

Thursday Afternoon Sessions - March 21, 2024					
	Canadian Room	Britain Room	American Room	Lewis & Clark Room	Missouri Room
1:00pm to 2:00pm	How a Small Community Handles Large Water Infrastructure Projects - An East Helena Chronicle Kaela Murphy & Kyle Myhre, Robert Peccia and Associates A brief recap of the need for the project & design criteria will start this session. Then a look at the timeline, issues that arose, and the ability to maintain water service while the project was under construction. 0.1 CEC's Water	Using Artificial Intelligence to Manage Pipes Bridget Garlinghouse, VODA.ai An AI tsunami is here, transforming industries and lives. AI can help improve distribution network planning and reduce water loss by improving water management, detecting leaks, predicting failures, and optimizing maintenance. 0.1 CEC's Dual	Infrastructure Funding & Administration for Clerks Craig Erickson, Great West Engineering Jodi Rogers, MT League of Cities & Towns Craig and Jodi will explain how to secure grant funds and the steps to follow after receiving the award. Specifically tailored for clerks, Jodi & Craig will provide an overview of the clerk's role in managing infrastructure funding, including creating project files, tracking project funds, & meeting audit requirements. [This is a 2-hour class] 0.2 CEC's Dual/Clerks	SCADA: A Force Multiplier for Operations Graham Arntzen, In Control, Inc. For utilities using SCADA or considering its use, there are often avenues to further use SCADA functionality to strengthen operations, including staffing & on-call capabilities. 0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks	Billings 48- & 60-inch Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Rehab Project Kurtis DeShaw & Brad Heimiginger, Morrison-Maierle, Inc Based on a study by the city, the project was divided into 2 phases: a 60-inch trenchless rehab phase, & an open cut 48- & 60-inch phase. We will explore these phases. 0.1 CEC's Wastewater
2:30pm to 3:30pm	Inserting Gate Valves on a Live Distribution Line Justin Garrison, Mueller Water Products This will discuss insertion valves, design, compliance & compatibility, & an analysis of insertion valves on the market. We will highlight similarities and purposes as well as installation & delivery options. 0.1 CEC's Water	Total Control Steven Exner, Atlas Copco Compressors Automation can reduce maintenance, improve efficiency, and reduce the number of hours employees spend doing menial tasks. We will demonstrate how this all works! 0.1 CEC's Dual	Revisions to Lead & Copper Rule & LSL Inventory Greg Montgomery, MDEQ A review of the new LCR improvements from EPA and how systems should prepare. 0.2 CEC's Dual/Clerks	Preparing for the Funding of Your Water or Sewer Project Dan Semmens & Courtney Ellis, Dorsey & Whitney, LLP This session will explore the various resources of funding available and how communities should prepare for issuing bonds. Also an update on fed funding & top 3 snafus & what to do about them. 0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks	Utilizing Acoustic Inspection to Prioritize Sewer Cleaning Gene Hallum, InfoSense Gene will focus on discussing the practical development of an acoustic inspection program so systems can be proactive rather than reactive in their cleaning protocol. 0.1 CEC's Wastewater
4:00pm to 5:00pm	HDPE Best Practices: Design, Installation, & Maintenance Richard Kolasa, WL Plastics This class will provide detailed information on calculating important design installation equations such as wall buckling & compressive stress, pipe deflection, thermal expansion & more. 0.1 CEC's Water	Water Hydraulics 101 Eric Stearns, DGR Engineering Basic hydraulic concepts will be presented with examples. We will talk about troubleshooting techniques and experience gained in the field. These concepts are useful in troubleshooting low-pressure complaints or planning a hydrant flushing program. 0.1 CEC's Water	Revisions to Lead & Copper Rule & LSL Inventory Greg Montgomery, MDEQ A review of the new LCR improvements from EPA and how systems should prepare. 0.1 CEC's Water/Clerks	Strategies for Quality Lagoon Effluent Tom Daugherty, Triplepoint Environmental, LLC This session will profile real world case studies to evaluate the performance of lagoon rehab alternatives to lower maintenance, energy inputs, & improving treatment. 0.1 CEC's Wastewater	Wetlands: Yes, They Do Work in the Winter! Kristen Brush, Morrison-Maierle, Inc Employing the proper wetland configuration & design specs for the given environmental conditions & influent will result in properly treated wastewater with little to no operator interaction. 0.1 CEC's Wastewater
