



ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Jerome D. Schad, Chair
Peggy A. LaGree, Vice Chair
Michele M. Iannello, Treasurer

From: Jennifer L. Hibit, Secretary to the Authority

Cc: Joyce A. Tomaka, Chief Financial Officer

Date: July 6, 2026

Subject: AMWA 2026 Executive Management Conference

The Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (“AMWA”) is holding their annual Executive Management Conference on October 25-28 in Seattle, Washington. Each year, executives in the water utility sector from across the nation come together for advanced learning, strategic discussions, peer exchanges, and to explore innovative methods for tackling today’s most significant challenges.

The Authority has been a member of AMWA for over thirty years but has not participated in their annual conference since 2016. I believe this conference offers a significant opportunity for the Authority to acquire knowledge and connect with peer water utilities throughout the country, in order to confront the most critical issues and challenges that the sector faces. Therefore, I am recommending that the Board authorize Joyce Tomaka and me to participate in the AMWA 2026 Executive Management Conference.

A resolution to approve the travel request for Joyce Tomaka and me to attend the AMWA 2026 Executive Management Conference has been included for your consideration at the meeting of July 16, 2026.

Thank you.

JH:alh

**ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
AUTHORIZATION FORM
For Approval/Execution of Board Meeting Documents**

Document Name: _____ **Project No.:** _____

Description: _____

Item Description:

Choose one: _____

Other: _____

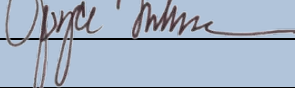
Action Requested:

Choose one _____

Other: _____

Approvals Required:

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Chief Financial Officer		Date: 07/06/2026
Chief Operating Officer	_____	Date: _____
Claims Rep. – Risk Manager	_____	Date: _____
Comptroller	_____	Date: _____
Director of Administration	_____	Date: _____
Director of Distribution	_____	Date: _____
Director of Human Resources	_____	Date: _____
Director of IT	_____	Date: _____
Sr. Director of Operations & Infra	_____	Date: _____
Director of Planning & Water Supply	_____	Date: _____
Director of Production	_____	Date: _____
Director of Water Quality	_____	Date: _____
Executive Engineer	_____	Date: _____
General Counsel (Legal)	_____	Date: _____
Other: _____	_____	Date: _____

APPROVED FOR BOARD RESOLUTION:

Secretary to the Authority  _____ Date: 07/06/2026

Remarks: _____

Resolution Date: _____ Item No: _____

From: [Jennifer L. Hibit](#)
To: [Amy Hassett](#)
Cc: [Joyce Tomaka](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] [MARKETING] Registration is Now Open for AMWA's 2026 Executive Management Conference in Seattle!
Date: Monday, June 22, 2026 12:04:25 PM

From: Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies <info@amwa.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 2:00 PM
To: Jennifer L. Hibit <jhibit@ecwa.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] [MARKETING] Registration is Now Open for AMWA's 2026 Executive Management Conference in Seattle!

This message was sent from outside the organization. Do not open links or attachments unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Registration is Now Open for AMWA's 2026 Executive Management Conference in Seattle!

Registration is now open for AMWA's [2026 Executive Management Conference](#) (EMC), taking place October 25–28 in Seattle, Washington! Join utility executives from across the country at the drinking water sector's premier event for executive-level learning, strategic discussion, and peer exchange. Gain valuable insights, share experiences with industry leaders, and explore innovative approaches to today's most pressing utility management challenges.

Program Highlights

On Monday, October 26, attendees will hear from [Mike Abrashoff](#), a former U.S. Navy commander, leadership expert, and bestselling author of *It's Your Ship*. Abrashoff's transformational leadership philosophy, grounded in trust, accountability, and empowering people at every level, offers timely lessons for utility executives leading complex organizations through rapid change.

Throughout the conference, participants will:

- Learn from and engage with fellow executives from the nation's largest drinking water systems to tackle the most pressing challenges and issues facing the sector;

Build meaningful peer connections during dedicated networking breaks, lunches, and evening receptions;

- Celebrate excellence in utility leadership at AMWA's annual awards ceremony; and
- Take part in an optional site visit highlighting innovation in the Seattle region.

Why Attend

Designed specifically for general managers, CEOs, and senior executives, the EMC provides a trusted space for candid discussion, practical insight, and strategic thinking. Whether you're advancing organizational priorities, strengthening workforce culture, or preparing for regulatory and operational demands, the EMC connects you with other leaders, who are shaping water utility management.

Register Today

[Secure your place](#) and take advantage of early bird rates. Bring a spouse, partner, or guest and experience Seattle alongside colleagues from across the country.

Join the conversation using #2026EMC.

[Register Here](#)



LEADERS IN WATER

Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
1250 I Street, NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20005
202-505-1565, amwa.net
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TRAVEL REQUEST

Date: 07/06/2026

Employee Name	Job Title	Department
Jennifer Hibit	Secretary to the Authority	Secretary

Destination: Seattle, Washington

Is this training needed to meet professional licensing requirements? No

Description of training or business, and reasons and benefits of attendance:

To attend the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies' 2026 Executive Management Conference to join executives from water utilities from across the nation to participate in advanced learning and to explore innovative methods for tackling today's industry challenges.

Dates of Travel

From: October 24, 2026 To: October 28, 2026 Total number of business days: 3

Estimated Cost

Transportation \$ 400.00 Hotel Accommodations \$ 2,700.00 Meals \$ 500.00

TOTAL ESTIMATED COST \$ 3,600.00 W/ REGISTRATION FEE \$ 4,800.00

Balance in the training budget prior to this trip \$ 27,421.00

Unit Number 6000 Primary Number 401000 G/L Number 920120

Comments (i.e. spouse traveling, preferences):

Approvals

Department Head [Signature] Date 07/06/2026

Secretary [Signature] Date 07/06/2026

Chair _____ Date _____

TRAVEL REQUEST

Date: 07/06/2026

Employee Name	Job Title	Department
Joyce Tomaka	Chief Financial Officer	Finance

Destination: Seattle, Washington

Is this training needed to meet professional licensing requirements? No

Description of training or business, and reasons and benefits of attendance:

To attend the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies' 2026 Executive Management
Conference to join executives from water utilities from across the nation to participate
in advanced learning and to explore innovative methods for tackling today's industry challenges.

Dates of Travel

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Estimated Cost

Transportation \$ 400.00 Hotel Accommodations \$ 2,700.00 Meals \$ 500.00

TOTAL ESTIMATED COST \$ 3,600.00 W/ REGISTRATION FEE \$ 4,800.00


Balance in the training budget prior to this trip \$ 5,000.00

Unit Number 7510 Primary Number 401000 G/L Number 920112

Comments (i.e. spouse traveling, preferences): _____

Approvals

Department Head  Date 07/06/2026

Director of Human Resources  Date 07/06/2026

Secretary  Date 07/06/2026