



Winter Conference

SPEAKER PROFILES

National Association of Clean Water Agencies

January 31 – February 3, 2022



Julia Anastasio
Executive Director & General Counsel
Association of Clean Water Administrators
Washington, DC

Julia Anastasio joined the Association of Clean Water Administrators in May 2014 as the new Executive Director and General Counsel. Ms. Anastasio has over 20 years of experience in government law and policy. In the early 2000s she worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and for the last 9 years she has worked with the America Public Works Association (APWA). With APWA, she focused on environmental, sustainability and infrastructure development at the local, state and federal levels and has extensive experience in with federal advocacy and administrative law before Congress and the Executive branch agencies. She is passionate about the role of state government in in developing and implementing national water policy and looks forward to working with ACWA’s membership.

Ms. Anastasio earned her BA from Franklin Marshall College, her Masters in Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School, and her JD from American University.



Laura Briefer
NACWA Board Member
Director of Public Utilities
Salt Lake City Corporation
Salt Lake City, UT

Laura Briefer is the Director of Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities (SLCDPU). She was appointed Director in March 2016 by Salt Lake City Mayor Jackie Biskupski.

Ms. Briefer has worked at SLCDPU for 10 years in various areas of the organization and has over 20 years professional experience in natural resource and environmental professions in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. She holds a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Studies from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and an MPA from the University of Utah.

Ms. Briefer is a co-author of two recently published papers focused on the water resources and watershed management of the central Wasatch Mountains. These include one study regarding climate change impacts on water supplies from the central Wasatch Mountain watersheds published in the journal *Earth Interactions*, and an article regarding Salt Lake City’s watershed management published in the journal *Ecosystem Services*. She is currently a member of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies’ Board of Directors.

Ms. Briefer resides in Salt Lake City with her husband, Andy, and two children, Amelia and Alexander. She is an avid outdoorsperson, and enjoys running, hiking, mountain biking, and skiing through Utah’s backcountry areas. She was appointed to the Utah Governor’s Executive Water Finance Board in 2017. She also serves on additional boards, including the Utah Lake Water Users Association, the Provo River Water Users Association, and Carpe Diem West, which is focused on water and climate change issues in the western US.



Roger Cooley
 Vice President - Senior Project Manager
 Wade-Trim Associates, Inc.
 Detroit, MI

Roger Cooley's ability to match Wade Trim's expertise with client needs has fueled our growth in the markets and geographies we serve. Drawing on his decades of diversified experience, he leads project teams, develops client solutions, and builds long-term relationships. He provides valuable insights that help clients define their objectives and allocates the right resources to satisfy those objectives within budget and on schedule.

Over the past 22 years, Mr. Cooley has focused on wet weather and water resources projects. He has served as a technical advisor on major combined sewer overflow (CSO) and wet weather programs in Nashville, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Miami, St. Louis, and Omaha. As a member of the WEF Collections Systems Committee and the National Association of Clean Water Agencies' Collection System and Water Quality Committees, he brings a national perspective on wet weather management.

Mr. Cooley holds a BS in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Alexandra Dunn
 Partner
 Baker Botts LLP
 Washington, DC

Alexandra Dunn is a Partner in the Environmental, Safety, and Incident Response group at Baker Botts who brings to clients extensive institutional knowledge and a keen ability to help solve regulatory problems. Her relationships and reputation for transparency, fairness, and equity, make her an effective presence in difficult settings. Ms. Dunn works with major companies and national organizations on the management of emerging contaminants (PFOS/PFAS), on environmental justice and risk communication, and enforcement and compliance assistance.

With US Senate unanimous consent, Ms. Dunn was Assistant Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (2019-2021). Overseeing 900 staff, she created policies implementing laws governing chemicals and pesticides. Prior, she was Administrator for New England (Region 1) (2018-2019).

Previously, Ms. Dunn was Executive Director and General Counsel of the Environmental Council of the States. She has held other dynamic roles: Executive Director and General Counsel of Association of Clean Water Administrators; Dean of Environmental Law Programs at the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University; General Counsel of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies; and Counsel at ACC. A published author, she has taught environmental justice at three law schools.

