



ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

October 5, 2023

To: Terrence D. McCracken, Secretary to the Authority

From: Michael Quinn, Senior Distribution Engineer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MQ", is written over the name Michael Quinn.

Subject: Request to Attend 2023 AWWA Pipeline Condition Assessment Conference in Dallas, TX.

The Engineering Department is requesting authorization for Distribution Engineers William Wheeler and Marc Bellacose and Executive Engineer Leonard Kowalski to attend the AWWA Pipeline Condition Assessment Conference which takes place from November 6, 2023 to November 8, 2023 in Dallas, TX. The conference will cover education on pipeline assessment associated with aging water distribution and transmission systems, as well as asset management practices in implementing an effective asset management program.

This conference will also provide an opportunity to meet with various utilities representatives and vendors and to get information on the new water utility processes, products, and services.

I am requesting Board Authorization for travel to the above-referenced conference.

Budget Information:

Training:

Unit: 2501

Account: 401000 921237

Travel:

Unit: 2501

Account: 401000 921212

MJQ:lal1

Attachments

F:\Saved Docs\Memo-Travel Training Request.docx

ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
AUTHORIZATION FORM
For Approval/Execution of Documents
(check which apply)

Contract: _____ **Project No.:** _____
Project Description: Travel/Training 2023 AWWA Pipeline Assessment Conference in Dallas, TX, 11/06/2023 to 11/08/2023 for Marc Bellacose, Distribution Engineer, William Wheeler, Distribution & Leonard Kowalski, Executive Engineer

Item Description:



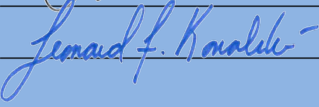
- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Service Contract | <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment | <input type="checkbox"/> Change Order |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BCD | <input type="checkbox"/> NYSDOT Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Contract Documents | <input type="checkbox"/> Addendum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation for Award of Contract | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation to Reject Bids | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Proposals | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Travel Request Form and Training Request Form</u> | | | |

Action Requested:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Authorization to Execute | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Approval |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Authorization to Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Execution by the Chairman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Authorization to Advertise for Bids | <input type="checkbox"/> Execution by the Secretary to the Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Authorization to Solicit Request for Proposals | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Board Approval</u> | |

Approvals Needed:

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sr Production Engineer |  | Date: <u>10/6/2023</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Operating Officer |  | Date: <u>10/06/2023</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Engineer |  | Date: <u>10/09/2023</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Director of Administration | _____ | Date: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Risk Manager | _____ | Date: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Financial Officer | _____ | Date: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal | _____ | Date: _____ |

APPROVED FOR BOARD RESOLUTION:

- | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretary to the Authority |  | Date: <u>10/06/2023</u> |
|--|--|-------------------------|

Remarks: _____

Resolution Date: _____ **Item No:** _____

TRAVEL REQUEST

Date: 10/03/2023

Employee Name	Job Title	Department
Marc Bellacose	Distribution Engineer	Engineering - Design
William Wheeler	Distribution Engineer	Engineering - Design
Leonard Kowalski	Executive Engineer	Engineering - Design

Destination: AWWA Pipeline Condition Assessment Seminar - Dallas, TX

Is this training needed to meet professional licensing requirements? Yes (Wheeler)

Description of training or business, and reasons and benefits of attendance: Training and education on pipeline assessment associated with aging water distribution and transmission systems, including asset management practices in implementing an effective asset management program. Interaction and networking with various utility representatives and vendors.

From: 11/05/2023 To: 11/08/2023 Total number of business days: 3

Estimated Cost

Transportation \$ 1800 Hotel Accommodations \$ 2,100 Meals \$ 600

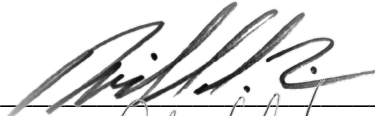
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST \$ 4,500 W/ REGISTRATION FEE \$ 7,635

Balance in the training budget prior to this trip \$ 8,392

Unit Number 2501 Primary Number 401000 G/L Number 921212

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

Approvals

Department Head  Date 10/4/2023

Chief Operating Officer  Date 10/04/2023

Secretary  Date 10/9/2023



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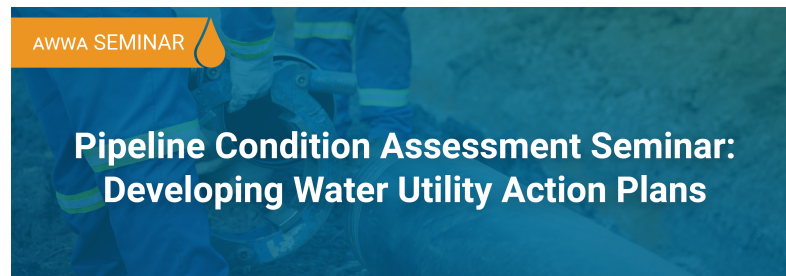
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PIPELINE CONDITION ASSESSMENT

Events & Education / Pipeline Condition Assessment

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November 6-8, 2023 in Dallas, Texas - Pipeline Condition Assessment Seminar: Developing Water Utility Action Plans

AWWA's 3-day in-person seminar tackles the issue of pipeline condition assessment. As renewing and replacing aging infrastructure remains a top challenge facing the water sector, more utilities are embracing asset management practices, including condition assessment. **A Condition Assessment Program** helps utilities make informed, risk-based decisions on when it is best to maintain, repair, rehabilitate, or replace assets. But developing and implementing such a program is challenging! This Seminar was created to assist drinking water utilities develop and implement a comprehensive Condition Assessment Program or improve their existing program. The focus of this Seminar is on water transmission and distribution pipes.