Thursday Night Banquet - Awards - Montana's Best Tasting Water - Meter Contest - Guest Speaker Invited					
Friday Morning Sessions - March 22, 2024					
8:00am to 9:00am	Proactive Protection of Water and Resources Tyler Sanders & Matt Heidinger Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority A look into water/wastewater system liabilities and how to proactively manage risk, property, and municipal resources. 0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks	Knowing Your Board's Responsibilities Al Kelm, MRWS As operators and clerks, you deal with your boards/councils often. If you know their responsibilities, your dealings with them can go much easier. 0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks	Empowering MT Rural Water Systems with the RIGHT IT Solutions Conor Smith, First Call Computer Solutions What does partnering with an MSP (Managed services provider) look like? We'll discuss levels of security & controls that can be put in place, what can be done today to protect their business, & where they need to get to for 2024. 0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks	To Inventory & Beyond! LCRi Doesn't Have to Feel Like a Wild Goose Chase Ethan Miller, 120Water Joseph will share some stories if best practices and what has been working as well as regulation updates and what they mean for you going forward. 0.1 CEC's Water/Clerks	Got Sludge? Now What? Planning For Successful Removal Rika Lashley, Morrison-Maierle, Inc This session offers options for responding to excess sludge volumes, including immediate operational changes, additives, & removal. We'll also look at several successful sludge removal projects. 0.1 CEC's Wastewater
9:30am to 10:30am	More Than Just Alarming: Modern Monitoring Solutions Brandon Foster, Streametric This session should empower utilities to install advanced data collection technology, deploying a continuous monitoring solution w/out needing to walk through the plant. 0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks	Trenchless Installations: Understanding & Benefits Richard Kolasa, WL Plastics Corp/Ineos Group This session will provide an understanding of the various types of trenchless technologies for municipal & sewer applications. Also, insight into the benefits achieved by using these methods from time savings, reduced carbon footprint, to cost savings. 0.1 CEC's Dual	Funding to Mitigate Disasters with "FedFunds" Eleanor Ruggiero, USEPA Our session will highlight free tools & guides to assist utilities in detecting, planning, responding, and recovering from water emergencies. Participants will learn about Fed FUNDS through a demonstration and explanation process. 0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks	Tackling Aging Infrastructure in Montana Mike Uthe, Mueller Water Products Mike will look at different options for making decisions on buried assets. We will discuss some real-life examples & how utilities can save dollars with proactive methods. 0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks	Solving Infiltration & Corrosion Problems in Sewer Structures Jim Swain, CIP Construction Technologies, Inc We all know hydrogen sulfide gas and anaerobic bacteria make sulfuric acid that's super corrosive. We'll explore solutions such as new construction, spray on liners, pre-fab inserts, & cured-in-place liners. 0.1 CEC's Wastewater
10:45am to 11:45am	Updates on Rates, Charges, & SRF Funding Anna Miller, DNRC A discussion on what's new in the State Revolving Fund funding and utility rates and charges. 0.1 CEC's Dual/Clerks			Peracetic Acid (PAA): What Is It? How Is It Applied? Jacquelyn Wilson, Enviro Tech, An Arxada Company Information on the application & use of peracetic acid, an environmentally friendly alternative disinfectant for municipal wastewater disinfection. 0.1 CEC's Wastewater	Rural Wastewater: Montana's Treatment Lagoons Jordan Sykes, AE2S Highlighting issues facing rural communities served by wastewater lagoons, including both similarities and differences in these projects, drawing from real world project examples. 0.1 CEC's Wastewater
11:45am to 1:15pm	 MRWS LUNCHEON & DRAWINGS *Guest Speaker - Senator Jon Tester				
1:30pm to 5:30pm	  STATE OPERATOR CERTIFICATION EXAMS CANADIAN & BRITAIN ROOMS				