Ms. Dunn serves on the ELI Leadership Council, Board of Regents of the American College of Environmental Lawyers, and in the American Bar Association.



Deidre Finn
Executive Director
Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities
Washington, DC

Deidre Finn is the Executive Director of the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities (CIFA), which represents the Clean Water and Drinking Water state revolving funds (SRFs), the nation’s premier programs for financing water infrastructure to protect public health and the environment.



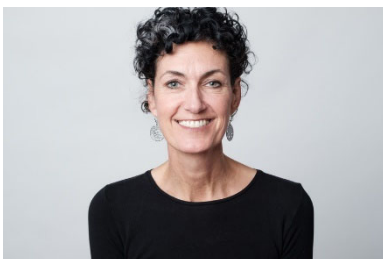
Radhika Fox
Assistant Administrator, Office of Water
US Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

Radhika Fox is the Assistant Administrator for the US Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of Water.

Prior to joining EPA, Ms. Fox served as Chief Executive Officer for the US Water Alliance, where she established herself as a widely recognized national thought leader on complex water issues, from equitable water management to investing in our nation’s water infrastructure. She has more than 20 years of experience in developing policies, programs, and issue-based advocacy campaigns. Her work has helped address the most salient water issues facing the nation—including climate change, affordability, equity, governance, innovative finance, and the evolution of the One Water movement.

Ms. Fox previously directed the policy and government affairs agenda for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, which is responsible for providing 24/7 water, wastewater, and municipal power services to 2.6 million Bay Area residents. She also served as the Federal Policy Director at PolicyLink, where she coordinated the organization’s policy agenda on a wide range of issues, including infrastructure investment, transportation, sustainable communities, economic inclusion, and workforce development.

Ms. Fox holds a BA from Columbia University and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from the University of California at Berkeley where she was a HUD Community Development Fellow.



Nancy Giordano
Author & Founder
Play Big, Inc.
Austin, TX

Described as endlessly optimistic, **Nancy Giordano** is a strategic futurist, corporate strategist, and bestselling author who has consulted on a portfolio of \$60+ billion well-known brands and given more than 100+ global keynotes.

With a drive to help enterprise organizations and visionary leaders transform to meet the escalating expectations ahead, she is recognized as one of the world’s top female futurists.

Her expertise and experiences range from AI, to frozen foods, to reinventing the internet, and all of her projects have a key common denominator: transitioning away from the extractive operating systems and outdated business thinking that no longer holds up... to create the more sustainable, inclusive and dynamic solutions the future demands.

The world’s first TEDx licensee, an Amazon #1 ranked author, a Singularity University lecturer, frequent SXSW (“*south by southwest*”) contributor, creator of the “Career Fair For the Future” for college + high school students, and recent co-founder of the Femme Futurists Society (a growing collection of interviews with leading futurists around the world).

Ms. Giordano advises leaders on the organizational structures and new mindsets necessary to effectively harness the significant technology innovations heading our way and ensure a safe and thriving future for us all.



Devon Goodrich
 Senior Counsel, Environmental Law Division
 New York City Law Department
 New York, NY

Devon Goodrich has been an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the Environmental Law Division of the New York City Law Department since 2011. She practices environmental and municipal law, working on a variety of issues relating to New York City’s drinking water supply, wastewater collection and treatment systems, parks, and solid waste management.

From the beginning of Ms. Goodrich’s career at the Law Department, her work has included counseling and litigation involving the City’s wastewater management. She has counseled the City on Clean Water Act compliance, from meeting the requirements of the State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits for the City’s 14 wastewater treatment plants, which treat approximately 1.3 billion gallons of wastewater per day, to development and implementation of long-term control plans to reduce combined sewer discharges to New York City’s water bodies.

She has also regularly counseled and litigated on behalf of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to enforce the City’s Watershed Regulations and protect the City’s water supply system – which supplies approximately 1.1 billion gallons a day of high quality, affordable drinking water to over nine million people.

