afternoon's program will examine the issue of Sustainable Security. Providing for the security of their systems has been added to the growing list of responsibilities facing utility leaders. While the security priorities and practices may take different forms at different utilities, there are common challenges, and a growing number of resources to offer support. One such resource is AMSA's new *Decontamination Wastewater Acceptance & Treatment Planning Tool*. This new AMSA offering — slated for release at the Winter Conference — provides guidance to wastewater utilities as they plan for, and react to, an incident involving chemical, biological or radiological agents where decontamination activities may result in contaminating agents entering their system. Utility leaders will come away from this session with the answer to the question, "What do wastewater utilities need to know about decontamination wastewater to assure their workers remain safe and treatment systems continue their operations, during and after a terrorist attack involving chemical, biological or radiological agents?" The Planning Tool presentation will be followed by a panel featuring a number of ongoing and newly



completed initiatives including the National Infrastructure Protection Plan; emergency response planning guidance for wastewater utilities; and, AMSA's *Chlorine Decision Tree project*.

*Speaker/Moderator:*

Robert C. Steidel\*  
Chair, AMSA Security & Emergency Preparedness Committee  
Member, Water Sector Coordinating Council  
Deputy Director  
City of Richmond Department of Public Utilities  
Richmond, VA

*Panelists:*

*New Security Resources for Clean Water Utilities  
Decontamination Wastewater Planning Tool*  
Linda Warren\*  
Decontamination Planning Tool Project Manager  
Project Manager, Incident Response  
CH2M HILL  
Kennewick, WA

Guy Aydlett\*  
Chair, AMSA Pretreatment & Hazardous Waste Committee  
Director, Water Quality  
Hampton Roads Sanitation District  
Virginia Beach, VA

*Water Security Working Group (NDWAC) -  
Exploring the Features of Active & Effective Security Programs*  
H. J. "Bud" Schardein\*  
Member, Water Security Working Group  
National Drinking Water Advisory Committee  
Executive Director  
Louisville & Jefferson Country Metropolitan Sewer District  
Louisville, KY

*Emergency Response Planning for Wastewater Utilities (ERP) -  
New EPA Guidance and a New VSAT™ Software Module*  
Homer Emery\*  
Environmental Analyst III  
San Antonio Water System  
San Antonio, TX

**Closing Remarks/Announcements**

Donnie Wheeler\*  
AMSA Vice President

3:30 – 5:00 Security & Emergency Preparedness Committee  
*San Antonio D*

3:30 – 5:00 Awards Committee/Excellence in Management Workgroup♦  
*San Miguel*

**Evening**

5:30 *Meet in Lobby for Transportation to Buckhorn Saloon Reception*

6:00 – 7:30 **Reception**  
*Buckhorn Saloon*

**Friday, February 4**

**Morning**

7:30 – 8:45 Legal Affairs Committee  
*San Miguel*

8:00 – 10:00 Registration  
*Ballroom Foyer 2*

9:00 – 11:00 **GENERAL SESSION IV – SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT**  
*San Antonio A, B & C*

**Opening Remarks**  
Donnie Wheeler\*  
AMSA Vice President

**Opening Address**

***Water Resource Sustainability – Issues From Global to Local***

Global sustainability issues are beginning to attract more attention as the United States and other nations realize that environmental issues know no borders. Understanding the role of the wastewater utility on this global playing field is not easy, but most wastewater agencies, whether knowingly or not, are already making vital contributions. The Opening Address will examine global sustainability issues and provide examples from one local community already taking a leadership role.

Rajendra P. Bhattarai\*  
Manager, Environmental and Regulatory Services Division  
Austin Water Utility  
Austin, TX

**Case Studies & Panel Presentation**

***Water Reuse – Ensuring Resource Sustainability***

The need for a sustainable water supply has become a paramount issue in many areas of the country. While water quality has long been a focus of the nation's

public utilities, water quantity is receiving increased attention as the demand for clean and safe water increases. For years now, many in the clean water community have recognized the role water reuse plays in ensuring sustainability. This panel presentation will examine multiple water reuse initiatives and implementation strategies -- as well as their contribution to a sustainable environment.

*Moderator:*

Margaret Nellor\*  
AMSA Board Member  
Chair, AMSA Regulatory Affairs Committee  
Assistant Department Head, Technical Services  
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Whittier, CA

*Panelists:*

Martha Rincon\*  
Supervising Engineer  
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Whittier, CA

Michael L. Chandler\*  
Director  
Orange County Utilities  
Orlando, FL

Andrew Terrey\*  
Water Services Project Coordinator  
City of Phoenix Water Services Department  
Phoenix, AZ

Steve M. Clouse\*  
Director, Systems Maintenance  
San Antonio Water Systems  
San Antonio, TX

*The Not Yet Ready for Prime Time Players Present...*

*Wheel of Water Fortune – Debunking the Myths Associated with Sustainable Water Resources*

Myths associated with water resource sustainability abound, and the *Wheel of Water Fortune* game show will debunk these misconceptions and myths and examine current realities. Providing a humorous, yet insightful, conclusion to AMSA's 2005 Winter Conference, the players will offer a wide range of perspectives — from scientists and activists to utility managers and governmental regulators.

Adrienne Nemura\*  
Senior Manager, Permits & Discharges  
Limno-Tech, Inc.

Ann Arbor, MI

Steve Pearlman\*  
AMSA Board Member  
Director, Regulatory & Connector Relations  
Metro Wastewater Reclamation District  
Denver, CO

Norman E. LeBlanc\*  
Chair, AMSA Water Quality Committee  
Hampton Roads Sanitation District  
Virginia Beach, VA

Jamie Samons\*  
Chair, AMSA Communications & Public Relations Committee  
Public Affairs Manager  
Narragansett Bay Commission  
Providence, RI

**Closing Remarks/Adjourn**

William B. Schatz\*  
AMSA President