



COUNCIL OF INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING AUTHORITIES

2020 CIFA SRF Workshop Online Edition

Resiliency: Monday, November 23, 3:00 – 4:30 pm (ET)

Protecting Water Quality from Natural Disasters

Learn how the State Revolving Funds are financing innovative projects to build communities that are resilient to damage caused by changing climate and catastrophic natural disasters. Hear about Rhode Island's comprehensive plan to prepare for rising sea levels – from new planning criteria to a statewide vulnerability study to loans targeted at mitigating the damaging impacts of flooding. Learn about Virginia's Living Shoreline Program, which provides low-interest loans to waterfront property owners for restoration projects that improve water quality and bolster the coast's natural defense against the damaging impacts of hurricanes. Hear how Arizona is financing forest restoration and management to reduce the risk for wildfire and the devastating aftermath, which includes flooding and mudflows that pollute water and damage habitats. Plus find out about a tool developed through the project to measure the triple-bottom-line benefits of forest management.

Moderator: Jerry Rouch, Chief, Division of Environmental & Financial Assistance, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Panelists:

- Jay Manning, Principal Sanitary Engineer, Office of Water Resources. Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management,
- Shawn Crumlish, Director of Financial Services, Virginia Resources Authority
- Lewis L Lawrence, Executive Director, Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, Virginia
- Dan Dialessi, Executive Director, Water Infrastructure Financing Authority of Arizona
- Stacey Brechler-Knaggs, Grants & Contracts/Disaster Recovery Manager, City of Flagstaff
- Neil Chapman, Forest Health Supervisor, City of Flagstaff

Meet the Speakers:

Shawn Crumlish, Virginia Resources Authority

Shawn Crumlish is Director of Financial Services at Virginia Resources Authority, serving in his 15th year at the agency. He has responsibility for managing several program loan portfolios including the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF's. Prior to joining the Authority, his work experience included financial research and analysis and business development for several manufacturers. He holds a bachelor's degree in marketing from James Madison University and a master's degree in finance from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Stacey Brechler-Knaggs, City of Flagstaff

Stacey Brechler-Knaggs is an Arizona native and has worked for the City of Flagstaff for more than 36 years, with 29 year of Grants and Contracts Management experience. She administers more than \$20 million a year in Federal, State and local grants and oversees hundreds of city-wide agreements. Her position involves city-wide grant research, proposal development, pre and post award management, monitoring and oversight, compliance, performance and financial report monitoring, closeout, and audit compliance of municipal related grants. She also oversees city-wide contract routing, tracking, monitoring and reporting of all term contracts, lease, license, intergovernmental, development and general agreements. As well ensures the agreement financial obligations are met, timely renewals of contracts, maintains cost containment within existing contracts and ensures that contract deliverable and critical milestones are achieved. In addition, Stacey also coordinates with the City, State and Federal Emergency Management Divisions to assist the city in disaster recovery efforts following an emergency event. Stacey graduated from Northern Arizona University with a Bachelor of Science Degree. She is a member of the National and Arizona Chapter of the Grant Professionals Association. Stacey is active in the community and continues to work to make Flagstaff a great place to live and raise her family.

Neil Chapman, City of Flagstaff

Neil Chapman is the Forest Health Supervisor for the Flagstaff Fire Department and Summit Fire & Medical District. Neil leads the Prevention and Preparedness functions of the Wildland Fire Management Program and manages the [Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project](#). His work also includes collaborative efforts within the [Four Forest Restoration Initiative](#) and the [Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network](#). Neil received a BS from the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University and has over 14 years of forest and fire management experience in northern Arizona.

Dan Dialessi, Water Infrastructure Financing Authority of Arizona

Dan Dialessi serves as the Executive Director of Water Infrastructure Financing Authority of Arizona (WIFA), the State's Drinking Water and Clean Water revolving fund loan program. Dan began state service in 2016 and has been with the Arizona Finance Authority from the beginning, initially within the Governors' Office of Strategic Planning and Budget before joining WIFA shortly thereafter. Dan's prior experience includes over a decade in financial services, with a focus on fixed income as a bond trader with a national brokerage firm and later portfolio design as a senior investment analyst for a multi-billion dollar investment advisor. Dan is a CFA Charter holder and is a graduate of Arizona State University with a degree in Economics and Philosophy.

Lewis L. Lawrence, Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, Virginia

Lewie Lawrence serves as the Executive Director for the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission (MPPDC) as well as Secretary and lead planner for the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority (PAA). Lewie has grown up on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay in Virginia and is continuing his 150-plus year family's tradition of public service and protecting the bay's health. His entire professional career has focused on coastal zone

management for the community his family has resided in for three centuries. Recipient of numerous national and state awards for innovation in community planning and problem solving at the local and regional level, Lewie specializes in applied local and regional planning and policy development. Through his work with the Virginia legislature, shorelines owned by private homeowners and waterfront businesses can now access revolving loan funds to finance the construction of living shorelines. In additions, Lewie oversaw the development of legislation which resulted in living shorelines now longer being taxed as improvements to real property. Currently, Lewie oversees the only state funded revolving loan program for living shorelines in the Commonwealth. Lewie is now working towards blending resiliency and water quality to encourage homeowners to protect both buildings and shorelines with solutions that are bigger, taller, and stronger to better withstand storms of today and tomorrow through the development of the Fight the Flood Program <https://fightthefloodva.com/>

Jay Manning, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

John (Jay) Manning, P.E. is a Principal Engineer with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Office of Water Resources. He has been the Department's Clean Water State Revolving Fund Coordinator since the program's inception in 1990 as well as the manager of other state water pollution grants programs. Jay also conducts the environmental review for all Drinking Water State Revolving Fund projects. Jay graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a B.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Jerry Rouch, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Jerry Rouch is the Chief of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Division of Environmental & Financial Assistance. Jerry oversees the Office of Financial Assistance, which administers the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, and the Wastewater Compliance Assistance Unit. Jerry also oversees the Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention, which administers compliance assistance to small businesses, the Recycling & Litter Prevention Grant Program, the Ohio Materials Marketplace, and the Encouraging Environmental Excellence program. Jerry's educational background includes a bachelor's degree in Earth Science from Gannon University, and master's degrees in Natural Resources and Political Science from Ball State University.