Ms. Goodrich received a JD from Harvard Law School and a BA with highest honors in English from Cornell University.



Adel Hagekhalil
 General Manager
 Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
 Los Angeles, CA

Adel Hagekhalil is the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the largest wholesale drinking water agency in the country. Metropolitan is a state-established cooperative that delivers water to 26-member public agencies, serving 19 million people across Southern CA.

As General Manager, Mr. Hagekhalil is responsible for leading Metropolitan’s daily and long-term operations and planning to provide safe, reliable water to Southern California. He oversees Metropolitan’s \$1.9 billion annual budget, 1,800 employees, and extensive system of conveyance, storage, treatment, and delivery infrastructure.

Mr. Hagekhalil is a registered civil engineer and national board-certified environmental engineer, having earned both a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Houston, TX. Before joining Metropolitan, he was appointed in 2018 by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti to serve as the executive director and general manager of the city’s Bureau of Street Services. His responsibilities included oversight of the management, maintenance, and improvement of the city’s network of streets, sidewalks, trees, and bikeways. He also focused on climate change adaptation and multi-benefit integrated active transportation corridors.

Previously, he served nearly 10 years as assistant general manager of the Los Angeles’ Bureau of Sanitation, led the city’s wastewater collection system, stormwater and watershed protection program, water quality compliance, advance planning, and facilities. He also helped develop the city’s 2040 One Water LA Plan, an award-winning regional watershed approach to integrate water supply, reuse, conservation, stormwater management and wastewater facilities planning.

Mr. Hagekhalil is a member of the American Public Works Association as well as the Water Environment Federation, which recognized him in 2019 as a WEF Fellow for his contribution to enhancing and forwarding the water industry. He also served for more than a decade as a board member on the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, including a term as president.



Brian Hoelscher
 NACWA Board Member
 Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer
 Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District
 St. Louis, MO

Brian Hoelscher, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD), has over 35 years of engineering and management experience. He is responsible for overseeing all district operations and managing all financial, leadership and regulatory responsibilities including the multi-billion dollar, multi-decade capital program for the District. He began his career with the District in May 1995 as Manager of Construction.

Prior to being named Executive Director and CEO in March 2013, he ran MSD's Capital Program from 2003 thru 2013 as the Director of Engineering. Prior to joining MSD, he was the St. Louis area office manager for CTE, an AECOM Company.

Mr. Hoelscher earned a BS in Civil Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis where he has been recognized with an Alumni Achievement Award by the School of Engineering. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in MO and IL. He is a member of the Water Environment Federation, the Missouri Water Environment Association, the Engineers Club of St. Louis, and serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association for Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) and serves on an Executive Committee at Washington University in St. Louis.



Sharise Horne
 Director of Community Benefits & Partnerships
 Louisville & Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District
 Louisville, KY

Sharise Horne is a well-seasoned veteran in the public utility arena. She currently serves as the Director of Community Benefits & Partnerships for Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD), responsible for overseeing inclusive and comprehensive programs that foster partnerships with communities within MSD's service area. She previously managed the Procurement Department where she worked for over 10 years overseeing the procurement process, ensuring agency compliance with procurement regulations and state policies, as well as directing, managing, and supervising staff. She has worked in various departments and roles within the agency during her 20 plus year tenure.

As an advocate for social justice and economic stimulation amongst underserved communities, Ms. Horne outfits programs to create job creation through workforce tools. She is currently one of approximately 10,000 nationally Certified Professional Public Buyers.

Ms. Horne holds two undergraduate degrees from Indiana Wesleyan University, both *Magna Cum Laude*. *Who's Who Louisville*, *Louisville Black Achievers*, and Indiana Wesleyan University have recognized her for her success and leadership.

Ms. Horne currently serves on Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer's Equity in Contracting & Procurement Taskforce, the US Water Alliance Water Equity & Affordability Taskforce, and various national and local taskforce and committees. She is a member of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, Water Environment Federation, and Water Agency Leaders Alliance.



