

2020 CIFA SRF Workshop Online Edition

SRF Leadership on COVID-19: Wednesday, October 21, 3:00 – 4:30 pm (ET)

SRF Leadership: Rising to the Unprecedented Challenge of COVID-19

Learn how SRFs are responding to the public health and financial impacts of the global novel coronavirus pandemic and subsequent stay-at-home orders and economic shut-downs. Learn how Oklahoma maintained a high-level of customer service for their clients and the public, from listening to communities through surveys to communicating to citizens through open online meetings. Hear how West Virginia helped utilities manage lost revenues, from providing flexibility in payment schedules to using CARES funding to reimburse utilities for delinquent accounts. Learn about Indiana's pilot program to detect spikes in coronavirus at wastewater facilities, providing an early-warning system to help communities contain a potential outbreak.

Moderator: Jeff Freeman, Minnesota Public Facilities Authority

Panelists:

- Joe Freeman, Chief, Financial Assistance Division, Oklahoma Water Resources Board
- Lori Johnson, Assistant Chief, Financial Assistance Division, Oklahoma Water Resources Board
- Marie Prezioso, Executive Director, West Virginia Water Development Authority
- Jim McGoff, Chief Operating Officer and Director of Environmental Programs, Indiana Finance Authority
- Erica Walker, Director of Environmental Policy & Programs, 120Water

Meet the Panelists:

Jeff Freeman, Minnesota Public Facilities Authority

Jeff Freeman is Executive Director of the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority, a state agency that manages the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds and several other infrastructure financing programs. He has been with the Public Facilities Authority since 1996. Prior to that, he worked for twelve years for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in a variety of water quality positions. Jeff is Past President of the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities and serves on CIFA's Board of Directors. He has a Masters of Public Administration from the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota and a Bachelor of Science from Minnesota State University, Moorhead.

Joe Freeman, Oklahoma Water Resources Board

Joe Freeman has served as Chief of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board's Financial Assistance Division since August 1993. He joined the OWRB in 1990. Prior to joining the OWRB he spent 13 years in commercial and investment banking in Oklahoma. Freeman is Past-President of the

Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities. In 2010 he was named to the Oklahoma Rural Water Hall of Fame. In his present position, he oversees Oklahoma's Water and Wastewater Revenue Bond Loan Program, Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program, the financial portion of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program, Emergency Grant Program, and the Rural Economic Action Plan Grant Program.

Lori Johnson, Oklahoma Water Resources Board

Lori Johnson is the Assistant Chief of the Financial Assistance Division of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. She oversees the Board's five water and wastewater infrastructure grant and loan programs while also serving as the CWSRF Program Manager for Oklahoma. She has worked for the Oklahoma Water Resources Board for 14 years. Prior to her current position she worked on facilitating projects for the CWSRF, DWSRF and state programs. She also has experience in Environmental Reviews for the CWSRF program and Water Quality Monitoring in the state of Oklahoma. Lori holds a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from the University of Central Oklahoma.

Jim McGoff, Indiana Finance Authority

Jim McGoff is COO and Director of Environmental Programs of the Indiana Finance Authority. Prior to his current position, Jim served as Director of Environmental Programs and General Counsel for the Authority. Prior to joining State government, Jim was a partner in the Indianapolis law firm Bingham McHale LLP (currently Bingham Greenbaum Doll, LLP), where he was a member of the firm's public finance practice group, representing the State of Indiana and many Indiana cities and towns with their municipal borrowing needs. He was appointed to the US EPA Environmental Financial Advisory Board in 2016 and was also invited to be a member of the Great Lakes Protection Fund - Advisory Board. He graduated with a degree in Accounting from Indiana University Kelley School of Business and a J.D. from the Indiana University Maurer School of Law.

Marie Prezioso, West Virginia Water Development Authority

Marie Prezioso is the Executive Director of the West Virginia Water Development Authority. She was appointed by Governor Jim Justice in July of 2017. As the Executive Director, she is responsible for the management of the Authority and is a member of the West Virginia Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council, where she chairs the funding committee. Prior to her appointment, she retired from Piper Jaffray in July 2016, as Senior Vice President and Manager of the West Virginia Public Finance Investment Banking office. Her career included 32 years as a public finance investment banker. Prior to that, she worked seven years in state government. At the State, she served as Deputy Commissioner of Finance and Administration, Executive Director of the Municipal Bond Commission and as the Acting Director of Investments (State Treasurer's office). Prezioso earned both a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and a Master of Business Administration degree from West Virginia University.

Erica Walker is the director of environmental policy & programs at 120Water. She joined 120Water in late 2018 from the Indiana Finance Authority, where she collaborated on a statewide drinking water lead sampling program for public schools. She also has worked for the Water Quality Research Program for the City of Bloomington, Ind. and in the Air, Pesticides, Toxins Management Division of the US Environmental Protection Agency. She holds master's degrees in Environmental Science and Public Affairs from Indiana University.