UNC School of Government Environmental Finance Center

2020 Water and Wastewater Finance Strategies Workshop

*400 South Road, The School of Government, Chapel Hill, NC*

March 2 – 3, 2020

Monday, March 2nd

9:00 am **Registration Check-In** (Room 2401, second floor)

 Continental Breakfast

# 9:30 Welcome and Introduction / Finance Overview

 *Shadi Eskaf, Research Director, Environmental Finance Center*

# 10:15 Break

# 10:30 State/Federal Legislation and Policy Impacting Utility Finance

Changing policies that may influence funding needs and funding and management approaches.
*Kim Colson, Director of NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure, and President of CIFA*

*Francine Durso, Senior Project Manager, NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure*

*Shadi Eskaf, Research Director, Environmental Finance Center*

# 12:00 pm Lunch

# 1:00 Legal Issues in Water Finance

Trends and updates on legal issues to be aware of in North Carolina that affect utility finance.

#  *Kara Millonzi, Professor, UNC School of Government*

2:00 Break

# 2:15 Managing your Enterprise Fund: Do’s and Don’ts

#  Advice and information from the Local Government Commission.

#  *Sharon Edmundson, Director of Fiscal Management Section, SLGFD, NC Dept. of State Treasurer*

3:30 **Rate Setting Exercise: How Objectives and Philosophies Affect Rate Setting**

Interactive session on setting rates.

 *Shadi Eskaf, Research Director, Environmental Finance Center*

 *Evan Kirk, Project Director, Environmental Finance Center*

# 4:00 Wrap Up

# 4:15 Adjourn

# Tuesday, March 3rd

8:30 am **Continental Breakfast** (outside room 2401, second floor)

# 9:00 Consolidation Considerations

What to plan for when considering options for consolidating or partnering with other utilities.

*Erin Riggs, Senior Project Director, Environmental Finance Center*

9:30 **Rate and Fee Setting**

Update on all things rates and financial capacity. Trends in water use. Updated NC Rates and Finance Dashboard. Communicating with your Board.

 *Austin Thompson, Project Director, Environmental Finance Center
 Evan Kirk, Project Director, Environmental Finance Center*

 *Shadi Eskaf, Research Director, Environmental Finance Center*

10:45 Break

# 11:00 Utility Financial Planning

Planning policies, tools, and approaches that help prevent unwanted future surprises.

*Shadi Eskaf, Research Director, Environmental Finance Center*

# 12:00 pm Lunch

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1:00 **Finding the Money! Capital Finance Programs and Options**

Capital funding approaches and public programs that provide capital for future needs.

*Jon Risgaard, SRF Section Chief, NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure*

*Julie Cubeta, Supervisor of CDBG-Infrastructure Unit, NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure*

 *Dennis DeLong, Water/Environmental Programs Specialist, USDA Rural Development*

3:00 Wrap up and adjourn

10.0 Continuing Education Hours

Individuals seeking PDH credit should submit

this agenda and license # to NC BELS.

Water Treatment Operators and Water Pollution

Control Operators should sign a course attendance

roster at the conclusion of the course.