Andrew Lee
Interim General Manager/Chief Executive Officer
Seattle Public Utilities
Seattle, WA

Andrew Lee joined Seattle Public Utilities in 2019, and is currently the Interim General Manager/Chief Executive Officer. He has over 20 years of experience in utilities, having worked for Seattle Public Utilities, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Bellevue Utilities, Brown and Caldwell, and Olivia Chen Consultants (now AECOM).

Mr. Lee, who is a Professional Engineer and Program/Project Management Professional, has extensive experience in capital planning and program management, regulatory compliance and negotiations, asset management, and drainage, wastewater, and drinking water engineering.

He has a BS degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering and an MS degree in Environmental Engineering and Sciences, both from Stanford University. Mr. Lee is a member of the Project Management Institute, and has been a past member of the American Water Works Association and the Water Environment Federation. He is also the co-chair of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies' Environmental Justice Committee.



Erika Powers
Partner
Barnes & Thornburg LLP
Chicago, IL

Erika Powers' clients include municipalities, utility districts, trade organizations and other regulated parties across the country. She advises on a wide variety of Clean Water Act (CWA) issues, including wet weather management and wastewater treatment. She also assists clients with matters involving water quality standards, the listing and delisting of impaired water bodies, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) development and implementation, effluent limitations guidelines for wastewater discharges, and water permitting, compliance and enforcement.

Notably, she provides veteran legal counsel regarding regulatory matters involving state and federal environmental agencies, as well as CWA administrative and judicial litigation.

She advocates to support her clients' interests in water quality rulemaking and policy development, crafts strategies to achieve client objectives while maintaining compliance with water quality regulations, helps clients contest agency decisions in federal and state courts, and defends clients against citizen suits and agency enforcement actions seeking damages and penalties.

Listed among The Best Lawyers in America in environmental law, Ms. Powers is valued for her ability to balance national water policy with the daily challenges of managing local, regional and multistate water-related initiatives. She helps clients achieve their goals while addressing agency concerns in the decision-making process. Because many of her clients are at the forefront of innovation in water quality law and face the challenge of budgetary constraints, she remains steadfastly dedicated to helping them maximize their results with limited resources while adhering to state and federal regulations.



Andrew Sawyers

Director, Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Water
US Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

Andrew Sawyers is the Director of the Office of Wastewater Management (OWM) at the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Washington, DC. He oversees the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program, the Clean Water Act’s mechanism for the permitting of municipal and industrial discharge into surface waters of the US. As the Director of OWM, Mr. Sawyers is also responsible for multiple technical and financial assistance tools for the development and maintenance of the country’s wastewater infrastructure, including WIFIA, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) and EPA’s Water

Finance Center.

He previously worked for the Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration where he managed the state’s Clean Water and Drinking Water SRFs and the Maryland’s Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund. Mr. Sawyers has a PhD from Johns Hopkins University in Geography and Environmental Engineering.



Andrew Silton

Principal
Beveridge & Diamond PC
Washington, DC

Drew Silton's practice focuses primarily on issues arising under the nation’s water quality laws and spans regulatory counseling, enforcement defense, and litigation. He is currently Co-Chair of the firm’s Water Practice Group and represents clients from both the private and public sectors in matters arising under the Clean Water Act and state law. He advises clients in a variety of

sectors, ranging from waste and stormwater utilities to companies in the renewable energy, information technology, oil and gas, and transportation sectors.

Mr. Silton is proud of his work on behalf of clean water utilities in Clean Water Act matters. His representations have included National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit challenges in the US Courts of Appeals, negotiation of wet weather consent decrees, and defense of complex enforcement matters. He also regularly counsels utilities on NPDES permit compliance and related water quality issues.