Attend

Program

Instructor Biographies

Learning Objectives

During this seminar participants will be engaged in instructional training, interactive exercises, and group sharing that will cover the key components of a condition assessment program, such as:

- Defining the problem(s) that the utility wants to solve with a condition assessment program.
- Developing condition assessment program goals, objectives, and data expectations.
- Building support and securing an annual budget for a condition assessment program (e.g., business case to present to management and elected governing officials).
- Prioritizing asset classes based on performance measures and risk (i.e., likelihood or probability and consequence of failure).
- Defining the utility's risk tolerance and condition assessment thresholds.
- Creating a framework and data management system for collecting, storing, and using condition assessment data.
- Understanding and choosing the appropriate condition assessment methods and technologies.

- Evaluating the utility's options for using in-house or contracting field inspection, data management, and engineering services.

Modules at a Glance

Module 1 – Getting Started with Your Condition Assessment Program (Day 1 - 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

1.1 Condition Assessment Program Budgeting

- Learn how to establish prudent condition assessment program budgets
- Generate ideas for where to start
- Consider methods being used by other utilities to quantify and justify a Program Budget
- Determine which method is right for your utility

1.2 Data Sources and Risk Assessment

- Define Desktop Condition Assessment
- Discuss commonly used methods for performing a desktop condition assessment
- Present different ways to estimate LOF and COF
- Discuss how break data and failure mechanisms can be used to focus condition assessment and other investments

1.3 Valve Assessments

- Discuss reasons your utility might have for not locating, assessing, and operating small and large diameter valves
- Review the critical role of valves in the water delivery system
- Address the importance of regularly scheduled condition assessment and operation of isolation/control valves
- Present key components of a valve assessment program (benefits, goals, program approaches, in-house vs. outsourcing resources, field activities, data collection/documentation, and answers to common questions and concerns)

1.4 Leak Detection

- Discuss reasons for conducting leak detection
- Learn how and why we use leak detection as a condition assessment tool
- Introduce currently available leak detection methods and tools (acoustic and non-acoustic)
- For acoustic leak detection methods, understand how sound travels through pipes and learn about methods for distribution pipes and transmission mains

1.5 Pressure Monitoring

- Discuss the benefits of pressure monitoring
- Learn about currently available equipment for pressure/transient pressure monitoring
- Cover factors to consider for installing and maintaining a pressure monitoring system

1.6 Soil Corrosivity Surveys

- Review causes and effects of corrosion on metallic pipelines
- Understand the various corrosion tests conducted in the field and laboratory
- Understand how cathodic protection systems work
- Learn how to employ anode retrofits as a rehabilitation measure for service connections

Module 2 – Choosing Inspection Methods and Technologies to Fit Your Needs (Day 2 - 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

2.1 Overview of Inspection Methods for Pressure Pipes

- Evaluate inspection methods and technologies for pressure pipelines
- Consider various factors when selecting an inspection method
- Choose when and how to apply external corrosion direct assessment (ECDA) methods for metallic cylinder and direct assessment methods for concrete pipe and mortar coating

2.2 Assessment of Non-Metallic Pipe

- Understand deterioration processes for asbestos cement (AC) pipe and plastic pipe, including polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe and high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe
- Learn which inspection methods and technologies may be useful for non-metallic pipe

2.3 "Lower Effort/Limited Data" Inspections and Measurements

- Address and discuss reasons for employing "lower effort" inspection methods and measurements
- Review commonly used tools for metallic pipe (CI, DI, steel) and concrete pressure pipe (CCP, RCCP, PCCP)
- Cover access requirements, civil site work and field support requirements, cost, and results

2.4 High-Resolution Inspection Technologies

- Discuss "when" and "why" you would want to use a high-resolution inspection method
- Cover methods you may be familiar with (ultrasonics, magnetic flux leakage, electromagnetics)

- Discuss electromagnetic technology (principle, tools, applicability to different pipe types, deployment options, access requirements, verification of inspection results)

Module 3 – Budgeting and Planning for Condition Assessments (Day 3 - 8:00 a.m. - noon)

3.1 Managing and Using Pipeline Condition Data

- Review typical databases of record for storing condition assessment data
- Discuss and learn best practices and guidelines to identify the right database of record for your next condition assessment project

3.2 Contracting Options for Condition Assessment

- Identify the four parties involved in contracts for pipeline condition assessment projects and programs
- Evaluate contracting options at your utility for procuring engineering, inspection, and contractor services
- Apply rules and contracting preferences at your utility to identify and select the preferred contracting mechanism(s) for YOUR utility, based on 1) availability and capabilities of in-house resources, and 2) available contracting vehicles for procuring outside services

3.3 Developing a Project Level Budget for Pipeline Condition Assessment

- Increase your confidence in preparing a realistic budget for your pipeline condition assessment project
- Apply what you've learned about inspection methods, executing field inspections, and contracting options to ensure all costs are accounted for and estimated accurately
- Learn some cost-saving techniques to reduce the budget needed for your pipeline condition assessment project

3.4 Sustaining Your Condition Assessment Program

- After inspection is complete, learn how to effectively communicate the value of condition assessments to 1) external or non-technical stakeholders, and 2) internal or technical stakeholders, in an effort to sustain program momentum
- Hear how other utilities have successfully justified condition assessment expenditures to management and stakeholders
- Solutions to Utility-Specific Challenges and Concerns
- Obtain answers to your specific problems, challenges, concerns, or hurdles
- Use individual projects brought to the Seminar by the Participants as sample problems for the group to solve
- Complete individual Action Plans with help from the group or Facilitator

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