Whitewater Region - Regional Meeting

Wednesday, June 14, 2023, Friday, 10:00-11:00am local time

Community Room of the City Building, 50 North 5th Street, Richmond, IN 47374

There is no cost to attend but registration is appreciated.

The Whitewater Region includes Delaware, Randolph, Henry, Wayne, Fayette, Union counties but open to all drinking water and wastewater utilities and elected officials who wish to participate. The IFA has applied for Certified Operator CEU hours.

Agenda

1. Welcome to Richmond (5 min)
2. Introductions (5 min)
   1. Name, utility, title, professional experience (how long have you been in your role?)
3. Round Table - possible discussion topics (45min)
   1. Billing: What software are other utilities using, and what are the thoughts of going paperless?
   2. Shared Resources/Assistance:
      1. Create a list of services utilities in this group provide along with contact list that can be used to potentially allow “neighborly” assistance when needed.
      2. Work to create schedule of safety needs and potentially share cost of training.
   3. Staffing: Work to create “How To’s” that can be shared amongst this group to look for recruiting staff in/from:
      1. High Schools/Universities
      2. Veterans groups
      3. “Work Release” programs
   4. Discuss a way to stress the importance of infrastructure. Come up with a consistent message from all of us…maybe from the State?
4. Next meeting (5 min)
   1. Frequency: quarterly
   2. When: August (?)
   3. Where: Eaton
   4. Fourth quarter November or December TBD?
   5. Suggestions for future topics of discussion?
   6. Any other suggestions?
5. Adjourn

The purpose of the meetings is to build on the benefits that come from neighboring utilities collaborating to solve similar issues. These meetings are for utility personnel, board members, and elected officials, and only these individuals can meet the attendance requirement. Consultants and contractors are welcome to attend when they attend at the invitation of a utility who is also attending. Utilities may attend a regional meeting outside of their region, but the intention is that they attend one in their region to get the benefits of interacting with their neighbors.

As a reminder, utilities are required to attend at least one regional meeting a year and attending is required for funding assistance from the IFA (IC 5-1.2-11.5-5). The IFA tracks attendance on a 12-month rolling basis. For example, if your utility attended on April 2, 2022, your utility meets the requirement of the rule until April 2, 2023. The list of utilities who have attended a regional meeting is available on the IFA website. <https://www.in.gov/ifa/regional-planning-meetings>