Kathryn Sorensen

Director of Research, Professor of Practice
Arizona State University, Morrison Institute for Public Policy
Tempe, AZ

Kathryn Sorensen served for many years as Director of Phoenix Water Services as well as Director of the City of Mesa Water Resources Department. In these roles she was responsible for the delivery of safe, clean, reliable water for millions of Arizonans, and significantly advanced the sustainable management of water resources in AZ and the Colorado River basin. She earned a PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics from Texas A&M University and a BA in Economics from the University of Michigan. In her position at Arizona State University, she oversees the research efforts of the Kyl Center for Water Policy, serves as a

Professor of Practice at the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions, and contributes to the Global Futures Laboratory.



Erica Spitzig

Attorney
Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
Cincinnati, OH

Erica Spitzig focuses her practice on environmental matters. Prior to joining Taft, she served as Deputy General Counsel for the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) in Washington, DC, where she worked to advance NACWA's legal and regulatory advocacy on behalf of publicly owned wastewater and stormwater utilities nationwide.

Ms. Spitzig has significant experience representing clients on Clean Water Act matters, and has worked extensively with municipalities on clean water legal and regulatory issues. Her work includes counseling clients on National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting, compliance and appeals; stormwater permitting; and enforcement defense. She has also represented state and national associations as amici curiae in cases involving the Clean Water Act in the Ohio Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court.



Todd Swingle

NACWA Board Member
Executive Director
Toho Water Authority
Kissimmee, FL

Todd Swingle serves as the Executive Director for the Toho Water Authority (TWA) in Kissimmee, FL. TWA serves over 115,000 metered connections with services that include Water, Wastewater, and Reclaimed Water, supporting not only the residents of Osceola County, the City of Kissimmee, and portions of Polk County, but millions of visitors each year. As Executive Director, he leads a full service organization of nearly 400 employees that operate 21 water and water reclamation facilities, over 3,000 miles of pipelines, 460 pump stations, and a fully deployed AMI system.

Prior to joining TWA, Mr. Swingle spent over 25 years serving in various environmental and utilities roles including consulting, service to the global manufacturing company Cummins Inc. as the Manager of Water Programs and Director of Environmental Strategy, and public sector roles as Public Services Administrator for the City of St. Cloud, FL and Deputy Director for Orange County, FL Utilities. He is active in a variety of civic and professional organizations focused on community and the environment.

Mr. Swingle holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Environmental Engineering from the University of Central Florida and an MBA from the University of Florida. He is also a registered Professional Engineer. He is currently a member of the National Association of Clean Water Agency's Board of Directors.



Darin Thomas
 Vice President
 Raftelis
 Greensboro, NC

Darin Thomas is a seasoned utility industry leader. With an educational background in mechanical engineering, he has been a thought leader in the water and wastewater industry since 1985. He has a track record of developing and delivering costs saving through innovation to the industry which has resulted in significant economic savings for hundreds of utility organizations. He has been instrumental in developing and advancing cross-jurisdictional technology evaluations and advancing savings through cooperative shared service agreements.

Mr. Thomas is a skilled industry executive business consultant with over 34 years of experience helping utility organizations implement transformational changes that span the areas of cross jurisdictional cooperation, business process optimization, strategic planning, and adoption and use of technologies to enhance operational performance. He is also the co-authored of the Fourth Edition of the industry guidebook, *Water and Wastewater Finance and Pricing: The Changing Landscape*.



Amanda Waters
 Attorney
 AquaLaw PLC
 Richmond, VA

Amanda Waters has over 20 years of environmental law experience with a focus on the federal Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act. She has extensive practical expertise working nationally with utilities on a variety of environmental permitting, compliance, and enforcement issues. Waters previously served as General Counsel for the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), where she managed the legal advocacy program implementing NACWA's mission to safeguard the interests of municipal wastewater and stormwater utilities.

She also worked as General Counsel & Director of Public Advocacy for the Water Environment Federation, General Counsel & Deputy Executive Director for Sanitation District No. 1 of Northern Kentucky (a public wastewater and stormwater utility), Deputy General Counsel for the State of Kentucky Environmental & Public Protection Cabinet, and as a staff attorney with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.

Ms. Waters received her JD with Environmental Law Certificate from Pace University and a BS in biology from Eastern Kentucky University.